

WHERE-ON-EARTH CRAZY-AS-A-COOT BIRD WALKS

June 7th, 2022

Incidental Notes.

Hi Everyone,

Wow, yet another great set of observations.

- I love reading all the narratives, and encourage you all to take a look at each other's reports. The narratives are great! From baby birds, to learning about new species, etc.
- Gail & Shorty's observation in CT of a Brewster's Warbler (a rare hybrid warbler) is really cool.
- And, of course Viki's report from Macedonia is fascinating – the Eurasian Poopoe is a handsome bird that is throughout Europe, and is its own category of bird, thus I placed it at the end of the list, since I don't know where to place it taxonomically.

The Eurasian hoopoe is the most widespread species of the genus Upupa. It is a distinctive cinnamon coloured bird with black and white wings, a tall erectile crest, a broad white band across a black tail, and a long narrow downcurved bill. Its call is a soft "oop-oop-oop". [Wikipedia](#)

<https://www.birdnote.org/listen/shows/hoopoes-smelly-family>

I hope you enjoy reading this report as much as I have enjoyed reading your observations of common, introduced and exotic birds.

Peace, Kim

- Both lists are an aggregate of observations from the two groups of observers (B.I. and Afar).
- A note of caution: when counting at a bird feeder it is the most reliable/conservative to count the number of a species seen at any one time. Care should be taken to not over count by tallying the cumulative number seen.
- [Things in brackets are notes by me - kg] How I quantify: Few=3, Several=5, Many/Numerous=10, ++=10+, +++;=10++.

Block Island

(31 species)

Mallard – 5

Double-crested Cormorant – 1

Great Egret – 12

Snowy Egret – 4

Black-crowned Night Heron – 8

Yellow-crowned Night Heron – 3

Northern Harrier – 1

American Oystercatcher – 1

Black-bellied Plover – 5

Semipalmated Plover – 2

Willet – 7

Ruddy Turnstone – 1

Least Sandpiper – 3

Laughing Gull – 1

Herring Gull – 3
Great Black-backed Gull – 12
Common Tern – 1
Mourning Dove – 3
American Crow – 5
Fish Crow – 5
Barn Swallow – 5
Swallow species – 3
American Robin – 1
Gray Catbird – 2
European Starling – 3
Yellow Warbler – 1
Eastern Towhee – 2
Song Sparrow – 1
Red-winged Blackbird – 2
Common Grackle – 2
House Finch – 1

From Afar: South Kingston, Cumberland, RI; East Lyme, CT; Sarasota, FL; Seattle, WA; Kazhani, Macedonia.
(81 species)

Canada Goose – 1 + 11 goslings
Mute Swan – 1
Black-bellied Whistling Duck – 28
Wood Duck – 2
Mallard – 17
Mottled Duck – 4
Wild Turkey – 1
Common Loon – 2
Anhinga – 2
Least Bittern – 1
Great Blue Heron – 3
Great Egret – 7
Cattle Egret – 4
Little Blue Heron – 3
Tricolored Heron – 1
Green Heron – 2
Yellow-crowned Night Heron – 1
Turkey Vulture – 1
*Common Buzzard
Osprey – 4
Bald Eagle – 1
Cooper's Hawk – 1
Red-shouldered Hawk – 1
Purple Gallinule – 5
Common Moorhen – 9
Purple Swamp Hen – 1
Black-necked Stilt – 2

Laughing Gull – 2
Herring Gull – 3
Black Skimmer – 2
Mourning Dove – 17
Rock Pigeon – 9
Common Ground Dove – 4
Black-hooded Parakeet – 2
*Common Cuckoo
Chimney Swift – 6
Ruby-throated Hummingbird – 2
*Great Spotted Woodpecker
Red-bellied Woodpecker – 5
Downy Woodpecker – 3
Pileated Woodpecker – 1
Northern Flicker – 2
Eastern Phoebe – 5
Loggerhead Shrike – 2
Blue Jay – 2
*Magpie
*Hooded Crow
American Crow – 9
Fish Crow – 7
Purple Martin – 10
Tree Swallow – 6
*Great Tit
Bushtit – 1
Black-capped Chickadee – 7
Tufted Titmouse – 3
White-breasted Nuthatch – 1
Brown Creeper – 10
House Wren – 3
Carolina Wren – 7
Eastern Bluebird – 4
*Common Blackbird
American Robin – 13
Gray Catbird – 9
Northern Mockingbird – 22
European Starling – 16
Brewster's Warbler – 1
American Redstart – 1
Northern Parula – 1
Black-throated Blue Warbler – 1
Chipping Sparrow – 2
Song Sparrow – 7
Northern Cardinal – 14
Red-winged Blackbird – 14
Common Grackle – 43
Boat-tailed Grackle – 10
Brown-headed Cowbird – 5

Baltimore Oriole – 4

House Finch – 1

American Goldfinch – 3

House Sparrow – 18

*Eurasian Poopoe

Chipmunk & Squirrels

Marsh Rabbits – 43, Gray Squirrel – 1.

