

## **Smew** *Mergellus albellus* **SV**

(Breeds northern taiga of Europe and Asia. Winters Baltic Sea, Black Sea, northern Germany and Low Countries with a small number reaching Great Britain).

### **Unpublished records:**

**1993**

#### **Londonderry**

One: South end of Lough Beg NNR, 20th November (Richard Gray).

**2003**

#### **Antrim**

One: Male: Gorman's Wood, Broadwater, from 2002 remained to 5th January (David Nixon *et al.*).

**2004**

#### **Armagh**

One: Female/immature. Lough Shark, Poyntzpass, 19th to 23rd March (Clifford Sharpe, Joe Devlin).

**2009**

#### **Antrim**

Five: Portmore Lough RSPB Reserve, Aghagallon. Two, one male and one female, 13th to 21st January, with two males and two females observed on 22nd January, with one male remaining to 19th March. Later in the year a female was recorded on 8th November (Dave Allen, Ed O'Hara, Eddie Franklin, Mark Killops *et al.*).

One: Female. Kettlebottom Island, Rea's Wood, Lough Neagh, Antrim, 20th May (Flightline).

#### **Armagh**

One: Female / immature. Oxford Island NNR, Lurgan, 23rd to 28th May (Ed O'Hara, Mark Killops *et al.*).

#### **Fermanagh**

One: Male. Drumgay Lough, Enniskillen, 26th January to 16th February (Brad Robson *et al.*).

**2010**

#### **Antrim**

One: Female. Reas Wood, Lough Neagh, Antrim, 12th to 17th January (Neal Warnock).

Up to three: Portmore Lough RSPB Reserve, Aghagallon, 16th January to 7th April (Ed O'Hara, Derek Charles *et al.*).

One: Male. Lady Bay, Lough Neagh, Aghagallon, 28th to 31st January (Flightline).

#### **Armagh**

One: Female / immature. Lough Shark, Poyntzpass, 2nd to 3rd January (Joe Devlin *et al.*).

One: Female. Columkille Point, Lough Neagh, Derrytrasna, 3rd March (David Knight).

#### **Down**

One: Female. Quoile River, Downpatrick, 9th to 19th December (Ivor McDonald *et al.*).

One: Female. Lough Island Reavy, Castlewellan, 31st December (Andrew Crory).

#### **Fermanagh**

One: Male. Enniskillen Golf Resort, Enniskillen, 20th to 22nd February (Derek Charles *et al.*).

One: Male. Drumgay Lough, Enniskillen, 27th February (Brad Robson *et al.*).

#### **Londonderry**

One: Redhead. Lough Beg NNR, 15th November to 13th December (Gordon Henderson *et al.*).

**2011**

#### **Antrim**

Four: Portmore Lough RSPB Reserve, Aghagallon. One male and one female, 13th January, with two males on 14th January. A male was recorded later in the year from 18th to 27th December (Dave Allen, Derek Charles, Jeff Larkin *et al.*).

One: Female. Crumlin River, Lough Neagh, 19th April (Paul Toner).

#### **Armagh**

One: Female. Reedy Flats, Lough Neagh, Derrytrasna, 1st January (Ed O'Hara).

One: Female. Derrytrasna, Lough Neagh, 20th January (David Knight *et al.*).

One: Male. Oxford Island NNR, Lough Neagh, Lurgan, 21st December (Ed O'Hara).

## **Down**

One: Female. Lough Island Reavy, Castlewellan, 1st January (Andrew Crory *et al.*).

One: Redhead. Quoile Pondage NNR, Downpatrick, 7th January to 26th April (Craig Nash *et al.*).

One: Redhead. Clea Lakes, Shrigley, Killyleagh, 9th January to 11th March (Richard Weyl *et al.*).

Up to two: Redheads. Quoile Pondage River, Downpatrick, 11th January to 27th March (Spencer Marshall, Joan Marshall, Ian Mitchell *et al.*).

## **Fermanagh**

One: Male. Drumgay Lough, Enniskillen, 30th January to 20th February (Brad Robson).

## **Londonderry**

One: Redhead. Lough Beg NNR, 2nd January to 6th February (David Steele *et al.*).

## **Tyrone**

One: Redhead. Brookend, Lough Neagh, 14th February (Stephen Foster).

## **2012**

### **Armagh**

One: Male. Portmore Lough RSPB Reserve, Aghagallon, 1st to 28th January (Majella Callaghan, Derek Charles *et al.*)

### **Fermanagh**

One: Male. Drumgay Lough, Enniskillen, 31st January to 11h February (Brad Robson *et al.*).

One: Female. Lower Lough Islands RSPB Reserve, Kesh, 28th November (Brad Robson).

## **2013**

### **Fermanagh**

One: Female. Lower Lough Islands RSPB Reserve, Kesh, 10th January (Brad Robson).

## **2014**

### **Armagh**

One: Redhead. Kinnego Bay, Oxford Island NNR, Lurgan, 22nd November (Derek Charles, Walter Veale).

### **Fermanagh**

One: Redhead. Lower Lough Island RSPB Reserve, Kesh, 26th March (Brad Robson).

## **2015**

### **Fermanagh**

One: Female. Drumgay Lough, Enniskillen, 27th December (Brad Robson).

### **Londonderry**

One: Redhead. Lough Beg NNR, 23rd October to 15th December (David Steele *et al.*).

## **2016**

### **Antrim**

One: Redhead. Portmore Lough RSPB Reserve, Aghagallon, 18th December into 2017 (Karen Elliot *et al.*).

### **Fermanagh**

Two: Drumgay Lough, Enniskillen. One female, 23rd January to 4th March, with a male observed on 1st March only (Brad Robson, Dermot Hughes, Colin Reid *et al.*).

One: Redhead. Lower Lough Islands RSPB Reserve, Lower Lough Erne, Kesh, 25th February (Fionbarr Cross, Amy Burns).

One: Redhead. Castle Caldwell, Lower Lough Erne, Leggs, 14th December (Fionbarr Cross).

### **Londonderry**

One: Female. Lough Beg NNR, 22nd February to 28th March (Gareth Bareham *et al.*).

## **2017**

### **Antrim**

Two: Portmore Lough RSPB Reserve, Aghagallon. One, female, from 2016 remained to 3rd February, with a redhead recorded from 26th December into 2018 (Richard Donaghey, Keith Bennett, Ed O'Hara *et al.*).

### **Fermanagh**

One: Female. Drumgay Lough, Enniskillen 16th January to 22nd February (Brad Robson *et al.*).

## **2018**

### **Antrim**

Two: Portmore Lough RSPB Reserve, Aghagallon. Single Redheads, from 2017 remained to 26th February and from 2nd December into 2019 (Ed O'Hara, Comghall McQuillan, Des Higgins *et al.*).

### **Armagh**

One: Redhead: Shallow Flats, Lough Neagh, Derrytrasna, 10th December into 2019 (Richard Weyl).



*Smew Mergellus albellus*,  
Lough Shark, Poyntzpass, County Armagh, 3rd January 2010. Photo courtesy of Mark Killops.