

Snow Goose *Anser caerulescens caerulescens / atlanticus* (1, 4, 4).

(Breeds Greenland, Canada, Alaska and north-eastern tip of Siberia. Winters North America from south-western British Columbia through parts of the United States of America to Mexico).

The authors consider these records involve genuine vagrants:

1941

One: Adult male. Shot. South Island, Strangford Lough, County Down, 27th January (W. McAvoy). *Deane* 1954.

1953

One: Juvenile. Downpatrick Marsh, Downpatrick, County Down, 8th November (C. Scotland). *Deane* 1954.

1954

One: White phase. Observed in flight, in the company of Greylag Geese *Anser anser* at Ballyquintin Point, Outer Ards Peninsula, County Down, 18th January (A. Boyd). *IBR* 2: 10.

1991

One: White phase. Myroe Levels / Roe Estuary, Lough Foyle, County Londonderry, 3rd March - 7th April (Dave Allen *et al.*). *NIBA* 1993.

1998

One: Juvenile. Myroe Levels, Lough Foyle, County Londonderry, 24th - 30th October (S. Manthorpe, Oscar Campbell, Dennis Doherty *et al.*). *Charles and Crory* 2019.

2002

One: Adult white phase. Observed flying southwards over Lough Beg NNR, County Londonderry, on the 29th October (David Steele). *NIBA* 2004. The Snow Goose was in the company of 20 Greenland White-fronted Geese *A.a. flavirostris*.

2010

One: White phase adult. Ann's Point, Greyabbey, Strangford Lough, County Down, 28th December into 2011, photographed (Richard Weyl *et al.*). *Charles and Crory* 2019.

2011

One: White phase adult. Ann's Point, Greyabbey, Strangford Lough, County Down, from 2010, remained to 23rd January (Keith Bennett *et al.*).

The above adult found in County Down in late December 2010 remained into January 2011 when it relocated to County Antrim. *Charles and Crory 2019.*

One: White phase adult. Portmore Lough RSPB Reserve and environs, Lough Neagh, Aghagallon, County Antrim, 29th January - 8th April, photographed (Paul Toner *et al.*).

This bird was also observed at nearby Diamond Lane and Lady Bay as well as Portmore Lough RSPB Reserve. *Charles and Crory 2019.*

One: Blue phase. Lough MacNea, Belcoo, County Fermanagh, 28th October into 2012, photographed (Brad Robson *et al.*). *Charles and Crory 2019.*

2012

One: Blue phase. Lough MacNea, Belcoo, County Fermanagh from 2011 remained to 21st March, the bird returned on 9th November and remained into 2013 (Brad Robson, A. Brady *et al.*). *Charles and Crory 2019.*

One: White phase. Myroe Levels / Roe Estuary, Lough Foyle, County Londonderry, 2nd - 19th March (Hill Dick, Peter Robinson, Charles Stewart *et al.*).

This individual had wintered at Inch Island Lake and Big Isle, Lough Swilly, Donegal, Republic of Ireland from 3rd December 2011 - 6th February 2012 and has been accepted by the Irish Rare Bird Records Committee, Irish Rare Bird Report 2012. *Irish Birds 9 2013 page 579. Charles and Crory 2019.*

2013

One: Blue phase adult. Lough MacNea, Belcoo, County Fermanagh from 2012 remained to 30th March (Brad Robson *et al.*). The series of records from Fermanagh concerned the same returning bird in the period 2011-2013. *Charles and Crory 2019.*



Snow Goose *Anser caerulescens caerulescens / atlanticus* Greyabbey, February 2011. Photo Mark Killops.



Snow Goose *Anser caerulescens caerulescens / atlanticus* Ann's Point, Greyabbey, Strangford Lough, February 2011. Photo Tristan Reid.



Snow Goose *Anser caerulescens caerulescens* / *atlanticus* Diamond Lane, Aghagallon, 28th March 2011. Photo courtesy of Craig Shaw.



Snow Goose *Anser caerulescens caerulescens* / *atlanticus*. Lough MacNean, Belcoo, 2011/2012. Photo courtesy of Brad Robson.

