

Irish Rare Bird Report 2019

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Introduction

2019 produced two new species for the Irish list, both in October. The first was a Least Bittern *Ixobrychus exilis* (Kerry), which sadly was found moribund and died a short time later, while the second was a Two-barred Warbler *Phylloscopus phubietarsus* (Cork), which was only seen by a handful of observers.

In addition, Ireland's third Eastern Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla tschutschensis* (Wexford) was recorded in December, while the second Irish record of this species from November 2017 (Cork) is also documented in this report.

Other 2019 highlights included Ireland's fourth Collared Pratincole *Glareola pratincola* (Donegal) in July, the fourth Short-billed Dowitcher *Limnodromus griseus* (Louth) in

September and October, the fourth and fifth Baltimore Orioles *Icterus galbula* in October (Mayo and Cork respectively), and the fourth Hume's Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus humei* (Cork) in November.

The backbone of the Irish Rare Birds Committee (IRBC) system for recording occurrences of rare birds in the Republic of Ireland is the Provisional List, published online at www.irbc.ie/provisional/provisional.php, which is updated regularly. Most of the data in this report were taken directly from the 2019 Provisional List. The IRBC expresses its sincere gratitude to all those who provided information during 2019,

Plate 30. Baltimore Oriole *Icterus galbula*, Corrymore, Achill Island, Mayo, October 2019 (Josh Jones).

either directly or indirectly. The committee also extends its grateful thanks to Kieran Fahy for providing a significant number of historical records in this report, and for proof-reading and keeping track of the statistics. In addition, the committee would like to thank Joe Hobbs and Pat Smiddy for their input, comments and corrections to previous reports.

Rarity Description forms may be downloaded from the IRBC website: www.irbc.ie/records/forms/IRBC_form3.doc

Submission of photographs We welcome photographs of rare and scarce birds, which can be sent to photoArchive@irbc.ie.

Rarities The full list of taxa requiring substantiating documentation can be found at www.irbc.ie/records/desclist.php.

For a full explanation of the background and purpose of the list, see *Irish Birds* 7: 413-418 or online at www.irbc.ie/announcements/announce1.php.

2019 Systematic List

The sequence and scientific nomenclature used for the 2019 Report largely follows the IOC World List version 9.1 (Gill F. & D. Donsker (Eds) 2019), replacing the previously referenced BOU British List (British Ornithologists' Union 2013). For an explanation of this change as well as other taxonomic

decisions made by the IRBC please consult the Announcements page on our website at www.irbc.ie/announcements/announcements.php.

The three numbers in parentheses after each species refer respectively to (a) the total number of birds up to 31st December 1949; (b) the total number of birds from 1st January 1950, up to, but excluding, the current year – where this total is enclosed in square brackets, totals are from 1st January 2010 only; (c) the total number of new individuals for the current year. Some totals are minimum figures due to lack of precise numbers in historical texts – where this is the case, the total is succeeded by a '+'. In addition to the species totals, the total number of individuals being added to the species total is included immediately following the county name. Please note that the finders' credits are placed in alphabetical order.

Black Brant *Branta bernicla nigricans* (0; 40; 1)

Louth One: Adult, Lurgangreen, 14th March, photographed (P.Kelly).

1993 Down Zero: Adult, Newcastle, 20th February to 22nd April (*NIBR* 1993: 21), also seen at Killough, 14th March and 11th April (*NIBR* 1993: 21), presumed returning.

1987 Derry Zero: Adult, Lough Foyle, 25th October (*NIBR* 1986-90: 27), presumed returning.

1986 Derry Zero: Adult, Lough Foyle, 3rd to 24th October (*NIBR* 1986-90: 27), presumed to be the first record of this individual that re-occurred up to 2006 (*Irish Birds* 9: 610).

The Northern Ireland records between 1986 and 1993 have not previously been published in *Irish Birds*.



Plate 31. Snow Goose *Anser caerulescens*, Tacumshin Lake, Wexford, February 2019 (Victor Caschera).

Canada Goose *Branta canadensis* (0; 44; 2)

Clare One: One showing characteristics of the race *interior*, Doonbeg, Kilkee and Miltown Malbay, 25th November to 5th December, photographed (J.Hassett *et al.*).

Wexford One: One showing characteristics of the race *interior*, Cahore Marsh, 6th January to 8th February, photographed (C.Cardiff *et al.*).

Snow Goose *Anser caerulescens* (70, 51, 0)

2018 Wexford One: One white morph, Tacumshin Lake and Ballyhealy, 20th December to 7th April 2019, photographed (T.Kilbane *et al.*).

This bird was noted as associating with Greenland White-fronted Geese initially and later with Whooper Swans.

Taiga Bean Goose *Anser fabillis* (93; 125; 0)

1891 Wicklow One: One, Kilcoole, January 1891 (Ulster Museum specimen with DNA analysis by M.Collinson).

As this record predates all others, it becomes the first record for Ireland.

Russian White-fronted Goose

Anser albifrons albifrons (51; 122; 3)

Wexford Three: Adult, Wexford Wildfowl Reserve, 24th March, photographed (K.Mullarney). Two adults, Wexford Wildfowl Reserve, 8th to 28th December, photographed (C.Cardiff, K.Mullarney *et al.*).

Blue-winged Teal *Spatula discors* (3; 112; 1)

Wexford One: Adult female, Lady's Island Lake, 16th to 20th September, then Tacumshin Lake, 23rd September, Lady's Island Lake, 25th September and Tacumshin Lake 28th September to 22nd November, photographed (K.Mullarney *et al.*).

The first county record since 2012, when there was a male at Tacumshin Lake from 30th June to 26th August and two females at Wexford Wildfowl Reserve from 3rd to 9th August (*Irish Birds* 9: 581).

American Wigeon *Mareca americana*

(0; 147; 6)

Clare Two: Adult male, Lough Atedaun, 9th to 15th February, photographed (A.Cooney, F.MacGabhann, J.N.Murphy *et al.*), presumed same on flood plain between Lough George and Lough Cullaun, near Kells, 20th and 21st December, photographed (A.Cooney, J.N.Murphy *et al.*); Second calendar-year male, Shannon Airport Lagoon, 12th to 28th May, photographed (P.Cullinan).

Donegal One: Adult male, Gortahork, 27th October to 1st November, photographed (D.Brennan *et al.*); Adult male, Culdaff Estuary, 10th November, photographed (T.Campbell, R.Smith), presumed returning bird.

Wexford Two: Adult male, Cahore Marsh, 7th to 23rd June, photographed (B.McCloskey, G.Murray, M.Stewart *et al.*); Second calendar-year male, Tacumshin Lake, 15th to 23rd June, photographed (P.Kelly *et al.*).

Galway One: Adult male, Inishmore, 6th to 20th October, photographed (H.Braedner, S.Walsh *et al.*), presumed returning bird;



Plate 32. American Wigeon *Mareca americana*, Cahore Marsh, Wexford, June 2019 (Brian McCloskey).

Adult male, Kilcolgan, 16th November to 2nd December, photographed (P.Troake *et al.*).

Totals for this species have been adjusted downwards by five, following a review of published records. Many earlier records were published without reference to whether a record was considered a new bird or a returning one. Underlying the statistics therefore are certain assumptions as to which records refer to returning birds. Publishing these assumptions in this report would be unwieldy but a detailed spreadsheet is available on request.

Red-crested Pochard *Netta rufina* (4; 66; 0)

1993 Down One: Male, Quoile Pondage, 13th to 27th December (*NIBR* 1993: 25).

1989 Armagh One: Male, Oxford Island, 16th November to 27th January 1990 (*NIBR* 1986-90: 31).

1987 Armagh Zero: Male, Oxford Island, 31st January to at least 1st March (*NIBR* 1986-90: 31); Female, Oxford Island, 26th December (*Irish Birds* 3: 617), previously accepted was published as not accepted (*NIBR* 1986-90: 104) and so should be excluded.

1977 Cork One: Male, Youghal, 30th January, ringed, shot (From ring recovery data).

The ring recovery information for the 1977 Cork bird stated it had been ringed in July 1975, some 1,650km to the south at Reserva del Guadamar, Guadalquivir Delta, Sevilla, Spain (Fernández-Cruz, 1982). This becomes the second record for Cork, after a male shot at Reendonogan Lake, near Bantry Bay on 29th December 1927 (Humphreys, 1937). There are three other Cork records, with the most recent being a female at Rostellan Lake in October 1996 (*Irish Birds* 6: 69). See also Appendix 4 for corrections to previous reports.



Plate 33. Lesser Scaup *Aythya affinis*, Keel Lough, Achill Island, Mayo, January 2020 (Micheál O'Briain).

Lesser Scaup *Aythya affinis* (0; 42; 1)

Mayo One: Adult male, Keel Lough, Achill Island, 2nd to 31st December, photographed (A.MacMillan, B.MacMillan *et al.*).

Dresser's Eider *Somateria mollissima dresseri* (0; 1; 1)

Dublin One: Second calendar-year male, Colt Island, Skerries, 19th April to 13th May, photographed (A.G.Kelly *et al.*).

There is one previous record of this taxon in Ireland, involving a male at Glassagh Bay, Donegal on 2nd January to 21st February 2010 (*Irish Birds* 9: 288), and presumed same, Isle of Doagh, Donegal, from 8th to 19th June 2011 (*Irish Birds* 9: 452).

Surf Scoter *Melanitta perspicillata* (9; 261; 6)

Clare One: Adult male, Finvarra, Ballyvaughan and Coolsiva Pier, 1st January to 24th March (P.Lonergan *et al.*), presumed same bird seen October to December 2018 (*Irish Birds* 42: 73); Second calendar-year male, Coolsiva Pier, 9th February to 26th April, photographed (A.Cooney, J.N.Murphy *et al.*); Adult male, Coolsiva Pier, 21st to 30th November (P.Troake), presumed returning bird.

Donegal Zero: Female, Mountcharles, last reported 29th December 2018 (*Irish Birds* 42: 73) remained to 6th January, then presumed same, Murvagh, 21st February (A.McMillan).

Dublin Zero: First-winter male, Hampton Cove, 29th January (P.Kelly), presumed same as first-winter male in County Meath in early January; Adult male and adult female, Balbriggan and Meath coastline, 26th January to 23rd March, photographed (A.G.Kelly *et al.*). presumed returning birds.

Galway One: First-winter male, Dog's Bay, 18th to 19th January, photographed (D.Breen).

Kerry Three: Male and immature female, Inch, 31st January (M.O'Clery); presumed same male, Inch, 9th September (M.O'Clery); Adult female, Brandon Bay, 22nd November, photographed (D.Farrar).

Meath One: First-winter male, Gormanston, 1st to 3rd January

(P.Kelly); Adult male, Gormanston, Ben Head and Laytown, 2nd January to 17th March (P.Kelly *et al.*), presumed returning bird. The accompanying adult female from Co Dublin was also seen in Co. Meath.

1990 Down Zero: Male, Tyrella Beach, 16th to 18th December (*NIBR* 1986-90: 35), presumed the adult male from nearby Dundrum Bay, 30th November to 19th December (*NIBR* 1986-90: 35, *Irish Birds* 4: 435).

1926 Cork One: One, West Cork, January (*Irish Naturalists' Journal* 2: 201 per P.Smiddy).

1890 Mayo Zero: One, age not specified, Dooagh Bay, December (*Irish Naturalist* 3: 137, *Zoologist* 1894: 152), correcting Ussher & Warren (1900).

1870 Mayo Two: Immature female, shot, accompanied by another unaged bird, Doogort Bay, Achill Island, 25th October (*Irish Naturalist* 3: 137, *Zoologist* 1894: 152).

The 19th Century Mayo records correct the historical record. Ussher & Warren appear to have amalgamated two different sightings published in *Irish Naturalist* (1894), interpreting the text to read that the immature female had been shot on 25th October 1890, thereby combining the date of the earlier record with the year of the later one and omitting the earlier record entirely.

