

Ring-billed Gull *Larus delawarensis*

(Breeds coastal areas of Canada and northern United States. Winters Great Lakes, Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic and Pacific coasts of North America).

Unpublished records: Historical records to be updated.

1995

Antrim

One: Adult. Antrim Forum, Antrim, 28th March (Christopher Veale).

One: Adult. Whitehouse Lagoon, Belfast, 28th September (Colin Davidson).

1996

Antrim

One: Adult. Ramore Head, Portrush, 21st February (Geoff Campbell).

One: Second-winter. Sandy Bay, Larne, 11th November (Matthew Tickner).

Down

One: Adult. Maltings, Strangford Lough, Newtownards, 28th March (M. Bennington).

Londonderry

One: Adult. Castlerock, 6th October to 30th November (Walter Veale *et al.*).

1998

Down

One: Unaged. Belfast Harbour Estate, Belfast, 1st March (Eric Randall).

1999

Antrim

One: Adult. North-Foreshore Tip, Dargan Road, Belfast, 23rd December (Martin Garner).

Down

One: Adult. Floodgates, Strangford Lough, Newtownards, 10th to 24th January (Ivan Quail).

One: Adult. Kiltonga Duck Pond, Newtownards, 31st January to 14th March (Walter Veale *et al.*).

One: Briggs Rocks, Groomsport, 11th April (George Gordon).

2000

Antrim

One: Adult. North Foreshore Tip, Dargan Road, Belfast, 4th January (Joe Lamont).

One: Adult. Belfast Waterworks, Antrim Road, Belfast, 22nd January (Chris Acheson).

2003

Londonderry

One: Adult. Faughanvale, Lough Foyle, 11th January (Davy Hunter).

2005

Antrim

Two: Adult. North Foreshore Tip, Belfast. One 28th January to 5th February with a single on 19th November (Derek Charles *et al.*).

One: Adult. Whitehouse Lagoon, Belfast, 4th to 26th December (Derek Charles *et al.*).

One: Adult. East Strand Car Park, Portrush, 13th September to 26th December (Derek Charles *et al.*).

Down

Up to four: Belfast Lough RSPB Reserve, Belfast Harbour Estate, Belfast, 2nd January to 25th March (Flightline).

One: Adult. Kinnegar Shore, Belfast Lough, 5th February (Flightline).

One: First-winter. Newcastle Boating Pond, Shimna River, Newcastle, 17th February (Flightline).

One: Adult summer. Drumfad Bay, Millisle, 17th July (Flightline).

Londonderry

One: First-summer. Bann Estuary, Coleraine, 2nd May to 3rd July (Flightline).

One: Adult. Myroe Levels, Lough Foyle, 5th November (Flightline).

2006

Antrim

Four: Whitehouse Lagoon, Belfast, County Antrim. In the early part of the year an adult was observed, 7th January to 25th March with an additional adult present 26th February to 4th March. In the later part of the year an adult was recorded from 11th November into 2007, with an additional adult on 29th December only (Derek Charles *et al.*).

Londonderry

Four: Culmore Tip, Culmore. One adult, 24th January to 9th March, with three adults present on 27th January only. An adult was again observed from 9th November into 2007 (Derek Charles *et al.*).

One: Adult. Myroe Levels, Lough Foyle, 23rd February (Flightline).

Down

One: Adult winter. Killough Harbour, Killough, 3rd February (Flightline).

One: Second-winter. Dundrum Inner Bay South, Newcastle, 5th February (Flightline).

Two: Adults. Dargan Bay, Belfast Lough, 25th February (Flightline).

One: Second-winter. Ballymena Tip, Lisnavenagh Road, Antrim, 24th March (Flightline).

2007

Antrim

Three: Whitehouse Lagoon, Belfast. The adult from 2006 remained to 5th April, with an additional adult on one date only, the 12th March, with an adult returning from 10th November to 2nd December (Derek Charles *et al.*).

Two or three: East Strand, Portrush. One adult 12th March, one adult 25th September into 2008 with an additional adult on 26th November only (Geoff Campbell *et al.*).

One: Adult. Tesco Car Park, Newtownabbey, 30th March (Derek Charles).

One: Adult. Six Mile Water, Antrim, 21st September (Flightline).

Down

One: Adult. Cloughey Bay, Cloughey, Outer Ards Peninsula, 11th March (Flightline).

One: Adult. Drumfad Bay, Millisle, 22nd March (Flightline).

One: Second winter. Kinnegar Shore, Belfast Lough, 30th March to 10th April (Flightline).

Two: Belfast Lough RSPB Reserve, Belfast Harbour Estate, Belfast. One adult 8th to 11th April with two adults on 9th April only (Flightline).

