

Grey-bellied Brent Goose *Branta bernicæ* ssp. (0, 0, 0).

Alternative name: Lawrence's Brent Goose.

(Breeds central Arctic Canada, mainly Melville Island, winters Puget Sound, American west coast around the U.S./Canada border).

Grey-bellied Brent Goose has been suggested as a possible fourth subspecies of Brent Goose. However, it has yet to be formally published as such. Despite this, it does seem to represent a stable form and Shields (1990) has proposed it is a valid taxon based on preliminary DNA analysis and morphology and concluded it is not an example of a stable hybrid population. Several individuals showing characteristics of this form have also been observed in the Republic of Ireland.

Shields, G.F. 1990. Analysis of mitochondrial DNA of Pacific Black Brant. *The Auk* 107: 620-623.

2006

One: Dundrum, Newcastle, County Down, 21st - 23rd April. *NIBA* 2008a.

Two: One adult and one immature. Killough, County Down, 11th - 13th May (Chris Murphy, Stuart McKee). *NIBA* 2008a.

2008

One. Adult. Killough Harbour, Killough, County Down, 11th - 13th April (George Gordon, Chris Murphy). *NIBA* 2008b.

2017

One: "Strangford Lough", County Down, 17th October (Tom Ennis, Tony Dodds). *Charles and Crory* 2019.

No details of these records and the reasons for the records being accepted have ever been published. We feel on current knowledge that none are acceptable as Grey-bellied Brent Geese. We do not include in the totals.

Hybird Black Brant x Pale-bellied or Grey-bellied Brent Goose *Branta bernicæ* ssp.

1992

One: Newcastle, County Down, "January to April" (Martin Garner *et al.*). *Charles and Crory 2019.*

1998

One: Tyrella, Downpatrick, County Down, 3rd - 9th April (Martin Garner *et al.*). *Charles and Crory 2019.*

1999

Strangford Lough, County Down:

One: Ballyurnanellan, Greyabbey, 19th December (Anthony McGeehan, Ken Douglas). *Charles and Crory 2019.*

One: Greyabbey, 22nd December (Martin Garner). *Charles and Crory 2019.*

2001

At least eight: Dundrum Inner Bay, Newcastle, County Down; seven, two adults and five juveniles, 1st - 7th April (Willie McDowell *et al.*) with three adults on 21st April (Martin Garner). *Charles and Crory 2019.*

One: Adult. Tyrella, Downpatrick, County Down, 8th - 25th April (Chris Batty *et al.*). *Charles and Crory 2019.*

Two: Adults. Killough Harbour, Killough, County Down, 28th - 30th April (Martin Garner, Anthony McGeehan). *Charles and Crory 2019.*

2011

One: Adult. Maltings, Newtownards, Strangford Lough, County Down, 30th October, photographed (Derek Charles, Walter Veale). *Charles and Crory 2019.*

2013

One: Adult. Dundrum Inner Bay South, Newcastle, County Down, 1st - 3rd December, photographed (Derek Charles, Tom Ennis). *Charles and Crory 2019.*

2019

One: Adult. Myroe Levels, Lough Foyle, County Londonderry, 22nd December (Derek Charles).



Maltings, Newtownards, Strangford Lough, County Down, 30th October 2011. Photo. Derek Charles.



Dundrum Inner Bay South, Newcastle, County Down, 1st December 2013. Photo. Derek Charles.



Adult [front, fourth from right]. Myroe Levels, Lough Foyle, County Londonderry, 22nd December 2019. Photo. Derek Charles.