Black Scoter *Melanitta americana* (0; 1; 0)

Kerry Zero: Adult male, off Rossbeigh, from 9th February to 29th March (M.O'Clery *et al.*), presumed returning bird last recorded 28th December 2018 (*Irish Birds* 42: 74)

Pacific Diver *Gavia pacifica* (0; 4; 0)

Cork Zero: Adult, Crookhaven, 1st January to 28th March, and presumed same, 19th October to 22nd November, photographed (M.Shorten *et al.*), previously present since 7th October 2018 (*Irish Birds* 42: 74).

White-billed Diver *Gavia adamsii* (0; 24; 0)

2018 Donegal Two: Two adults, Tory Island, 28th April to 2nd June, photographed (D.Brennan *et al.*)

Wilson's Storm Petrel

Oceanites oceanicus (2; 579; 21)

Clare Three: One, Bridges of Ross, 10th August (G.Murray *et al.*); One, Bridges of Ross, 18th August (P.Troake *et al.*); One, Bridges of Ross, 4th September, photographed (J.N.Murphy *et al.*).

Cork 12: One, 15 miles south of Seven Heads, 5th June, photographed (P.Connaughton); One, Toe Head, 16th June (A.Duggan); Two, from a pelagic one nautical mile south of Fastnet Rock, 21st July, photographed (N.T.Keogh *et al.*); One, from a whale watching boat 20km south-east of Galley Head, 28th July (N.T.Keogh, C.O'Sullivan); One, Toe Head, 3rd August (A.Duggan); One, Baltimore pelagic, 13th August (P.Connaughton); One, pelagic off Old Head of Kinsale, 13th August (C.O'Sullivan); Two, Baltimore pelagic, 20th August (P.Connaughton *et al.*); One, Baltimore pelagic, 23rd August (P.Connaughton *et al.*); One, Baltimore pelagic, 26th August, photographed (P.Connaughton *et al.*).

Kerry Five: Two, Kerry Head, 10th August (D.Farrar); Three, Brandon Point, 18th August (E.Carty, A.Duggan).



Plate 34. Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus*, Cahore Marsh, Wexford, February 2019 (Cian Cardiff).

Mayo One: One, Annagh Head, 17th August (D.Suddaby).

As in the last three years, the regular late summer pelagic trips out of Baltimore, Cork provided the bulk of the records from County Cork, although numbers were considerably lower in 2019 than in recent years. The degree of double-counting of some individuals and overlap between trips is unknown.

Zino's / Fea's / Desertas Petrel

Pterodroma madeira / feae / deserta (0; 130; 5)

Clare Two: One, Bridges of Ross, 17th August (K.Langdon, J.N.Murphy *et al.*); One, Bridges of Ross, 18th August (J.N.Murphy *et al.*).

Cork One: One, Baltimore pelagic, 20th August, photographed (P.Connaughton *et al.*).

Mayo Two: One, Annagh Head, 30th August (D.Charles); One, Aghernagallagh Head, Belmullet Peninsula, 18th September (R.Innes, C.Jones).

Barolo Shearwater *Puffinus baroli* (1; 26; 0)

2018 Kerry One: One, Brandon Point, 21st September (G.Walker *et al.*).

The fourth county record, all of which have been recorded from this site.

Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus* (103; 356; 45)

At Sea Zero: One, 37km south of Roche's Point, Cork, on R.V. *Celtic Explorer*, 9th January, photographed (D.McCallig *et al.*)

Cork 22: Two, Enniskeane, 1st January, photographed (D.McGrath.); 12, White's Marsh, 11th January, photographed (D.O'Donnell *et al.*), increasing to 13 there on 11th February (P.Connaughton), up to 12 birds remained until 14th March, decreasing to seven on 15th March, with three present 31st March and one remaining until 18th April; Three, Bandon, 12th January, photographed (C.Rowlands); Three, Garryvoe, 2nd April, photographed (G.Kelleher); One, Pilmore, 3rd November to 24th December, photographed (D.O'Sullivan *et al.*).

Kerry Two: One, Dingle Harbour, 2nd January (N.Lynch, T.Lynch); One, Reenard Pier, Cahersiveen, 30th November (P.McDaid).

Mayo One: One, Carrowmore, Lacken, 26th January (F.Ni Barry).

Roscommon One: One, mouth of Cross River, Athlone, 7th and 8th March, photographed (M.Craven, S.Heery).

Waterford Two: One, Ardmore, 24th January, photographed (A.Malcolm); One, Tramore Backstrand, 26th to 29th May, photographed (A.Jacques).

Westmeath One: One, Athlone, 7th February, photographed (J.Vankova).

Wexford 15: One, The Pill, Rosslare from 2nd December 2018 remained until 2nd May, photographed (A.A.Kelly, P.Kelly *et al.*), also

seen at South Slob, 20th April to 23rd May (C.Cardiff, P.Kelly); One, 2km south of Oilgate, 4th January (A.A.Kelly, P.Kelly); One, Cahore Marsh, 8th to 24th February, photographed (C.Cardiff *et al.*); One, Tacumshin Lake, 8th March and 6th April, photographed (P.Kelly); One, Rathangan, 6th April, photographed (J.Lambert); One, flew in off the sea, Churchtown, 10th April (E.MacLochlainn); One, Lady's Island Lake, 10th April (J.N.Murphy, B.O'Connor); Two in flight between Crossfintain and Nethertown, 11th April (D.Daly) were presumed same individuals, with sightings of both at Lady's Island Lake and Tacumshin Lake between 12th and 19th April (G.O'Sullivan); One, Lady's Island Lake, 3rd June (K.Grace *et al.*); One, Cahore Marsh, 9th June, photographed (C.Cardiff), with two there, 10th June (K.Grace), four present 17th June, and two from 28th June to 7th July (C.Cardiff, T.Cardiff *et al.*); One, Tacumshin Lake, 15th August (T.Shevlin), and presumed same, Tacumshin Lake, 14th to 28th September, photographed (P.Kelly); One, Tacumshin Lake, 29th November (P.Kelly, G.O'Sullivan).

Wicklow One: One, Newcastle, 30th January, then East Coast Nature Reserve on 1st and 2nd February (M.Hogan *et al.*).

1989 Derry One: One, Waterfoot, near Toomebridge, 25th April (*NIBR* 1986-90: 23).

The Roscommon record was the second for the county, after one at Lough Funshinagh on 1st June 2014 (*Irish Birds* 10: 242). The Westmeath record was the fourth for the county, after one shot at Tobergill on 1st October 1851 (Ussher & Warren, 1900), one shot at Lough Ennell on 1st October 1959 (IBR 7: 6), and one at Lough Kinale, Darragh, on 1st April 2014 (*Irish Birds* 10: 549). The Mayo record was the fifth for the county, after three at Termoncarragh Lake and Annagh Marsh in January 2012 (*Irish Birds* 9: 584), and one at Kilmeena on 1st December 2013 (*Irish Birds* 10: 79). The 1989 Derry record, only the second record for the county, was published in the cited *Northern Ireland Bird Report* but was never included in an Irish Bird Report. The degree of double-counting of some mobile individuals is unknown.

Spoonbill *Platalea leucorodia* (89; 185; 10)

Cork One: One, in off the sea at Courtmacsherry, 16th May (P.Wolstenholme).

Dublin Two: Second calendar-year, Bremore, and North Bull Island, 26th April, photographed (V.Fallon, A.G.Kelly), presumed same, Rogerstown Estuary, 28th and 29th April, photographed (A.G.Kelly *et al.*); One, flying east, M50, near Red Cow Inn, 23rd November (L.Geraty).

Kerry One: Returning adult, Cromane Harbour, from December 2018 (*Irish Birds* 42: 76) remained to 21st February (T.Kavanagh, H.Servignat *et al.*), and again from 16th October to 23rd December, photographed (S.Enright *et al.*); Adult, Cahersiveen, 17th to 23rd February, (P.MacDaid), presumed same, Cahersiveen, 6th November (R.Jeffree).

Louth Two: Two adults, Lurgangreen, 16th and 17th May, with one remaining until 21st May, photographed (T.Cooney *et al.*).

Waterford Two: Second calendar-year, Tramore Backstrand, 30th January to 4th February, photographed (J.Roche *et al.*), presumed same, Carriganore, 4th February (C.Flynn); One, Dungarvan, 30th November (F.O'Connell).

Wexford Two: Second calendar-year, Rosslare Backstrand, Tacumshin Lake, Lady's Island Lake, Ring Marsh and South Slob, from December 2018 (*Irish Birds* 42: 76) present from 1st January to 31st December, photographed, (K.Grace *et al.*), presumed same, Kilrane, 2nd August (A.A.Kelly), Ferrycarrig, 30th August (P.Kelly), and Seafield, Duncormick, 24th October, photographed (K.Mullarney *et al.*); Two immatures, Rosslare Backstrand, 5th June (G.O'Sullivan).

1884 Wexford Zero: Adult, shot near Fethard, 7th May (*Zoologist* 1884: 342) erroneously published as 1844 by Ussher & Warren (1900). The 1884 record from Ussher and Warren was corrected in Ussher's own copy of his work. That hand-written correction is referred to as a footnote to the account for Spoonbill in Kennedy *et al.* (1954). However, the asterisk to which the footnote refers is incorrectly placed against Wicklow, not against Wexford. To make matters more confusing, there is, coincidentally, a legitimate 1844 record for Wicklow, published in Thompson (1849-1851). Pre 1950 totals for this species have been adjusted downwards by three and post 1950 totals increased by seven, following a review of published records. For clarity and simplicity (and in the absence of any published details), the three birds shot at the Cull between 1946 and the publication of Kennedy *et al.* (1954) are all presumed to have been shot prior to 1950. Underlying the statistics are other assumptions as to which records refer to returning birds and a detailed spreadsheet of records outlining presumed returning individuals is available on request.

Bittern *Botaurus stellaris* (168+; 53; 0)

2002 Dublin One: Second calendar-year, Dalkey, 22nd January, found dead by postman, photographed (per E.Archer).

1989 Down One: One, Ellis's Gut, Lough Neagh, 2nd September (*NIBR* 1986-90: 22).

The 1989 record was published in the cited *Northern Ireland Bird Report* but was never included in an Irish Bird Report. Following a review of multiple sources of birding literature (in particular, *Irish Naturalist*, *Irish Naturalist Journal*, *The Zoologist* and *The Field*), the pre-1950 total has been increased by seven to 168+. New records were found from Fermanagh (2), Monaghan (2), Louth, Meath and Kildare. As indicated in *Irish Birds* 9: 583, this total is best treated as a minimum figure only as it excludes breeding records. For that purpose, as a convenience, any record included in the publication of Thompson 1849-1851 is treated as occurring prior to the cessation of breeding, notwithstanding that breeding is deemed to have finished in the 1840's. See also Appendix 4 for corrections to previous reports.

Least Bittern *Ixobrychus exilis* (0; 0; 1)

Kerry One: Adult male, found moribund, Farranfore, 7th October, photographed (A.O'Connor, J.O'Donoghue).

Found on the back lawn of a house in Farranfore at 5 pm on Monday 7th October in very poor condition, and dying some 30 minutes later, this constitutes the first record for Ireland.



Plate 35. Black-crowned Night heron *Nycticorax nycticorax*, Lady's Island Lake, Wexford, August 2019 (Tom Shevlin).



Plate 37. Squacco Heron *Ardeola ralloides*, Tacumshin Lake, Wexford, May 2019 (Victor Caschera).



Plate 36. Least Bittern *Ixobrychus exilis*, Farranfore, Kerry, October 2019 (Anthony O'Connor).

Presumably this bird arrived in Ireland having been blown across the Atlantic in Storm Lorenzo, which hit Ireland on 3rd and 4th October. There have been 10 previous records in the Western Palearctic. Nine of these were on the Azores, where one was found on São Jorge as recently as 21 September 2019, although that bird too died in care after being found exhausted. The only other record is from Iceland, on Heimaey in September 1970. None of those seen has yet a) been alive or well enough, and b) lingered long enough to be seen by large numbers of birders.