*Eurasian species

Crazy-as-a-Coot Bird Walkers – Andy's Way/Skippers Is., Washington, Rhode Island, US. Jun 7, 2022 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM. Protocol: Traveling 1.0 mile(s). Checklist Comments: Sunny with light sw wind and 65F. Participants: Will Young, Chuck McMellon, Amy Keeler, Deb Martin, Socha Cohen, Susan Matheke, Heather Hatfield, Cathy Joyce, Nigel Grindley, Barbara Bebby, Eric Dale, Julianne Hedgepeth, & Kim G. 30 species (+1 other taxa) Mallard 5, Mourning Dove 3, American Oystercatcher 1, Black-bellied Plover 5, Semipalmated Plover 2, Ruddy Turnstone 1, Least Sandpiper 3, Willet 7, Laughing Gull 1, Herring Gull 3, Great Black-backed Gull 12, Common Tern 1, Double-crested Cormorant 1, Great Egret 12, Snowy Egret 4, Black-crowned Night-Heron 8, Yellow-crowned Night-Heron 3 (This site is a nesting area for Yellow-cr NH. 2 - 3 adults were seen, plus one immature (not HY)), Northern Harrier 1, American Crow 5, Fish Crow 5, Barn Swallow 5, swallow sp. 3, European Starling 3, Gray Catbird 2, American Robin 1, House Finch 1, Song Sparrow 1, Eastern Towhee 2, Red-winged Blackbird 2, Common Grackle 2, Yellow Warbler 1.

Curt Milton – I'm back! Realized I missed the whole month of May. Boo! Went out to the Union Bay Natural Area in Seattle about 1:30 p.m. Temps in the low 70s and it was sunny and then overcast. Not as many birds visible as I had hoped. Everyone must have been resting. Here's what I did see: Mallard: numerous, Wood duck: 2, Song Sparrow: Several, Brown Creeper: Numerous, Black-capped Chickadee: Several, American Crow: Several, Red-winged Blackbird: 3, Bushtit: 1. Thank you for compiling the results and organizing this!

Dan Kasuba – Hi Kim. One red shouldered hawk, two black hooded parakeets. Herons: 3 GBHs, 3 little blue, 1 yellow crowned night heron, 2 green and 1 tricolored, 28 black bellied whistling ducks, 4 mottled ducks, 7 great egrets, 4 cattle egrets, 1 purple swamp hen [introduced species in FL -KG], 5 purple [Gallinule] and 9 common [Moorhen galinules -KG], 2 loggerhead shrikes, 2 black necked stilts, 2 ospreys, 2 Eastern bluebirds, 2 anhingas, 2 laughing gulls, 1 least bittern, 1 northern parula, 1 pileated and 4 red breasted woodpeckers, 2 black skimmers, 4 common ground doves and many purple martins, mourning doves, mocking birds, common and boat tailed grackles and cardinals.

Also, 43 marsh rabbits (where are the predators!) and 1 gray squirrel Thanks as always and enjoy!

Gail & Shorty Cahill – Sorry to miss the walk again!! We did keep track today here in East Lyme CT.

We have had a **Brewsters Warbler** at one of our windows for the last few weeks and like clockwork he showed up again today. We read about the Brewsters Warbler and it being a hybrid of the blue winged and golden winged. This one has the white wing bars no throat patch. Does have the grayish back but under belly appears yellow. Hope he sticks around!

We also have Phoebes nesting in the new garage before we have had a chance to finish. Shorty has been in and out with power tools, hammering etc and they were not deterred. Nice nest up on one of the beams towards the peak.

Besides the Phoebes nest inside the garage. We had Carolina Wrens nesting under a tarp on some of the floor boards. Yesterday must have been take flight day for 3 or maybe 4 of the young ones. It was quite a racket, I happened to walk in and they were flying all over landing on beams and taking off with lots of vocals going on. At dusk tonight we saw two of them outside our window flitting about the scotch pine. And, a pair of

Bluebirds. Heading your way soon! Gail and Shorty

Susan Matheke – My exotic bird sighting!



Tim Mooney – Hi Kim – May 31 was a 5th Tuesday of the month, so probably not an official Where-on-Earth day? [Even so, who can resist all those baby birds? Love having this bonus “5th Tuesday” observation. -KG] In any event, just wanted to share that in our small suburban yard, this is the season of mockingbirds. One pair nested in our yard and a second pair nested across the street. At least two fledglings are fluttering around, with an occasional bumpy landing in the driveway [6ish -KG]. The young ones make a persistent, high-pitched, even shrill squeak as the parents patrol the yard for bugs. All day long – squeak, squeak, squeeeeak! The adults are fearless – defending their territory against squirrels and grackles and skirmishing with the neighboring robins (whose brood is audible from my window, but not fledged yet) [2 adult & 4 young=6 -KG]. I can’t recall such activity here. With so many mockingbirds around, I’m regularly convinced there is a bluebird in the yard, only to hear it transform into a phoebe, and then a catbird [1 each. -KG].

Speaking of robins, I saw one in hot pursuit of a chipmunk that got a little too close to the nest. The three of us almost collided in the front yard.

