

Bonaparte's Gull *Chroicocephalus philadelphia* (1, 5, 8). **RV**

(Breeds across northern North America from west and central Alaska through Canada to James Bay. Winters locally on ice free rivers and lakes in northern USA and south along both coasts of USA to Mexico and Caribbean).

Published records:

1848

One: Shot. River Lagan, between Ormeau and King's Bridges, Belfast, County Down/Antrim, 1st February. *Thompson* 1851. This was the first Western Palearctic record.

1979

One: Adult. Bangor Harbour, Bangor, County Down, 26th July to 2nd September and 31st December into 1980 (S.H. Craig, Tom Ennis *et al.*). *Irish Birds Vol 1:4 Preston* 1980.

1980

One: Adult. Bangor Harbour, Bangor, County Down, from 1979 stayed to 3rd February (Dave Allen, P. Quinn *et al.*). *NIBRC* 1982.

1981

One: First-year. Ramore Head, Portrush, County Antrim, 13th March (Dave Allen, Ian Irvine). *Preston* 1982.

1992

One: Adult winter. Randalstown Forest, Lough Neagh, County Antrim, 2nd October (D. Morrow). *Smiddy & O'Sullivan* 1993.

1996

One: Adult. Roe Estuary, Lough Foyle, County Londonderry, 10th October to 17th November (Davy Hunter, D.I.M. Wallace *et al.*). *Milne & O'Sullivan* 1998.

One: Adult. Groomsport, County Down. 12th November also seen at nearby Briggs Rocks on 23rd November (Anthony McGeehan *et al.*). *NIBA* 1998.

2002

One: Adult summer, starting moult into winter plumage. Emerson's Sandpits, Ardmore, Lough Neagh, County Armagh, 3rd August, 31st August and 22nd September (Ivan Quail, Walter Veale *et al.*). *NIBA* 2004. Note changes to *NIBA* 2004.

One: Adult-winter. Lough Beg NNR, County Londonderry, 10th to 11th November (Laurence Morgan, David Steele *et al.*). *NIBA* 2004.

2003

One: First-year. Bann Estuary, Coleraine, County Londonderry, 2nd to 13th May (Laurence Morgan *et al.*) *NIBA* 2006.

2005

One: Adult summer. Closet Bay, Oxford Island NNR, Lurgan, County Armagh, 2nd May (Garry Armstrong). *Milne & McAdams* 2009.

One: Adult summer. Reedy Flats, Lough Neagh, Derrytrasna, County Armagh, 8th May (Garry Armstrong *et al.*). *Milne & McAdams* 2009.

2006

One: First-winter. Belfast Lough RSPB, Belfast, Belfast Harbour Estate, County Down, 25th April (David Knight *et al.*). *Milne & McAdams* 2008b. Note change of observer.

One: First-winter. Kinnegar, Belfast Lough, Holywood, County Down, 25th April (Derek Charles *et al.*). *Milne & McAdams* 2008b. Record not published by *NIBA/NIBRC*.

One: First-winter. Whitehouse Lagoon, Belfast, County Antrim, 26th April to 5th May (Derek Charles *et al.*). *Milne & McAdams* 2008b.

2007

One: First-winter. Whitehead, County Antrim, 9th to 21st January (Cameron Moore *et al.*). *Milne & McAdams* 2009.

One: Adult. Maltings, Strangford Lough, Newtownards, County Down, 29th September (Keith Bennett). *Milne & McAdams* 2009.

2008

One: Adult in summer plumage. Kinnegar, Holywood, County Down, 28th April (Derek Charles). *Fahy* 2010.

One: Adult in summer plumage. Belfast Lough RSPB, Belfast Harbour Estate, Belfast, County Down, 28th April (Keith Bennett *et al.*). *NIBA* 2008b. Not published in Irish Bird Report.



Bonaparte's Gull *Chroicocephalus philadelphia*,
Whitehouse Lagoon, Belfast, County Antrim, 29th April 2006, Photo courtesy of Derek Charles.



Bonaparte's Gull *Chroicocephalus philadelphia*,
Whitehead, County Antrim, 10th January 2007. Photo courtesy of Derek Charles.



Bonaparte's Gull *Chroicocephalus philadelphia*,
Kinnegar, Holywood, County Down, 28th April 2008. Photo courtesy of Derek Charles.