Black-crowned Night Heron

Nycticorax nycticorax (27; 57; 2)

Cork One: Second calendar-year, Crookhaven and Lissagriffin, 30th April and 1st May (E.Dillon-Hooper *et al.*).

Wexford One: Second calendar-year, Lady's Island Lake, 1st to 3rd August, photographed (E.A. MacLochlainn, A. McMillan *et al.*).

Squacco Heron *Ardeola ralloides* (11; 12; 1)

Wexford One: Adult, Tacumshin Lake, 21st and 22nd May, photographed ((P.King, P.Merrigan, C.Foley).

The fourth county record, and the second year in succession, following one at Greenore Point on 20th April 2018 (*Irish Birds* 42: 76).

Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis* (0; 467; 59)

Carlow One: One, Fenagh, 24th December (M.McCarthy).

Clare Three: One, Ennis, 23rd January, with two there 10th April (P.Cullinan); One, Ballyallia Lake, 9th May (P.Cullinan).

Cork 29: Two, The Gearagh, from December 2018 (*Irish Birds* 42: 76) until 13th January (M.O'Donovan); One, Enniskeane, from December 2018 (*Irish Birds* 42: 76) until 3rd January (M.O'Donovan); Three, Little Island, Cork Harbour, 22nd to 27th February (A.Farrell); Four, Carrigaline, 12th February, with two remaining to 21st March, photographed (J.Foley *et al.*); One, Macroom, 9th to 30th March, photographed (J.Lynch *et al.*); Three, Rossleague, Great Island, 10th to 15th March (B.Power); One, Fota, 10th April (B.Lynch); One, Lough



Plate 38. Great Egret *Ardea alba*, Lady's Island Lake, Wexford, August 2019 (Tom Shevlin).

Clubir, Unionhall, 17th April, photographed (S.Cronin); Two, Slatty's Bridge, 12th October to 11th November, photographed (A.Duggan *et al.*); Six, Timoleague, 16th October (P.Wolstenholme *et al.*) remained to 14th November, when eight were present, photographed (S.Cronin), with two birds remaining until 27th November; Three, Lackahane, 4th to 6th November (J.Mitchell, N.Mitchell *et al.*); Two, East Ferry, 16th December, with one remaining until 21st December (B.Power *et al.*); One, Glengarriff, 21st December (L.Hohmann, M.Hohmann).

Galway One: One, Rahasane Turlough, 8th to 11th August, photographed (P.Cullinan *et al.*).

Kerry One: One, Lonart, near Cromane, 28th February to 2nd May, photographed (K.Griffin, F.Molloy *et al.*).

Limerick Zero: Two, Bunlicky, from November 2018 (*Irish Birds* 42: 76) until 26th January, photographed (J.N.Murphy, T.Tarpey *et al.*).

Meath One: One, Dunboyne, 1st April (P.Kelly).

Tipperary One: One in flight, Cahir, 9th January (J.N.Murphy).

Waterford Three: One, Dungarvan, 21st November (P.M.Walsh), Two, Tramore Back Strand, 23rd November (J.Roche).

Wexford 16: Two, Wexford Wildfowl Reserve, from December 2018 (*Irish Birds* 42: 76) until 28th January, photographed (P.Kelly *et al.*); Six, Drinagh/Killane, from December 2018 (*Irish Birds* 42: 76) until 5th March, with three there, 10th March, five, 25th April and one, 4th May, photographed (K.Grace, G.O'Sullivan *et al.*), presumed one of same

flock, Rosslare, 9th February, photographed (P.Kelly); Two, Enniscorthy, 2nd January, then five, 9th and 10th January, four, 20th January and two, Cooraun, 15th February (K.Mullamey, G.O'Sé *et al.*); One, Cahore Marsh, 17th to 23rd March, with two there 1st April and one remaining until 13th April, photographed (C.Cardiff); One, Tacumshin Lake, 6th April to 5th May (T.Kilbane *et al.*), presumed same Lady's Island Lake, 12th April (P.Kelly); Two, one presumed new, Tacumshin Lake, 12th May, (P.Kelly); Three, Cahore Marsh, 12th May, photographed, with presumably one of same on 21st May (C.Cardiff); One, Lady's Island Lake, 17th September to 8th October, photographed (E.Dempsey *et al.*), One, Lady's Island Lake, 28th and 29th September, photographed (P.Kelly); One, Tacumshin Lake, 19th October, photographed (P.Kelly *et al.*); One, South Slob, 25th to 29th October, photographed (P.Kelly *et al.*), Two, Enniscorthy, 3rd to 23rd December, photographed, presumed returning birds (P.Gaynor *et al.*); One, Drinagh, 24th to 31st December, presumed returning bird (G.O'Sullivan); One, Wexford Wildfowl Reserve, 27th December, presumed returning bird (A.Power).

Wicklow Three: One, Buckrone Marsh, 12th March (O.O'Sullivan); One, Threemile Water, 19th April (C.Ostoff); One, Kilcoole, 2nd December (C.Cardiff).

The record from Meath was the second county record, following one at Ashbourne and Ardcaith in November 2016

(*Irish Birds* 10: 550). It is hard to know the degree of double-counting, with birds moving between sites, particularly in Cork and Wexford.

Purple Heron *Ardea purpurea* (1; 28; 1)

Cork One: One, in flight, Rostellan Lake, 19th May (D.O'Sullivan). The 15th county record, and a typical date. There have been 13 spring records and just two autumn records in the county.

Great Egret *Ardea alba* (0; 130; 27)

Clare Four: One, Bunratty, 4th February (J.N.Murphy); Two, Ballylilla Lake, 19th and 20th September, photographed (P.Cullinan); One, Lough O'Grady, 17th December (J.N.Murphy).

Cork Three: One, seen regularly at The Gearagh and Duniskey up to 17th March, photographed (L.Stevenson *et al.*), was first recorded in September 2018 (*Irish Birds* 42: 77), presumed same 30th September, then two present from 1st to 8th November, photographed (A.Duggan *et al.*), with one remaining to 31st December; One, Rostellan Lake, 21st April to 5th May, photographed (S.Enright *et al.*); One, Rosscarbery, 1st September, photographed (C.Barton *et al.*).

Donegal Two: One, Bunduff Marsh, 4th October (T.Campbell, C.Ingram); One, Inch, 22nd and 23rd October, photographed (J.Bliss *et al.*).

Galway Two: Three remained in the wider Lough Corrib area from October 2018 (*Irish Birds* 42: 77), to 27th February, photographed (D.Breen *et al.*), with two present between 19th October and 29th December; One, Clifden, 18th September to 27th October, photographed (M.Harris *et al.*); One, Glenamaddy, 23rd October, photographed (P.Cullinan).

Kildare One: One, Pollardstown Fen, 20th April to 5th May (L.Stevenson *et al.*).

Kerry Four: Adult, Reask, 30th April (C.O'Donnell); Adult, Reask Reedbed, Ballyferriter, 26th to 29th July (J.Croscher); One, Derynane Estuary, 2nd September (J.O'Shea); One, Fenit, 4th October (M.O'Neill).

Laois One: One, River Gully, 24th November (M.Carmody).

Louth One: One, Drogheda, 12th October (A.G.Kelly).

Mayo Two: One, Lough Conn, Lough Cullin and Foxford area, 12th September to 23rd November, photographed (W.Hughes, S.Meany); One, various locations between Westport and Newport, 17th October to 22 December, photographed (J. Freestone, N.O'Malley, M. Reilly, J.Wood).

Sligo One: One, Mullaghmore, 22nd September to 2nd October, photographed (A.Hegarty, F.Hegarty *et al.*)

Tipperary One: One, Cahir, 23rd June (D.Griffiths).

Waterford One: One, Ferrypoint, 6th February and 8th April (A.Malcolm).

Wexford Three: Two, flying north, South Slob, 31st May (P.Kelly, G.O'Sullivan); One, Tacumshin Lake, 20th July to 9th August, photographed (J.Dixon *et al.*).

Wicklow One: One, Kilcoole, 5th to 12th August, photographed (D.Ellis *et al.*).

The Donegal records were the second and third for the county, following one at Blanket Nook on 10th October 2013 (*Irish Birds* 10: 78).

Golden Eagle *Aquila chrysaetos*

(Unknown; 21; 0)

1985 Antrim One: Immature, Rathlin Island, 3rd to 10th April (*Irish Birds* 3: 303), involved two birds, a first-year, Rathlin Island, 3rd to 6th April and a near-adult, Rathlin Island, 10th April (*NIBR* 1982-85: 45).

1980 Antrim One: Second-year, Garron Plateau, 17th April (*NIBR* 1980-81: 22).

Note that totals exclude breeding records at Fair Head (Antrim) from 1953 to 1960. The 1980 record had hitherto been overlooked for publication in *Irish Birds*, as had the incidence of two different individuals on Rathlin Island in 1985. Note that individuals involved in the re-introduction scheme are not included in the statistics and only records which are unequivocally A or C2 are published in these reports.

Goshawk *Accipiter gentilis* (2; 99; 1)

Cork One: Adult, Location withheld, 13th April, photographed (J.McGrath).

Previous annual totals have been adjusted for based on information on breeding birds from Northern Ireland. See also Appendix 4 for these details of these adjustments and additional information.

Montagu's Harrier *Circus pygargus* (23; 65; 3)

Cork One: Second calendar-year male, Currahy Marsh, Dunworley, 30th April, photographed (J.Mitchell, M.Mitchell); presumed same, Ballyvergan, Red Barn, 17th May, photographed (B.Power).

Kerry One: Adult male, near Ballylongford, 25th September (D.Ballard).

Waterford One: Unaged female, Ballinamona, Ardmore, 19th April (S.Farrell).

The Kerry record was the seventh for the county, and the first since an adult male at Farranfore on 21st May 2004 (*Irish Birds* 8: 111). The Waterford record was the second county record, after one between Youghal and Tallow on 22nd July 1948 (Kennedy *et al.*, 1954).

Spotted Crake *Porzana porzana*

(Unknown; 54; 0)

1992 Fermanagh One: One, Knockarevan, Upper Lough Erne, 1st May (*NIBR* 1991-92: 32).

The 1992 record, the only record for the year, was published in the cited *Northern Ireland Bird Report* but was never included in an Irish Bird Report.

Crane *Grus grus* (29; 176; 3)

Galway One: Adult, Kiltullagh Lake, Glenamaddy, 2nd July to 31st August, photographed (B.Cassidy *et al.*).

Louth One: Adult, Lurgangreen, 26th February, photographed (B.McCloskey *et al.*).

Waterford One: One, flyover, 5th March, Dungarvan (F.O'Connell). The Louth record was the second for the county, after one at Beaulieu Pond, Termonfeckin and Drogheda in March 2012



Plate 39. Crane *Grus grus*, Lurgangreen, Louth, February 2019 (Brian McCloskey).

(*Irish Birds* 9: 588). The Waterford record was the fourth for the county, after three at Ardmore Bay on 21st November 2011 (*Irish Birds* 9: 461). There have been four previous records in Galway, with the last on Inishbofin on 2nd May 2017 (*Irish Birds* 41: 65). See also Appendix 4 for corrections to previous reports.

Avocet *Recurvirostra avosetta* (36; 133; 3)

Dublin Zero: Adult female, Swords, 25th May, photographed (G.Franck), then Rogerstown, 26th May (A.G.Kelly), same individual first seen in Louth.

Louth One: Adult female, Lurgangreen, 16th to 18th May, photographed (E.Larrissey *et al.*), seen subsequently in Meath and Dublin.

Meath Zero: Adult female, Gormanstown, 23rd May, photographed (P.Kelly), same individual first seen in Louth.

