

Velvet Scoter *Melanitta fusca* (10, 117, 45). **SV**

(Breeds northern Europe and Asia west of the Yenisey Basin. Winters Great Britain, Black and Caspian Sea, France and Spain).

Unpublished records:

1994

Antrim

One: In flight with a single Common Scoter. Ramore Head, Portrush, 11th March (David Steele).

1996

Antrim

One: Male. Seaward side of Whitehouse Lagoon, Belfast Lough, 9th March (Gerard McGeehan).

2002

Antrim

One: Dargan Bay, Belfast Lough, 19th October (Anthony McGeehan).

One: Adult female. North Foreshore Lagoon, Belfast Lough, 26th December (Anthony McGeehan).

2009

Down

Three: Murlough NNR, Newcastle, 30th December with two remaining on 29th December (Keith Bennett).

2010

Antrim

Nine: Antrim side of Belfast Lough. Three, Macedon Point 4th January, singles at Whitehead on 26th February and Dargan Bay, Belfast on 9th October and up to seven again at Macedon Point, 16th October to 7th December (Dave Allen Paul McCullough *et al.*).

Down

Six: Murlough NNR, Newcastle. One female 9th January, two one male and one female/immature on 11th October, with five on 31st December (Andrew Crory, Dan Bailie, Oscar Campbell).

2011

Down

Five: Murlough NNR, Newcastle. Three males, 14th February to 5th March with two birds a male and a female 11th October, one bird remaining to 13th October (Dan Bailie *et al.*).

Londonderry

One: Portstewart, 28th May (Henry McMahon).

2012

Antrim

Three: Whiteabbey, Belfast Lough, 1st to 22nd January (Paul McCullough).

One: Female. Flying past Ramore Head, Portrush, 13th September (Neal Warnock).

Down

11: Murlough NNR Reserve, Newcastle, 9th January with six remaining to 28th January (Tim Murphy, Chris Murphy *et al.*).

One: Ballykinler, 30th January (David Brooks, Walter Veale).

Londonderry

One: Male. Myroe Levels, Lough Foyle, 11th to 12th February (Neal Warnock).

2013

Down

Two: One pair. Murlough NNR, Newcastle, 23rd February (Keith Bennett).

Londonderry

One: Female. Magilligan, Lough Foyle, 29th December (Derek Charles).

2014

Down

Five: Newcastle. Four, three immature male and one female, Dundrum Bay, 7th February with a male off Murlough NNR, 27th February (Doris Murphy, Ronald Surgenor *et al.*).

2015

Down

One: Greyabbey Bay, Greyabbey, Strangford Lough, 20th December (Richard Weyl).

One: Kircubbin Yacht Club, Kircubbin, Strangford Lough, 23rd December (Billy Miskelly).

2016**Antrim**

Three: One male and one female, Loughside Park / Macedon Point, Belfast Lough, 31st October with one female remaining to 24th November. On this date an additional female was also present (Stuart McKee *et al.*)

Two: Larne Lough, 20th November to 10th December (Philip West *et al.*).

Down

One: Female / immature. Greyabbey Bay, Greyabbey, Strangford Lough, 2nd January (Richard Weyl).

Three: Tyrella, Downpatrick. One juvenile, 21st October with three females / immatures on 19th December (Tim Murphy *et al.*).

Two: Newcastle Harbour, Newcastle, 15th December (Joe Devlin).

2017**Antrim**

Five: Loughshore Park, Belfast Lough, Newtownabbey, 24th February to 5th March (Gerard McGeehan *et al.*).

Down

One: Male. Newcastle Harbour, 5th February to 4th March (Daniel Newtown *et al.*).

Three: Two males and one female. In flight. Orlock, Groomsport, Belfast Lough, 19th December (Billy Miskelly).

2018**Antrim**

Two: Glynn, Larne Lough, 16th December, one remaining to 25th December (Neal Warnock *et al.*).

Down

One: Newcastle, 19th March (Fredrico Bianco, Garry Wilkinson).