Also seeing a few fledged starlings [3. -KG] and grackles, still being fed on the ground. Hope you are finding fun presents in your nets this season. Best, Tim

Cumberland, RI, USA – June 7, 2022

Hi Kim – Reporting on the usual mix of backyard birds. Our summer resident mockingbirds continue their regular presence. We are grateful for the free pest control they provide. How many beetles, bugs, and spiders are out there?? Juveniles are still being fed on the ground or on fence tops, but already flashing the white on their wings. The adult makes a “check” sound and the juveniles come right over for a meal. Over the weekend, one tried to avoid me and flew into the garage by mistake. It was fluttering by the window in the back, insisting that was the way out. I was able to walk up to it and gently corral it in my hands. It’s not like me not to take a photo of something like that, but the poor thing squawked and squawked so I just let it go. It flew across the yard, across the street and into the next yard. Interestingly though, unlike the young robins, who seem to disperse from the yard quickly, the mockingbird juveniles are sticking really close to their parents’ territory. They don’t seem to go more than one yard’s distance away from the nest. So as noisy as they are, I hope to enjoy their company a little while longer. Thanks for the prompt to look around. Best, Tim

Cooper’s Hawk – 1, American Crow – 2, Rock Pigeon – 9, Mourning Dove – 4, Blue Jay – 1, Northern Cardinal – 2, House Finch – 1, American Goldfinch – 2, House Sparrow – 8, Chipping Sparrow – 2, Black-capped Chickadee – 1, House Wren – 1, Chimney Swift – 6, Northern Mockingbird – 6, Common Grackle – 5, Brown-headed

Cowbird – 2, Red-winged Blackbird – 1, European Starling - 13, Baltimore Oriole – 1, American Robin – 5 , Northern Flicker – 2, Red-bellied Woodpecker – 1, Downy Woodpecker – 1

[Tom Fetherston](#) - Hi Kim - Another fun day with some new species 😊 Cheers, Fether

07 June 2022. Birding is getting tougher will the leaves fully out and many species “bugging” high in the canopy, only providing the briefest opportunity to see them before disappearing after another juicy caterpillar. Even so there are some new birds on this list this time.

I'm only starting to attempt to identify warblers. They have always been “LOBs” (little olive birds) but now that I'm listing species the LOBs are getting a closer look. Last week an American redstart flew over my head in the courtyard. In years past I would have glimpsed the colors and thought “oriole” but now noticed the smaller size and less orange. He obligingly perched on the fence, so I had a very good look. Did me a favor and came by again today so got him on the list. Now an even odder one. While sitting on the side porch with Maggie, a small bird flew into a nearby oak. Slate blue on the back, first instinct was a tufted titmouse but when he turned his head there was a black mask like a common yellowthroat, except no yellow?? Pulled out Peterson's and he was a male black-throated blue warbler. Never heard of such a thing but now I've seen one!

Over the past several weeks Worden's Pond has had numerous wading birds: great blue herons, green herons, great egrets (even pooped on our dock) but today there were none anywhere? Very odd. The ubiquitous herring gulls that always mob up in the middle were also gone, only three individuals to be seen. Word must be out that there is better eating in Galilee stealing clam cakes from tourists than foraging on Wordens Pond these days. I did see an adult bald eagle make a great catch of a rather large pickerel last week, today there was a juvenile cruising by getting harassed by grackles. Yes, another eagle...yawn.

The bird battles continue with orioles, robins, catbirds and hummingbirds clashing in the yard. The orioles, catbirds and robins seemed to be fighting over mates, the hummingbirds over ownership of specific feeders. Birds on or adjacent to Worden's Pond will be noted with WP and estimates with * Birds at the feeders or in the field were counted as singles unless they were different sexes or present simultaneously. Birds seen on Tuckertown Rd. will have a TR. Here's my list: Northern cardinal (2), Herring gull (3) WP, Red-winged blackbird (10) WP & yard, Common grackle (30*) WP & yard, Mallard (7) WP, Canada goose (12/ 11 goslings) WP, Brown-headed cowbird (3), American robin (2), American crow (2), Fish crow (7), Carolina wren, House wren (2), Blue jay, White-breasted nuthatch, Song sparrow (2), Mourning dove (3), American goldfinch, Bald eagle (WP), Osprey (2) WP, Mute swan WP, Tree swallow (6*) WP, Tufted titmouse (3), Eastern phoebe (2), Black-capped chickadee, Baltimore oriole (3), Ruby-throated hummingbird (2), Gray catbird (8*), Common loon (2), American redstart, Black-throated Blue Warbler – 1, Downy woodpecker (2), Wild turkey TR, Turkey vulture.



[Viki Butlevska](#) – Macedonia – Hi Kim, We are in a rural area, tons of trees around/mountains..near village Kazhani..near city Bitola(my home town). Eurasian poopoe, great tit, great spotted woodpecker, hooded crow, magpie, common buzzard, common blackbird, I have only heard it not seen the common cuckoo..

I would also like to add house sparrows to the list.

Eurasian Poopoe a.k.a. Hoopoe (I think).