Wexford Two: Second calendar-year, Fishertown, Campile, 31st December 2018 (*Irish Birds* 42: 78) remained until 3rd January, relocated to Tacumshin Lake, 12th January to 24th March, also seen Fishertown, 13th February and Rosslare Back Strand, 5th March, photographed (P.Kelly, E.Larrissey *et al.*); Second calendar-year, Lady's Island Lake, 17th May, then Tacumshin Lake, 18th May to 3rd June, photographed (P.Kelly, E.MacLochlainn *et al.*); One, Tacumshin Lake, 22nd November, photographed (P.Kelly).

American Golden Plover

Pluvialis dominica (1; 341; 18)

Clare One: Juvenile, Moveen, 5th November, photographed (J.N.Murphy).

Cork Three: Juvenile, Muckross Estuary, 22nd to 28th October, photographed (C.O'Sullivan); Juvenile, Harper's Island, 24th to 26th October (P.Moore *et al.*); Juvenile, Ballycotton, 26th October (D.O'Sullivan).

Donegal One: Adult, Blanket Nook, 18th to 20th September (C.Ingram).

Galway Two: Adult, Tawin Island, 23rd and 24th September, photographed (P.Troake *et al.*); Adult, Aillebrack, 23rd September (D.Breen).

Kerry Five: Adult, Ferriter's Cove, 8th to 10th September, photographed (G.Walker *et al.*); Adult, Carrahane Strand, 14th to 28th September, photographed (E.Carty); Adult, Cashen Estuary, 2nd October (D.Farrar); Juvenile, Cashen Estuary, 5th October (E.Dempsey); Adult, Carrahane Strand, 9th to 11th October, photographed (D.A.O'Connor).

Mayo Four: Juvenile, Annagh Strand, 23rd and 24th September, photographed (C.Jones, R.Innes *et al.*); Juvenile, Annagh Head, 8th to 10th October (D.Charles); Juvenile, Cross Lough, Mullet Peninsula, 13th October (D.Suddaby); Juvenile, Cross Lough, Mullet Peninsula, 4th and 5th November and presumed same, Leam Lough, 6th November (D.Suddaby *et al.*).

Wexford Two: Two juveniles, Bannow Bay, 24th October, one remaining to 8th November (K.Mullarney, T.Murray).

Little Ringed Plover *Charadrius dubius*

(0; 189; 26)

Cork Two: One, Harper's Island, 27th March, photographed (B.Lynch); Adult, Harper's Island, 30th June and 10th July (T.Gittings *et al.*).

Dublin One: Adult female, Broadmeadows, 28th April (V.Caschera *et al.*).

Kilkenny One: Adult, Galmoy, 2nd April (D.Finnamore).

Wexford 18: Adult male, Cahore Marsh, 14th April (C.Cardiff); One, Tacumshin Lake, 18th April, with two there 19th April, photographed (P.Kelly); One, Ring Marsh, 5th to 10th May (P.Kelly *et al.*); One flyover, Cahore Marsh, 12th May (C.Cardiff); One, Tacumshin Lake, 26th May (M.Boyle, P.Kelly); Juvenile, Tacumshin Lake, 23rd to 30th June, photographed (P.Kelly, G.O'Sullivan); Three juveniles, Tacumshin Lake, 4th to 28th July, photographed (T.Shevlin *et al.*); Two juveniles, Ring Marsh, 27th July, photographed (P.Kelly); Three juveniles, Lady's Island Lake, 28th July to 4th August, with one remaining to 5th August (two presumed same as Ring Marsh individuals from previous day), photographed (P.Kelly, A.Mcmillan *et al.*); One, Tacumshin Lake, 3rd August (P.Kelly); Juvenile, Nethertown, 19th August (C.Foley); One, Tacumshin Lake, 24th August (P.Kelly); Juvenile, Tacumshin Lake, 31st August to 8th September (P.Kelly); Juvenile, Crossfintan Point, 2nd September, photographed (T.Shevlin).

Wicklow Four: One, Buckroneys Marsh, 28th March (O.O'Sullivan); Two adult males and an adult female, East Coast Nature Reserve, 9th and 10th May, with two present 11th May, and one remaining until 12th May, photographed (S.Mahon *et al.*).



Plate 40. Avocet *Recurvirostra avosetta*, Lady's Island Lake, Wexford, May 2019 (Tom Shevlin).



Plate 41. American Golden Plover *Pluvialis dominica*, Carrahane Strand, Kerry, October 2019 (David O'Connor).



Plate 42. Broad-billed Sandpiper *Calidris falcinellus*, Tacumshin Lake, Wexford, June 2019 (Paul Kelly).

Dotterel *Charadrius morinellus* (146; 204; 3)

Galway Two: One flyover, Brannock Island, 13th August (S.Pierce); Juvenile, Slyne Head, 6th to 11th October, photographed (D.Breen).

Mayo One: Juvenile, Inishkea North, 7th September (D.Suddaby).

Broad-billed Sandpiper

Calidris falcinellus (1; 23; 2)

Galway One: Adult, Inishbofin, 17th May, photographed (G.O'Sé).

Wexford One: Adult, Tacumshin Lake, 7th and 8th June, photographed (K.Mullarney *et al.*).

The Galway record was the first for the county. There have been six previous records in Wexford, with the most recent being an adult at Tacumshin Lake on 1st May 2010 (*Irish Birds* 9: 297).



Plate 43. Dotterel *Charadrius morinellus*, Slyne Head, Galway, October 2019 (Dermot Breen).



Plate 44. Temminck's Stint *Calidris temminckii*, Ring Marsh, Wexford, June 2019 (Paul Kelly).

Temminck's Stint *Calidris temminckii* (1; 43; 1)

Wexford One: Adult, Ring Marsh, 21st and 22nd June, photographed (P.Kelly *et al.*)

There have been eight previous county records, with the most recent being a juvenile at Tacumshin Lake and Lady's Island Lake in September 2000 (*Irish Birds* 7: 93).

Baird's Sandpiper *Calidris bairdii* (0; 176; 5)

Kerry Two: Juvenile, Carrahane Strand, 12th October (M.Hanafin); Juvenile, Ballinskelligs, 3rd to 10th November, photographed (P.McDaid *et al.*).

Mayo One: Roonagh Lough, 9th October (E.McGreal).

Wexford Two: Adult, Tacumshin Lake, 23rd August to 4th September, photographed (A.McMillan *et al.*); Juvenile, Tacumshin Lake, 12th October, photographed (P.Kelly).

White-rumped Sandpiper

Calidris fuscicollis (0; 368; 37)

Clare One: Adult, Rinevella Bay, 21st September (D.Dack *et al.*).

Cork Seven: One, Myrtleville, 1st September (P.Smiddy); One, Lissagriffin, 12th September (D.Ballard); Juvenile, Lissagriffin, 9th October, photographed (P.Moore, D.O'Sullivan); Two (one adult), Ballycrenane Strand, 16th October (D.O'Sullivan), presumed same adult, Ballycotton, 17th to 26th October (D.O'Sullivan); Juvenile, Lissagriffin, 21st October, photographed (B.McCloskey, C.Foley);

Juvenile, Ballycotton, 22nd October to 10th November, photographed (N.Gleeson).

Galway Two: Two juveniles, Inishmore, 13th October, with one remaining until 27th October, photographed (P.Keogh *et al.*).

Kerry 12: Juvenile, Cashen Estuary, 9th October, photographed (D.Farrar); Three first-winter birds, Carrahane Strand, 11th and 12th October, photographed (D.A.O'Connor); Juvenile, Ferriter's Cove, 13th October, photographed (M.O'Clery); Juvenile, Black Rock Strand, 15th to 18th October, photographed (D.Farrar); One, Rough Point, 16th October, photographed (M.O'Clery); Juvenile, Inny Strand, Ballinskelligs Bay, 16th October, photographed (P.McDaid); Adult, Ballylongford, 16th and 17th October, photographed (D.Farrar), with a second unaged bird also present on 17th (D.Farrar); Juvenile, Cashen Estuary, 25th to 30th October, photographed (D.Farrar); One, Black Rock Strand, 13th November (D.Farrar).

Mayo Six: Adult, Leam Lough, Mullet Peninsula, 13th October (D.Suddaby); Juvenile, Annagh Strand, 17th to 20th October (M.Reilly); Two new juveniles, Annagh Strand, 21st October (D.Suddaby); Juvenile, Leam Lough, Mullet Peninsula, 21st October (D.Suddaby); Juvenile, Leam Lough, Mullet Peninsula, 8th and 9th November (D.Suddaby).

Sligo One: First-winter, Lower Rosses, 12th October (P.Keogh).

Wexford Seven: Adult, Tacumshin Lake, 6th and 7th July, photographed (P.Kelly); Adult, Lady's Island Lake, 1st to 18th August, photographed (E.MacLochlainn, A. McMillan *et al.*), joined by second adult, 8th to 11th August (R.H.Coombes *et al.*); Adult, The Cull, 3rd and 11th August, photographed (P.Kelly *et al.*); Adult, Tacumshin Lake,



Plate 45. Semipalmated Sandpiper *Calidris pusilla*, Tacumshin Lake, Wexford, October 2019 (Paul Kelly).

9th August (K.Grace); Juvenile, Tacumshin Lake, 18th to 20th October, photographed (P.Kelly); Juvenile, Tacumshin Lake, 8th November, photographed (P.Kelly).

Wicklow One: Adult, Blessington, 10th and 11th August (B.King *et al.*).

The 2019 record of 37 birds in one autumn beats the previous best of 34 recorded in 2011 (*Irish Birds* 9: 466).

Buff-breasted Sandpiper

Calidris subruficollis (2; 479; -)

2009 Wexford One: Juvenile, Carnsore Point, 26th August (B.O'Connor).

The species was on the "rarities list" at the time, but was removed in January 2012.

Semipalmated Sandpiper *Calidris pusilla*

(0; 234; 16)

Clare One: Juvenile, Moyasta, 23rd September (J.N.Murphy).

Cork One: Juvenile, The Gearagh, 8th October (A.Duggan).

Kerry Seven: One summer plumage adult, Ballinskelligs, 1st and 2nd June, photographed (P.McDaid *et al.*); Juvenile, Carrahane Strand, 10th to 20th September, photographed (D.O'Connor *et al.*); Juvenile, Cromane Point, 10th September, then relocated at Rossbeigh on 16th to 18th September, photographed (D.Jeffries *et al.*); Juvenile, Beale Strand, 24th September (D.Farrar); Two juveniles, Derrymore, 29th

September, photographed (M.O'Clery); Juvenile, Rossbeigh, 17th October (S.Enright).

Sligo One: Juvenile, Lower Rosses, 1st and 2nd September, photographed (P.Keogh).

Wexford Six: Juvenile, Tacumshin Lake, 31st August, photographed (J.Bowman, P.Kelly, I.Stevenson); Juvenile, Tacumshin Lake, 4th to 13th September, photographed (C.Cardiff, C.Forkan, B.McCloskey, J.Proudfoot *et al.*); Juvenile, Lady's Island Lake, 15th and 16th September, then Tacumshin Lake, 17th September, photographed (J.Cusack, P.Kelly, G.Murray *et al.*); Juvenile, Lady's Island Lake, 20th to 23rd September (T.Shevlin *et al.*); Juvenile, Tacumshin Lake, 27th to 29th September, photographed (K.Mullarney *et al.*); Juvenile, Rosslare Back Strand, 19th October (P.Kelly).

The 2019 total of 16 birds is the fourth best year on record, after 18 birds in 1999 (*Irish Birds* 6: 553), 27 birds in 2016 (*Irish Birds* 10: 556) and 63 birds in 2011 (*Irish Birds* 9: 464).

Long-billed Dowitcher

Limnodromus scolopaceus (2; 146; 4)

Wexford Three: Adult, Tacumshin Lake, 8th and 9th August, then Lady's Island Lake, 11th to 16th August, photographed (P.Kelly *et al.*); First calendar-year, Bannow Bay, 13th October, photographed (P.Kelly *et al.*); First calendar-year, South Slob, 31st December (C.Cardiff).