Unpublished records of Snow Goose that the authors consider were most likely escaped / feral individuals:

1998

One: Larne Lough, Larne, County Antrim, 31st May (Jeff Larkin).

2001

One: Blue Phase, Victoria Park, Sydenham Road, Belfast, County Down, 6th January (George Gordon).

2002

One: Blue Phase. Glynn, Larne Lough, Larne, County Antrim, 27th May - 11th June (Laurence Morgan, Jeff Larkin *et al.*).

Published records of Snow Goose that the authors consider were most likely escaped / feral individuals:

1984

Two: Blue Phase, Magheramorne, Larne, County Antrim, 1st April. "The possibility that these birds were escapes from captivity cannot be ruled out" (Colin Davidson *et al.*). *NIBA* 1987.

One: White phase. Quoile Pondage NNR, Downpatrick, County Down, 24th September to 10th November. "Possibly an escape" (R.J. Bleakely). *NIBA* 1987.

1996

One: Lough Beg NNR, County Londonderry, 20th - 22nd April (Clive Mellon, Geoff Campbell *et al.*). *NIBA* 1998 states "It is however of unknown origin". The extremely late date makes wild origin extremely unlikely.

1997

One: Intermediate Blue phase. Belfast Waterworks, Antrim Road, Belfast, County Antrim, 14th - 16th November (Martin Garner, Eric Randall, Anthony McGeehan *et al.*). *NIBA* 1999.

One: Blue phase. Victoria Park / Belfast Harbour Estate, Belfast, County Down, 24th November - 31st December (Dave Allen *et al.*). Note this was a different bird to the published Antrim Road Waterworks bird. Note changes to *NIBA* 1999.

One: Blue phase. Two-acre pond, Hillhead Road, Ballyclare, 15th - 16th November (H. Abbott). *NIBA* 1999.

1998

One: Blue phase. Belfast Harbour Estate, Belfast, County Down; 29th March - 26th April (Anthony McGeehan *et al.*) and 2nd September - 2nd October (George Gordon *et al.*).

One: Blue phase. Victoria Park, Belfast, County Down, 30th October into 1999 (Matthew Tickner *et al.*). Note changes to *NIBA* 2000.

1999

One: Blue phase. Belfast Harbour Estate, Belfast, County Down, 18th December into 2000 (George Gordon *et al.*). *NIBA* 2001. Note changes to *NIBA* 2001

2000

One: Blue phase. Victoria Park, Belfast, County Down; 8th January (Walter Veale, Eric Randall), 25th April (Ken Douglas) and 28th July (George Gordon). *NIBA* 2002.

One: Blue phase. Belfast Harbour Estate, Belfast, County Down; 2nd - 8th May (George Gordon *et al.*) and 29th August - 15th October (George Gordon *et al.*). *NIBA* 2002. Note changes to *NIBA* 2002.

Three: Castle Espie WWT, Comber, County Down, 23rd January (Dot Blakely). *NIBA* 2002.

Seven: Larne Lough, 13th April - 28th August (Cameron Moore *et al.*). *NIBA* 2002.

2001

One: Intermediate Blue phase. Belfast Waterworks, Antrim Road, Belfast, County Antrim, 6th January (Gerard McGeehan *et al.*). *NIBA* 2003.

One: Intermediate Blue phase. Belfast Lough RSPB Reserve, Belfast Harbour Estate, Belfast, County Down; 24th April (Walter Veale, Ted Rolston) and 25th - 26th October (Anthony McGeehan). *NIBA* 2003.

Three: One a blue phase. Castle Espie WWT, Comber, County Down, 12th November (A. Upton). *NIBA* 2003.

2002

One: Blue phase. Victoria Park, Belfast, County Down; 6th - 27th January (Dennis Weir, Willie McDowell *et al.*) and 22nd March - 14th April (N. Willis *et al.*). *NIBA* 2004. Note changes to *NIBA* 2004.

One: Blue phase. Belfast Harbour Estate, Belfast, County Down, 26th - 28th April (Jim Whitla *et al.*). *NIBA* 2004.