Wicklow One: First calendar-year, Kilcoole, 30th November to 31st December, photographed (F.Huggard, J.D.Murphy *et al.*).



Plate 46. Long-billed Dowitcher *Limnodromus scolopaceus*, Tacumshin Lake, Wexford, August 2019 (Tom Shevlin).



Plate 47. Short-billed Dowitcher *Limnodromus griseus*, Navy Bank, Dundalk, Louth, October 2019 (Brian McCloskey).



Plate 48. Wilson's Phalarope *Phalaropus tricolor*, Tacumshin Lake, Wexford, September 2019 (Tom Shevlin).



Plate 49. Red-necked Phalarope *Phalaropus lobatus*, Swords Estuary, Dublin, June 2019 (Victor Caschera).

Short-billed Dowitcher

Limnodromus griseus (0; 3; 1)

Louth One: First calendar-year, Rockmarshall, 17th September, then Dundalk Docks, 13th to 11th November, photographed (T.Cooney *et al.*).

The fourth Irish record. To date, individuals in Ireland have been quite long-staying. The first Irish record was at Tacumshin Lake, Wexford from 30th September to 2nd October 1985 (*Irish Birds* 3: 308), while the second record involved a first-summer bird on the Boyne Estuary, Meath from 18th March to 30th April 2000 (*Irish Birds* 7: 95), and the Swords Estuary, Dublin from 24th July to 23rd September 2000 (*Irish Birds* 7: 95), before it returned as an adult to the Swords Estuary from 5th to 26th May 2001 (*Irish Birds* 7: 226). The third record for Ireland was seen as a first-summer bird at Lady's Island Lake, Wexford from 30th June to 15th August (*Irish Birds* 8: 113), and then at North Bull Island, Dublin from 31st October 2004 to 13th March 2005 (*Irish Birds* 8: 380). It was then found at Booterstown Marsh, Dublin from 25th March to 9th April 2005 (*Irish Birds* 8: 380).

Wilson's Phalarope *Phalaropus tricolor*

(0; 89; 1)

Wexford One: First calendar-year, Tacumshin Lake, 8th to 14th September, photographed (C.Cardiff, P.Kelly, S.King *et al.*).

This is the 21st record for the county, and the first since a first-winter bird at the same site in September and October 2010 (*Irish Birds* 9: 300).

Red-necked Phalarope

Phalaropus lobatus (3; 57; 1)

Dublin One: Female, Swords Estuary, 22nd and 23rd June, photographed (V.Caschera *et al.*).

1948 Wexford One: Adult, North Slob, 25th August (J.F.Simms).

As previously published, the statistics for Red-necked Phalarope are for migrants only and exclude breeding records (*Irish Birds* 10: 246).

Spotted Sandpiper *Actitis macularius*

(1; 52; 1)

Waterford One: Second calendar-year, Dungarvan, 30th January to 1st April, photographed (J.N.Murphy *et al.*).

Wexford Zero: Second calendar-year, Ferrybank, from December 2018 (*Irish Birds* 42: 81) remained until 11th May, photographed (M.Noonan, J.Proudfoot *et al.*).

2018 Sligo One: First-winter, Easkey, 10th and 11th November, photographed (S.Feeney *et al.*).

The 2018 record was the second for Sligo, following a juvenile at Silver Falls, Ballysadare on 13th October 2012 (*Irish Birds* 9: 592). The Wexford record is the longest staying bird on record, successfully overwintering and allowing for an excellent opportunity to study the moult progression of this species into its first summer plumage.

Lesser Yellowlegs *Tringa flavipes* (0; 181; 6)

Cork Three: Summer plumage, Clogheen Marsh, 20th April (P.Connaughton *et al.*); Adult, Kinsale Marsh, 4th to 12th August, photographed (R.O'Driscoll *et al.*); Juvenile, Lissagriffin, 9th to 12th October, photographed (P.Moore, D.O'Sullivan *et al.*).



Plate 50. Spotted Sandpiper *Actitis macularius*, Ferrybank, Wexford, April 2019 (Dick Coombes).



Plate 51. Spotted Sandpiper *Actitis macularius*, Ferrybank, Wexford, May 2019 (Daniel Mantle).



Plate 52. Lesser Yellowlegs *Tringa flavipes*, Kinsale Marsh, Cork, August 2019 (Brian Power).

Kerry One: Juvenile, Blennerville, 6th October, photographed (G.Scollard).

Meath One: First calendar-year, Duleek, 5th November (A.Butler, K.Geraty).

Waterford One: Juvenile, Dungarvan, 5th to 20th October, photographed (J.A.Power *et al.*).

The Meath record was the first for the county, while the Waterford record was the fourth.

Collared Pratincole *Glareola pratincola* (0; 3; 1)

Donegal One: Second calendar-year or older, Blanket Nook, 22nd and 23rd July, photographed (R.Vaughan *et al.*).

The fourth record for Ireland, and the first for Donegal. The previous three records were at the Bann Estuary, Derry in October 1970 (IBR 18: 36), Annagh Beach, Termoncarragh, Mayo in June 2007 (*Irish Birds* 8: 591) and near Ballyconneely, Galway on 24th October 2007 (*Irish Birds* 8: 591).

Bonaparte's Gull *Chroicocephalus philadelphia* (1; 85; 9)

Carlow One: First-winter, Kildavin Gravel Pits, 13th November (B.Power).

Clare One: Adult, Clahane, 10th August to 19th September, photographed (J.Copner *et al.*).

Donegal Two: First-winter, Killybegs, 15th to 30th March, photographed (G.Mitchell *et al.*); First calendar-year, Killybegs, 8th December (D.Charles).



Plate 53. Collared Pratincole *Glareola pratincola*, Blanket Nook, Donegal, July 2019 (Brian McCloskey).

Galway One: First-winter, seen from a boat 2km south of Furbogh in Galway Bay, 9th January (N.T.Keogh, A.Power), and presumed same, Blackrock, 8th February (A.O'Donaill).

Mayo One: Second calendar-year, Cross Lough and Leam Lough, Belmullet Peninsula, 31st May (D.Suddaby).

Wexford Three: Adult winter, Kilmore Quay, 20th February, photographed (K.Mullarney); Second calendar-year, Tacumshin Lake, 2nd July, photographed (K.Mullarney); Adult winter, Kilmore Quay, 15th to 17th November, photographed (K.Grace *et al.*).

The Donegal records were the second and third county records, after a second-winter bird at Killybegs in February and March 2018 (*Irish Birds* 42: 81). The Carlow record was



Plate 54. Bonaparte's Gull *Chroicocephalus philadelphia*, Kilmore Quay, Wexford, November 2019 (Tom Shevlin).

the second record for the county, following an adult at the same site on 18th March 2016 (*Irish Birds* 10: 560). The Mayo record was also the second for the county, following a first-winter bird at Lough Cullin on 31st March 1990 (*Irish Birds* 4: 445).

Laughing Gull *Leucophaeus atricilla* (0; 46; 1)

Cork One: First-winter, Barleycove, 24th November (D.Ballard). The 18th county record, and the first since a first-winter bird at Ballycotton between January and March 2014 (*Irish Birds* 10: 249).

Kumlien's Gull *Larus glaucooides kumlieni* (0; 352; 5)

Cork Two: Second-winter, Cahermore, 20th January (F.Moore); First-winter, Eyeries, 28th February (F.Moore).

Donegal One: Adult, Moville, from November 2018 (*Irish Birds* 42: 81) to 3rd March, photographed (M.Callaghan, D.Charles *et al.*); First-winter, Killybegs, 21st February (A.McMillan).

Kerry One: First-winter, Cashen Estuary, from December 2018 (*Irish Birds* 42: 81) to 20th February (D.Farrar); Adult, Black Rock Strand, 18th December, photographed (D.A.O'Connor).

Limerick One: Second-winter, O'Callaghan Strand, Limerick City, 10th February to 21st March, photographed (T.Tarpey *et al.*).



Plate 55. Gull-billed Tern *Gelocheidon nilotica*, Baile an Reannaigh, Smerwick Harbour, Kerry, June 2019 (Michael O'Clery).

2018 Wexford One: Fourth calendar-year, Carnsore Point, 27th January, photographed (P.Kelly).

See also Appendix 4 for corrections to previous reports.

Gull-billed Tern *Gelocheidon nilotica* (0; 22; 1)

Kerry One: Adult, Baile an Reannaigh, Smerwick Harbour, 4th to 9th June, photographed (E.Carty, J.Crosher *et al.*).

The second county record, after an adult at Castlegregory and Blennerville in October and November 2015 (*Irish Birds* 10: 408).

Forster's Tern *Sterna forsteri* (0; 39; 0)

Galway Zero: Returning adult, Lackanaloy Creek near Tawin, 2nd January, also seen at Kinvarra, Tarra, Claddagh Beach and Mutton Island throughout the winter up to 23rd March, and at the tern and gull colony at Inishroo on 6th June, and again at Kinvarra, Oranmore Bay and Traught from 24th October to 28th December, photographed (P.Troake *et al.*).

Louth Zero: Returning adult, Dundalk Bay and Annagassan, 22nd July to 23rd September, photographed (G.O'Neill *et al.*).

1990 Down Zero: Adult, Briggs Rocks, Groomsport, 11th February (NIBR 1986-90: 75), presumed to relate to the same individual seen subsequently in the Millisle and Ballywalter area of Strangford Lough in 1991 (NIBR 1991-92: 52, *Irish Birds* 4: 597) and 1992 (NIBR 1991-92: 52 & NIBR 1993: 48, *Irish Birds* 5: 95).

The 1990 record has not previously been published in an Irish Bird Report.

Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybrida* (1; 21; 1)

Wexford One: Adult, Tacumshin Lake, 18th May, photographed (P.Kelly *et al.*)

The seventh record for Wexford, and the first Irish record since an adult at Lough Aderry, Ballybutler Lake and Ballyhonack Lake, Cork in May 2014.

White-winged Tern

Chlidonias leucopterus (9; 99; 4)

Wexford One: Adult, Lady's Island Lake, 16th to 20th May, photographed (A.Walsh *et al.*).

Kerry One: Adult, Reask Wetlands, 2nd to 4th June, photographed (J.Crosher *et al.*).

Louth One: Juvenile, Lurgangreen, 12th to 18th October, photographed (E.Larrissety *et al.*)

Roscommon One: Adult, Lough Funshinagh, 6th to 10th July, photographed (M.Hoit).

1990 Armagh One: Adult, Oxford Island, 30th July until mid-September (NIBR 1986-90: 77).



Plate 57. White-winged Tern *Chlidonias leucopterus*, Lurgangreen, Louth, October 2019 (Paul Kelly).



Plate 56. White-winged Tern *Chlidonias leucopterus*, Reask Wetlands, Kerry, June 2019 (Michael O'Clery).



Plate 58. American Black Tern *Chidonias niger surinamensis*, Nimmo's Pier, Galway City, September 2019 (Cathal Forkan).

The Roscommon record was the first for the county. The 1990 Armagh record was published in the cited *Northern Ireland Bird Report* but was never included in an Irish Bird Report. Another adult had been at Tacumshin Lake and Lady's Island Lake (Wexford) earlier the same month (*Irish Birds* 4: 449).

American Black Tern

Chidonias niger surinamensis (0; 4; 2)

Galway One: Juvenile, Nimmo's Pier, Galway City, 28th September to 4th October, photographed (B.Watson *et al.*).

Wexford One: Juvenile, Tacumshin Lake, 18th September, photographed (T.Shevlin *et al.*).

The second record for each county. The Galway bird showed exceptionally well during its stay, foraging along the River Corrib and often approaching observers to within a few metres.

Scops Owl *Otus scops* (10; 6; 1)

Kilkenny One: Unaged male, Mullinavat, recorded calling in private garden on 15th May, and seen in flight at night on 16th, 17th and 18th May (A.Allen *et al.*).

Unsurprisingly, this was the first county record, and the first Irish record since one on Great Saltee Island, Wexford on 11th April 2015 (*Irish Birds* 10: 412).

Snowy Owl *Bubo scandiacus* (55; 32; 3)

Clare One: Female, Black Head, 18th July, photographed (K.de Bievre, K.Devolder).

Cork One: Female, Bere Island, 5th September, photographed (M.McMahon).

Kerry One: Adult female, Great Blasket Island, 9th June, photographed (J.Coffey *et al.*), and presumed same, Mount Brandon, 20th June (B.Kenrick) and Great Blasket Island, 3rd July, photographed (B.Wilkens *et al.*).

The adult female in Kerry was the first record for the county, while the Cork record was the second for the county, following one on Inchigeela Mountain on 1st September 1827 (Thompson 1849-1851). There have been six previous records in Clare.

Chimney Swift *Chaetura pelagica* (0; 18; 1)

Wicklow One: One, over the N11 near the Beehive Inn, 8th October (E.Dempsey *et al.*).

2015 Cork One: One, Mizen Head, 26th October (B.McCloskey).

The second record for Wicklow, after one at Greystones on 30th October 1999 (*Irish Birds* 6: 564). There are 11 previous records for Cork, with three recorded in 1999 (*Irish Birds* 6: 563) and eight in 2005 (*Irish Birds* 8: 387).

Alpine Swift *Tachymarptis melba* (7; 79; 2)

Dublin One: One, Howth, 2nd June (P.Milne).

Wicklow One: One, Greystones Harbour, 16th to 19th March (W.Gaul, A.McElheron, E.Roark).

Bee-eater *Merops apiaster* (21; 45; 1)

Cork One: One flying over, Mizen Head, 20th April (D.Ballard).

Wryneck *Jynx torquilla* (9; 343; 5)

Cork Two: One, Ballydehob, 25th August, photographed (C.Kelleher); One, Cape Clear Island, 11th to 13th October, photographed (R.H.Coombes *et al.*).

Mayo One: One, Achill Island, 21st to 24th October, photographed (J.Devlin).

Wexford Two: One, Great Saltee Island, 22nd September, photographed (K.Mullarney *et al.*); One, Carne, 27th September, photographed (T.Shevlin *et al.*).

The Mayo record was the fifth for the county, and the first away from the Mullet Peninsula.

Red-footed Falcon *Falco vespertinus*

(1; 34; 6)

Wexford Six: Second calendar-year male and two second calendar-year females, Tacumshin Lake, 19th May, with one female remaining until 21st May, photographed (S.Farrell, P.Kelly *et al.*); Unaged female, Ballinoulart, Cahore Marsh, 19th May (J.Adamson); Second calendar-year female, South Slob, 25th May, photographed (J.Creamer, N.Keogh *et al.*); Two second calendar-year females, Cahore Marsh, 27th and 28th May, with one remaining to 9th June (T.Cardiff, H.Servignat *et al.*); Unaged female, Old Bawn, Cahore Marsh, 17th June (C.Cardiff).



Plate 59. Wryneck *Jynx torquilla*, Cape Clear Island, Cork, October 2019 (Brian Carruthers).

Although it is hard to be sure of the degree of overlap between sites, some of the sightings from Cahore Marsh are considered likely to involve the same individuals, therefore an overall total of six individuals has been assumed.

Hobby *Falco subbuteo* (14; 396; 33)

Carlow Two: One, Tullow, 20th May (O.O'Sullivan), Juvenile, Carlow Town, 29th September (M.Bolger, S.Bolger).

Cork Two: Juvenile, Knockadoon Head, 22nd September, photographed (M.O'Keeffe); One, Mizen Head, 23rd September (D.Ballard).

Dublin One: One, 2nd June, Howth (P.Milne).

Kerry One: Adult, Cordal, 2nd to 8th July (A.Mee, T.Siecaniez *et al.*).

Waterford One: One, Carriganvany, 21st to 29th June, photographed (A.Jacques *et al.*).

Wexford 16: Second calendar-year, Lady's Island Lake, 20th April (T.Kilbane); Second calendar-year, Tacumshin Lake, 17th May, then four birds, White Hole, 19th May, with two birds still present on 22nd May, photographed (S.Farrell, P.Kelly *et al.*); One, Kilmichael Point, 20th May (S.King); Second calendar-year and two sub-adult birds, South Slob, 23rd and 24th May, with six birds there, 25th May, and one bird present to 8th June (C.Cardiff, S.King, P.Kelly, J.Proudfoot *et al.*); One, Ring Marsh, 25th May (P.Kelly); One, Lingstown, Tacumshin Lake, 27th May (H.Servignat); Second calendar-year, Tacumshin Lake, 13th July (A.McMillan); Juvenile, Tacumshin Lake, 16th October (B.Black, L.Feeney).

Wicklow 10: Three between East Coast Nature Reserve and Five Mile Point, 16th May, then two sub-adults and four second calendar-year birds, 25th May, with one remaining until 29th May, photographed (C.Cardiff, J.Fitzharris *et al.*); One, Buckronev Marsh, 27th May (C.Cardiff *et al.*); Second calendar-year, Ballinaskea, 3rd June, photographed (A.Scales); Juvenile, Five Mile Point, Newcastle, 26th September to 12th October, photographed (J.McDonnell *et al.*); Second juvenile, Five Mile Point, Newcastle, 12th October (F.Huggard).



Plate 60. Hobby *Falco Subbuteo*, Five Mile Point, Wicklow, October 2019 (John D. Murphy).

Gyr Falcon *Falco rusticolus* (89; 44; 0)

1950 Donegal Zero: One, Tory Island, 28th to 31st December (*Irish Naturalists' Journal* 10: 31), one of 'four sight records' published in Kennedy *et al.* (1954) without details, previously assumed to have occurred before 1950.

1931 Cork One: One, Castletownbere, 19th October (*Irish Naturalists' Journal* 5: 220 per P.Smiddy).

1913 Mayo Two: Female, white morph, shot, 2nd March (*Zoologist* 1913: 155-156, *British Birds* 7: 90); One, white morph, 4th May (*Zoologist* 1913: 155-156, *British Birds* 7: 90).

The four early records came to light during two independent projects examining the historical record, one concentrating on the birds of Cork and the other covering all older records. The Mayo and Cork records appear to have been overlooked in the publication of Kennedy *et al.* Sharp-eyed readers will notice that the pre-1950 statistics have only increased by two, not three as might be expected given the additional records. This is because the Donegal record from 1950 was, in the absence of any details, previously counted as Category B (prior to 1950), whereas, with detail, moves to Category A and is accounted for in the post 1949 total.

Red-backed Shrike *Lanius collurio* (7; 188; 6)

Cork Two: First calendar-year, Cape Clear Island, 7th to 9th September, photographed (C.Cronin *et al.*); First calendar-year, Mizen Head, 1st October, photographed (D.Ballard, C.O'Sullivan *et al.*).

Donegal Two: Male, Malin Head, 20th April (R.McLaughlin); First calendar-year, Tory Island, 15th October, photographed (C.Ingram *et al.*).

Wexford Two: Female, Coddstown, 17th May (K.Grace); Female, South Slob, 25th May (P.Kelly, G.O'Sullivan).



Plate 61. Woodchat Shrike *Lanius senator*, Cape Clear Island, Cork, September 2019 (Mary Cadogan).

Woodchat Shrike *Lanius senator* (2; 109; 5)

Cork Three: Second calendar-year male, Cape Clear Island, 19th to 23rd April, photographed (E.O'Donnell *et al.*); One, Mizzen Head, 27th April (D.Ballard); First calendar-year, Cape Clear Island, 25th August to 13th September, photographed (M.Warren *et al.*).

Waterford One: Second calendar-year, Tramore, 15th May, photographed (A.Jacques *et al.*).

Wexford One: Male, Great Saltee Island, 8th and 9th June, photographed (J.F.Dowdall *et al.*).

Red-eyed Vireo *Vireo olivaceus* (0; 70; 10)

Clare One: One, Kilbaha, 6th to 12th October, photographed (C.Cullen *et al.*).

Cork Five: One, Mizzen Head, 29th September to 2nd October, photographed (M.Shorten *et al.*); One, Dirk Bay, Galley Head, 30th September (C.Barton); One, Ballinacarraige, 30th September (K.Grace); One, Lehanemore, 8th and 9th October (S.van Weirst *et al.*); One, Cape Clear Island, 12th to 24th October, photographed (P.Milne *et al.*).

Galway Two: One, Slyne Head, 5th October (P.Cummins); One, Inishmore, 15th to 20th October, photographed (H.Delaney *et al.*).

Mayo One: One, Ardoone, Mullet Peninsula, 1th to 13th October, photographed (D.Suddaby *et al.*).

Waterford One: One, Helvick Head, 6th to 10th October, photographed (D.Weldon *et al.*).

Ten in an autumn is the best ever recorded total, just beating the 1995 total of nine birds.

Golden Oriole *Oriolus oriolus* (62; 159; 3)

Kerry One: One, Caherdaniel, 26th June (V.Hyland).

Wexford Two: Second calendar-year male and second calendar-year female, Great Saltee Island, 1st June (D.Higgins *et al.*).

The 11th record for Kerry, and the first since one at Waterville in May 1997 (*Irish Birds* 6: 308).



Plate 62. Red-eyed Vireo *Vireo olivaceus*, Cape Clear Island, Cork October 2019 (Tom Shevlin).



Plate 63. Golden Oriole *Oriolus oriolus*, Great Saltee Island, Wexford, June 2019 (Tom Shevlin).



Plate 64. Short-toed Lark *Calandrella brachydactyla*, Tory Island, Donegal, October 2019 (Brian McCloskey).

Short-toed Lark

Calandrella brachydactyla (1; 82; 2)

Donegal One: One, Tory Island, 24th to 29th October, photographed (A.Meenan *et al.*).

Wexford One: One, Tacumshin Lake, 12th May (P.Kelly).

The Donegal record was the seventh for the county, and the first since one on Tory Island on 26th October 2009 (*Irish Birds* 9: 272). To date there have been 53 records in “autumn” (July to October) compared to 32 spring records (April to June).



Plate 65. Red-rumped Swallow *Cecropis daurica*, Youghal, Cork, March 2019 (Brian Carruthers).

Red-rumped Swallow *Cecropis daurica* (0; 55; 5)

Cork Three: One, Youghal, 7th to 10th March, photographed (J.A.Power *et al.*); One, Mizen Head, 27th March (C.O’Sullivan); One, Knockadoon Head, 16th June (P.Moore).

Wexford One: One, Tacumshin Lake, 26th April (K.Grace).

Wicklow One: One, Buckronev Marsh, 6th May (C.Cardiff).

Hume’s Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus humei* (0; 3; 1)

Cork One: One, Cape Clear Island, 4th to 7th November, photographed (S.Wing *et al.*).

The fourth Irish record, third county record and the second record for Cape Clear.



Plate 66. Hume’s Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus humei*, Cape Clear Island, Cork, November 2019 (Seamus Enright).

Pallas's Warbler *Phylloscopus proregulus* (0; 43; 0)

2016 Cork One: One, Dursley Island, 28th to 30th December, photographed (D.Scott *et al.*).

This was the third record for Dursley Island in 2016, following on from different birds seen on 13th and 18th October (*Irish Birds* 10: 569). The inclusion of this record brings the total for 2016 to five birds, equalling that recorded in 1994 (*Irish Birds* 5: 348) but two less than the record high of seven in 2003 (*Irish Birds* 7: 567). Cork boasts the most Pallas's Warbler records in Ireland with 27 of the 43 birds recorded, 10 of which have occurred on Cape Clear Island alone.

Siberian Chiffchaff

Phylloscopus collybita tristis (2; 175; 30)

Cork 13: Three, Cape Clear Island, 25th October (A.G.Kelly); One, Dursley Island, 28th October (K.Grace); One, Toe Head, 3rd November (A.Duggan); One, Cape Clear Island, 6th November (S.Wing); One, trapped and ringed, Owenahincha, 10th November (S.Bayley); One, trapped and ringed, Owenahincha, 22nd November, photographed (S.Bayley); Three, trapped and ringed, Owenahincha, 28th November (S.Bayley); Two, trapped and ringed, Owenahincha, 7th December (S.Bayley).

Dublin Three: One, Howth, 24th October (E.Dempsey); One, Loughshinny, 10th November (S.Pierce); One, Baldoyle, 19th November, photographed (J.Duffy).

Galway Two: One, Slyne Head, 26th October, photographed (D.Breen); One, Inishmore, 27th October, photographed (D.Breen).

Kerry Two: Two, Ross Castle, Killarney, 12th and 13th December (D.Farrar).

Waterford Three: One, Dungarvan, 18th February, photographed (E.Dempsey *et al.*); One, Dungarvan, 17th to 30th December, with a second bird present, 20th to 30th December, photographed (J.A.Power *et al.*).

Westmeath One: One, Lough Ennell, 7th December (P.Kelly).

Wexford Six: One, Tacumshin Lake, 20th January (P.Kelly); One, Great Saltee Island, 6th April (J.F.Dowdall *et al.*); One, South Slob, 24th to 29th November, photographed (P.Kelly); One, Tacumshin Lake, 24th November (T.Kilbane); One, Tacumshin Lake, 27th November (E.Dempsey); One, Cahore Marsh, 21st and 22nd December (C.Cardiff).

Statistics presented for this taxon under-record (perhaps considerably) the total number of occurrences. It is only since 2005 (see <http://www.irbc.ie/announcements/announce1.php>) that the taxon was considered by the Committee. During the late 1980s and 1990s, they were an expected annual visitor on Cape Clear Island and other migration sites during mid to late autumn. Recent years have confirmed this pattern and shown that a small number appear to winter here.

Two-barred Warbler

Phylloscopus plumbeitarsus (0; 0; 1)

Cork One: One, Dursley Island, 26th October, photographed (K.Grace *et al.*).



Plate 67. Two-barred Warbler *Phylloscopus plumbeitarsus*, Dursley Island, Cork, October 2019 (Kieran Grace).



Plate 68. Two-barred Warbler *Phylloscopus plumbeitarsus*, Dursley Island, Cork, October 2019 (Jim Dowdall).

The first Irish record of this Far Eastern *Phylloscopus*. Previously treated as a subspecies of Greenish Warbler, this taxon is treated as a monotypic species by some authorities, including IOC. As IOC taxonomy is followed by IRBC, this is accepted to the Irish List as a full species.

Two-barred Warbler is, in some respects, more similar to Arctic Warbler than Greenish Warblers tend to be, and thus

the initial caution of the finder as to making a definitive identification is understandable. Better views were obtained later in the day, and some calls heard, thus establishing the identification beyond doubt. Unfortunately for most Irish twitchers, the bird either departed or died after a cold, starry night, there being no sign on the following day.



Plate 69. Melodious Warbler *Hippolais polyglotta*, Cape Clear Island, Cork, October 2019 (Dick Coombes).

Melodious Warbler *Hippolais polyglotta* (2; 215; 3)

Cork One: One, Cape Clear Island, 11th to 14th October, photographed (V.Caschera *et al.*).

Galway One: First calendar-year, Inishbofin, 17th and 18th September, photographed (A.McGeehan *et al.*).

Wexford One: One, Kilmichael Point, 6th May (P.King, S.King).

The Wexford record is only the sixth spring record for Ireland. The previous spring records involve one trapped at Ballymacaw, Waterford on 25th April 1976 (*Irish Birds* 1: 91), two trapped on Great Saltee Island, Wexford, on 14th May 1992 (*Irish Birds* 5: 98), one at Brownstown Head, Waterford on 20th April 1996 (*Irish Birds* 6: 85) and one at Knockadoon Head, Cork on 7th May 2000 (*Irish Birds* 7: 565).

Icterine Warbler *Hippolais icterina* (2; 223; 1)

Cork One: One, Cape Clear Island, 29th August (T.Davies, T.Jones, S.Wing).

Savi's Warbler *Locustella lusciniodes* (0; 11; 1)

Wicklow One: Singing male, Buckronev Marsh, 25th May to 7th June, photographed (C.Cardiff *et al.*).

The second record for Wicklow, and the first Irish record since a singing male was found at Five Mile Point, Newcastle, Wicklow in May 2016 (*Irish Birds* 10: 570).



Plate 70. Eastern Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla tschutschensis*, South Slob, Wexford, January 2020 (Paul Kelly).

Barred Warbler *Sylvia nisoria* (6; 215; 3)

Donegal One: First calendar-year, Tory Island, 27th October, photographed (A.Meenan).

Galway One: First calendar-year, Inishbofin, 6th October, photographed (A.McGeehan *et al.*).

Wexford One: First calendar-year, Hook Head, 24th to 29th September, photographed (C.Cardiff *et al.*).

Subalpine Warbler *Sylvia cantillans* (2; 55; 1)

Cork One: Second calendar-year male of the western subspecies, Cape Clear Island, 25th April, photographed (S.Wing *et al.*).

Rosy Starling *Pastor roseus* (41; 136; 3)

Laois One: Adult, Ballacolla, 30th July, photographed (D.Whyte).

Kerry One: Adult, Tralee, 29th May (D.O'Connor).

Wicklow One: Adult, Arklow, 11th and 12th June, photographed (per IRBC).

2018 Galway One: At least second calendar-year, Lios an Uisce, Renmore, 24th May (D.O'Driscoll).

The post-1950 total has been increased by one as the record of two adults at Portavogie, Co. Down in July 2002 (*Irish Birds* 7: 570) had incorrectly been treated as only one bird in the statistics. See also Appendix 4 for corrections to previous reports.

Nightingale *Luscinia megarhynchos* (0 36: 2)

Donegal One: One, Tory Island, 13th May, photographed (J.Adamson *et al.*).

Waterford One: One, Mine Head, 18th to 20th September (J.N.Murphy *et al.*).

The first record for both counties, and the first Irish records since two on Great Saltee Island in April 2015 (*Irish Birds* 10: 420).

Blue-headed Wagtail

Motacilla flava flava (0; 79; 3)

Wicklow Three: Two males and a female, East Coast Nature Reserve, 7th May, with a female there, 10th May, photographed (C.Cardiff *et al.*).

Eastern Yellow Wagtail

Motacilla tschutschensis (0; 2; 1)

Wexford One: First-winter, South Slob, 31st December into 2020, photographed (P.Kelly *et al.*).

2017 Cork One: First-winter, Dursey Island, 3rd November, photographed (J.Proudfoot).

The second and third records of Eastern Yellow Wagtail in Ireland, after the first record on Tory Island, Donegal in October 2013 (*Irish Birds* 10: 256). As confidence in the identification of vagrant Eastern Yellow Wagtails in the Western Palearctic grows, an increasing set of records and pattern of occurrence is beginning to emerge. The Committee welcomes the submission of records considered likely to be this taxon

seen in Ireland but urges the inclusion of high-quality images and sound recordings where possible. The use of DNA analysis from faecal samples collected is also becoming a useful tool for assessing tricky species such as this.

Citrine Wagtail *Motacilla citreola* (0; 34; 1)

Galway One: First calendar-year, Inishbofin, 17th September, photographed (A.McGeehan *et al.*).

The first record for Galway.

Richard's Pipit *Anthus richardi* (2; 135; 1)

Wexford One: Second calendar-year, Lingstown, Tacumshin Lake, 24th to 28th February, photographed (P.Kelly *et al.*), presumed same as individual present in November 2018 (*Irish Birds* 42: 91); One, Cahore Marsh, 9th to 17th March (C.Cardiff).



Plate 71. Richard's Pipit *Anthus richardi*, Tacumshin Lake, Wexford, March 2019 (Tom Shevlin).

Water Pipit *Anthus spinoletta* (1; 188; 15)

Cork One: One, Pilmore, 7th November (B.Power).

Donegal Two: One, Fanad Head, 10th to 16th April (R.Vaughan *et al.*); One, Glassagh Bay, Fanad Head, 30th November to 21st December, photographed (J.Bliss *et al.*).

Wexford 11: One, Tacumshin Lake, 6th January, increasing to a peak of five on 16th February, with singles reported through March and April with three on 5th April, photographed (P.Kelly *et al.*); One, Cahore Marsh, 3rd February (C.Cardiff *et al.*); One, The Cull, 7th April, photographed (P.Kelly); Three, Tacumshin Lake, 26th October onwards, with a fourth bird on 24th November, photographed (P.Kelly *et al.*).

Wicklow One: One, Killoughter, 16th February (C.Cardiff, N.Keogh, N.T.Keogh, B.Porter).

The Donegal records were the second and third for the county, after one at Ballywhoriskey Pier, Fanad Head in March 2008 (*Irish Birds* 9: 101).

Hawfinch *Coccothraustes coccothraustes*
(Unknown; 303; 6)

Donegal One: One, Malin Head, 21st April, photographed (R.McLaughlin).

Limerick Three: One, Curraghchase Forest Park, 21st October (G.Fennessey); Two, Curraghchase Forest Park, 28th to 30th December (L.O'Connor).

Wexford Two: Two, Kilinick, 28th April (K.Fahy).

The Donegal record was the fifth for the county, and the first since one on Tory Island on 5th June 2016 (*Irish Birds* 10: 575).

Common Rosefinch
Carpodacus erythrina (0; 252; 7)

Cork Three: One, Cape Clear Island, 7th September (S.Bayley); Juvenile, Cape Clear Island, 11th and 12th October, photographed (R.H.Coombes *et al.*); Juvenile, Dursey Island, 14th October, photographed (K.Grace *et al.*).

Donegal One: Female or immature, Tory Island, 9th June, photographed (G.Meenan).

Galway Two: Male, Inishbofin, 14th June (A.McGeehan); Juvenile, Inishbofin, 17th and 18th September, photographed (A.McGeehan).

Offaly One: Singing adult male, Tower Callows, Banagher, 31st May to 2nd June (J.N.Murphy *et al.*).

The Offaly record was the first for the county.

Mealy Redpoll
Acanthis flammea flammea (20; 105; 1)

Donegal One: One, Tory Island, 20th to 25th October, photographed (V.Caschera, J.F.Dowdall, T.Shevlin *et al.*).

See also Appendix 4 for corrections to previous reports.

Greenland Redpoll
Acanthis flammea rostrata (12; 51; 0)

The annual totals have been revised as presented above. Please see Appendix 4 for further details.

Ortolan Bunting *Emberiza hortulana*
(0; 130; 4)

Cork Three: One, Mizen Head, 2nd September (D.Ballard); One, Galley Head, 17th September (C.Cronin); First-winter, Mizen Head, 22nd September, photographed (D.Ballard *et al.*).

Wexford One: Male, Great Saltee Island, 5th to 7th May, photographed (T.Shevlin *et al.*).

Little Bunting *Emberiza pusilla* (3; 56; 3)

Cork Two: One, Long Strand, Galley Head, 2nd March (C.Barton); One, Galley Head, 24th March, with two present (one presumed same), 25th and 26th March, photographed (C.Barton, C.Cronin).

Wexford One: One, Great Saltee Island, 5th May (J.F.Dowdall, K.Grace).

Baltimore Oriole *Icterus galbula* (0; 3; 2)

Cork One: First calendar-year, Lehanemore, 11th October, photographed (N.Warnock *et al.*).

Mayo One: First calendar-year, Achill Island, 6th to 9th October, photographed (M.O'Briain, J.Jones *et al.*).



Plate 72. Mealy Redpoll *Acanthis flammea flammea*, Tory Island, Donegal, October 2019 (Victor Caschera).



Plate 73. Ortolan Bunting *Emberiza hortulana*, Great Saltee Island, Wexford, May 2019 (Tom Shevlin).



Plate 74. Myrtle Warbler *Setophaga coronata*, Kilmurvey, Inishmore, Galway, October 2019 (Dermot Breen).

The Mayo record was the first for the county, while the Cork record was the third for the county. The most recent Irish record was a second calendar-year male on Tory Island, Donegal on 15th May 2017 (*Irish Birds* 11: 80).

Myrtle Warbler *Setophaga coronata* (O; 17; 2)

Galway Two: First calendar-year, Kilmurvey, Inishmore, 12th October, photographed (A.O'Donaill *et al.*); First calendar-year, Kilonan, Inishmore, 13th to 20th October, photographed (H.Delaney *et al.*).

The first Irish records since one on Inishmore on 29th October 2013 (*Irish Birds* 10: 99). There have now been six records on Inishmore, while there have been 10 on Cape Clear Island, Cork and singles on Loop Head, Clare, Great Blasket Island, Kerry and Dursey Island, Cork. As of 2019, Inishmore and Cape Clear Island are the only two sites in Ireland to have had two birds in an autumn.

Appendix 1: Contributors

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Appendix 2: List of records not proven

This list includes all records of taxa set out in *Irish Birds* 7: 416–418 (and subsequent updates online at:

www.irbc.ie/records/desclist.php and
www.irbc.ie/records/desclist1.php)

which, after circulation to the Irish Rare Birds Committee, were considered to be not proven. Records of birds not attributed to any definite species by the observers are not included, nor are birds considered to have been escapes from captivity.

2019 records not proven

Snow Goose *Anser caerulescens*

Blue morph, Lady's Island Lake, Wexford, 29th to 31st March.

Great Egret *Ardea alba*

Castlegrange, Roscommon, 6th February.
Second individual, Kilcoole, Wicklow, 12th August.

American Golden Plover *Pluvialis dominica*

Adult, Tacumshin Lake, Wexford, 16th October.

Wilson's Phalarope *Phalaropus tricolor*

Ballylongford, Kerry, 2nd December.

Hobby *Falco subbuteo*

Kilbrittain, Cork, 26th October.
Toe Head, Cork, 27th October.

Ashy-headed Wagtail *Motacilla flava cinereocapilla*

Female, East Coast Nature Reserve, Wicklow, 7th to 10th May.

White-throated Sparrow *Zonotrichia albicollis*

Aughills, Dingle Peninsula, Kerry, 10th September.

Appendix 3: List of anonymous records not accepted

The following reports concern rarities that were entered in the Provisional List of Rare Bird Sightings during 2019 but where the observers have to date remained unknown. Some or all of these reports may yet qualify for publication in a future IRBR, should the observers become known to the IRBC and be prepared to validate the report.

Snow Goose *Anser caerulescens*

Two, Wexford Wildfowl Reserve, Wexford, 21st March.

Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus*

18, near Dunmanway, Cork, 8th January, with one present 9th January.

Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis*

Four, Timoleague, Cork, 1st February to 31st March
One, Newcastle, Wicklow, 22nd June.
Three, South Wicklow, 27th December.

Great Egret *Ardea alba*

One, Lady's Island Lake, Wexford, 27th July to 4th September.

Golden Oriole *Oriolus oriolus*

Male, Shanagarry, Cork, 11th June.

Siberian Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus collybita tristis*

One, Ladysbridge, Cork, 23rd January.
One, Killarney, Kerry, 9th February.

Rose-coloured Starling *Pastor roseus*

Adult, Kilcredaun, Clare, 20th June.

Appendix 4: Corrigenda to previous reports

Canada Goose *Branta canadensis* – In the Irish Rare Bird Report 2018, for the 2018 Mayo record, the text should read “presumed same individual last recorded in March 2017”, not “April 2017”.

Red-crested Pochard *Netta rufina* – When statistical information was first published for this species in the 2006 Irish Rare Bird Report (*Irish Birds* 8: 397), the total was understated by two and should have read (59; 1). This undercount has been perpetuated since then and the statistics reported in the current report have been adjusted to correct this error.

Albatross sp. *Thalassarche* sp. – The statistics in the Irish Rare Bird Report 2012 (*Irish Birds* 9: 582) should have read (0; 4; 0). In addition, the statistics in the Irish Rare Bird Report 2017 (*Irish Birds* 11: 60) were omitted and should read (0; 5; 0).

Bittern *Botaurus stellaris* – The following historic corrections are made for this species:

1923 Down Zero: Female, Killough, obtained 29th December (*Irish Naturalists' Journal* 1: 5), previously published as Ardglass, obtained 31st December (*Irish Birds* 9: 583).

1921 Antrim Minus one: One, Mosley, shot 13th January (*Irish Birds* 9: 583) was in Down, see below.

1921 Down One: One, Mosley, shot 13th January (*Irish Naturalist* 30: 52), not in Antrim as previously published (*Irish Birds* 9: 583).

1916 Tyrone Zero: Female, shot, 2nd December (*Irish Naturalist* 26: 53) not 2nd February as published (*Irish Birds* 9: 583).

It seems likely that the 1923 record from Down was shot 28th December at Killough and received by the taxidermist (Alfred Sheals) 31st December as previously published, with the location miscommunicated, albeit the two locations are in close proximity.

Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis* – In the Irish Rare Bird Report 2018, for Waterford, the text stating “Up to three birds from 2017” should be replaced with “The single bird from 2017”.

Goshawk *Accipiter gentilis* – The following historic corrections and revisions to the overall totals are made for this species:

2002 Antrim Minus two: Pair, North Antrim, fledged two young (*NIBR* 2000: 36), previously published as mid-Antrim (*Irish Birds* 7: 556) was the same pair that frequented this site since 1999.

2001 Antrim Minus two: Pair, North Antrim, 26th May to 30th June (*NIBR* 2001: 39), previously published (*Irish Birds* 7: 394) was the same pair that frequented this site since 1999.

2000 Antrim Minus two: Pair, North Antrim, 14th July (*NIBR* 2000: 36), previously published (*Irish Birds* 7: 222) was the same pair that frequented this site in 1999.

1999 Antrim Zero: Pair bred, North Antrim, fledging two young (*NIBR* 1999: 44), published as the same as 1994, 1995 and 1996 (*Irish Birds* 7: 91), is a new pair in a different location.

1998 Antrim Minus two: Pair, North-east Antrim, 3rd May (*NIBR* 1999: 44), previously published as undisclosed locality (*Irish Birds* 7: 91), was the same pair that frequented this site since 1994.

1996 Antrim Minus two: Pair, North-east Antrim during May and June (*NIBR* 1999: 44), previously published as undisclosed locality (*Irish Birds* 7: 91) was the same pair that frequented this site since 1994.

1995 Antrim Minus two: Pair, North-east Antrim from April to June (*NIBR* 1999: 44), previously published as undisclosed locality (*Irish Birds* 7: 91) was the same pair that frequented this site in 1994.

1994 Antrim Zero: Pair, North East Antrim, 10th April to 31st July (*NIBR* 1999: 44), previously published as undisclosed locality (*Irish Birds* 7: 91).

Slightly more detail is provided here for the breeding and potential breeding occurrences in Antrim between 1994 and 2002, taken from the relevant Northern Ireland Bird reports.

Crane *Grus grus* – The record of one at Lough Beg, Derry, previously published as ‘about July 24th’ 1958 (*Irish Bird Report* 6: 10), was recorded on 21st July 1958, corrected in C. Douglas Deane’s copy of the report and not previously published in an Irish Bird Report.

Semipalmated Sandpiper *Calidris pusilla* – In the Irish Rare Bird Report 2007, the bird at Belfast Lough RSPB Reserve, Down, from 9th to 15th May was an adult, (*NIBR* XVIII: 67), not a juvenile as previously published (*Irish Birds* 8: 591).

Wilson’s Phalarope *Phalaropus tricolor* – In the Irish Rare Bird Report 2012, the text for the Cork record should read “Juvenile, Rosscarbery 24th August, and presumed same, Kinsale Marsh, 3rd to 9th September (E.Dillon-Hooper, P.Dillon-Hooper *et al.*).

Lesser Yellowlegs *Tringa flavipes* – In the Irish Rare Bird Report 2018, for Dublin, the juvenile at Sandymount Strand was present on 29th October, not the 27th, as stated.

Bonaparte’s Gull *Chroicocephalus philadelphia* - In the Irish Rare Bird Report 2003, the first-year bird on the Bann

Estuary, Derry, was present from 2nd to 13th May (*NIBR XVI*: 99), not 2nd May to 13th August, as previously published (*Irish Birds* 7: 560).

Kumlien's Gull *Larus glaucooides kumlieni* – In the Irish Rare Bird Report 2017, for Donegal, the adult at Moville was also present on 24th December, as well as 18th November, as stated. In addition, in the Irish Rare Bird Report 2003, the second-winter bird at Culmore Tip, Derry, from 17th January to 3rd March 2003 (*NIBR XVI*: 105, *Irish Birds* 7: 561) was the same individual that had been present from 2nd December 2002 (*NIBR XV*: 75, *Irish Birds* 7: 402). The total has been adjusted in the main body of this report.

Red-eyed Vireo *Vireo olivaceus* – In the Irish Rare Bird Report 2016 (*Irish Birds* 10: 567), the commentary states that there have been 34 records in Cork; this should state 33 records. In the Irish Rare Bird Report 2018 (*Irish Birds* 42: 84), the commentary states that there have been 35 records in Cork; this should state 37 records.

Red-rumped Swallow *Cecropis daurica* – In the Irish Rare Bird Report 2018 (*Irish Birds* 42: 84), the two records listed are erroneous and should be ignored. This species was not recorded in 2018. The correct totals are presented in this report.

Eastern Subalpine Warbler *Sylvia cantillans albistriata* – In the Irish Rare Bird Report 2018 (*Irish Birds* 42: 88), the numbers and text presented are incorrect – the correct totals should read (0; 2; 1), as this was the third record for Ireland. The two previous records involved a male at Tarmon, Mullet Peninsula, Mayo on 3rd May 2007 (*Irish Birds* 10: 253), and a male on Great Saltee Island on 21st April 2017 (*Irish Birds* 11: 76).

Rosy Starling *Pastor roseus* – In the Irish Rare Bird Report 2012 in the account for Rose-coloured Starling in Appendix 6 (*Irish Birds* 9: 610), replace the text “Thompson (1849-1851) refers to a record in Clare ‘about 30 years’ prior to 1838.” with “Thompson (1849-1851) refers to a record in Clare ‘about 30 years’ prior to 1830.”

Mealy Redpoll *Acanthis flammea flammea* – When statistical information was first published for this taxon (*Irish Birds* 6: 309), the total was overstated by one and the published statistics since then have perpetuated this error. Treating Kennedy *et al.* (1954) as definitive for pre-1950 records, there were 20 recorded since the first in 1876, contrary to *Checklist of the Birds of Ireland* (IRBC, 1998). Since 1950, a further 105 have been published in the annual Irish Bird Reports. The statistics are now adjusted to reflect the published record.

Greenland Redpoll *Acanthis flammea rostrata* (12; 51; 0) – In an exact parallel to the previous taxon, when statistical information was first published for this taxon (*Irish Birds* 7: 106), the total was overstated by one and the published statistics since then have never reflected the published record. Treating Kennedy *et al.* (1954) as definitive for pre-1950 records, there were 12 recorded since the first in 1890, contrary to *Checklist of the Birds of Ireland* (IRBC, 1998). Since then, a further 51 have been published in the annual Irish Bird Reports. The statistics are now adjusted to reflect the published record.

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Abbreviations used

- BOU: British Ornithologists' Union.
IOC: International Ornithological Congress.