Londonderry

Three: Culmore Tip, Culmore, Londonderry. The adult from 2006 remained to 24th January. Two one adult and one first-winter, 2nd February, with adult remaining to 22nd March (Flightline).

Two: Adults. Myroe Levels, Lough Foyle. One adult 18th to 28th September with two adults observed 7th October (Derek Charles *et al.*).

One: Adult. Rosses Bay, Lough Foyle, Gransha, 4th October (Flightline).

One: Adult. Bann Estuary, Coleraine, 7th October (Flightline).

2008

Antrim

Three or four: Whitehouse Lagoon, Belfast. One adult from 2007 remained to 16th March, one second-winter. 31st August an Adult. 8th on September with a second-winter on 2nd December (Derek Charles *et al.*).

Two or three: East Strand, Portrush. One adult from 2007 remained to 11th April, a second-summer on 30th July with an adult from 9th September into 2009 (Geoff Campbell *et al.*).

One: Adult. Six Mile Water, Antrim, 7th February to 5th March (Raymond Hume *et al.*).

Down

Two: Belfast Lough RSPB Reserve, Belfast Harbour Estate, Belfast. One adult 25th January to 5th April with a first-summer 27th April to 8th July (Flightline).

One or two: Dundrum Inner Bay South, Newcastle. One adult 14th February to 4th April with presumed same 28th September to 19th October (Andrew Crory *et al.*).

One: Second winter. Kinnegar Shore, Belfast Lough, 15th August (Flightline).

Londonderry

One: Bann Estuary, Coleraine. One adult 12th February and presumed same 12th to 22nd October (Flightline).

Two: Myroe Levels, Lough Foyle. Single adults on 5th March and 25th September (Flightline).

One: First-winter. Magilligan NR, Magilligan, Lough Foyle, 16th March (Flightline).

One: Second-winter. Roe Estuary, Lough Foyle, 12th September (Flightline).

2009

Antrim

One: Adult. East Strand, Portrush. From 2008 remained to 12th April, and again from 19th September into 2010 (Geoff Campbell *et al.*).

One: Second-winter. Whitehouse Lagoon, Newtonabbey, 2nd to 18th January (Dave Allen *et al.*).

Three: Antrim Marina, Lough Neagh, Antrim. One first-winter 12th February to 20th May with an additional first-winter 30th April to 1st May. An adult was observed from 8th to 19th March and a second-winter was present 21st December into 2010 (David Hunter, Paul Hackett, Derek Charles *et al.*).

One: Second-winter. Old Harbour Area, Belfast Docks, Belfast, 15th March (Keith Bennett).

One: Second-winter. Sandy Bay, Larne, 11th April (Neal Warnock).

One: Third-winter. Carrickfergus Leisure Centre, 7th to 15th March (Paul McCullough *et al.*).

Down

One: Adult. Kiltonga Duck Pond, Newtownards, 26th to 27th November (Anthony McGeehan *et al.*).

Londonderry

One: Adult. Donnybrewer, Lough Foyle, 2nd January (Derek Charles).

One: Adult. Londonderry City, 21st February (John N. Murphy).

Three: Roe Estuary, Lough Foyle. Single adults on 27th September and 2nd November, with a second-winter on 12th October only (Derek Charles, Neal Warnock).

One: Adult. Burnfoot Drain, Myroe Levels, Lough Foyle, 12th October (Neal Warnock).

2010

Antrim

One: Adult. East Strand, Portrush, from 2009 remained to 16th February, and returned from 13th September into 2011 (Keith Bennett *et al.*).

One: Adult. Corbally Reservoir, Portrush, 10th January (Keith Bennett).

Two: Antrim Marina, Lough Neagh, Antrim. One second-winter from 2009 remained to 20th March, with an adult on 14th January only (Derek Charles, Richard Hunter *et al.*).

One: Third-winter. Carrickfergus Marina / Carrickfergus Leisure Centre, Carrickfergus, 6th January to 1st April (Neal Warnock *et al.*).

Two: Whitehouse Lagoon, Belfast. One adult 19th January with a first-winter observed on 28th to 29th December (Richard Hunter, Jeff Higgott *et al.*).

One: Adult. Glynn, Larne Lough, 18th February (Neal Warnock).

One: Adult. Recycling Centre, Dargan Bay, Belfast, 5th December (Derek Charles).

Down

Four: Belfast Lough RSPB Reserve, Belfast Harbour Estate, Belfast. One adult 11th March, one first-winter recorded 12th March with two second-winters on 17th April only (Dennis Weir, Derek Charles *et al.*).

One: Quoile Pondage NNR, Downpatrick, 25th April (Keith Bennett).

Londonderry

One: Adult. Donnybrewer, Lough Foyle, 10th January (Derek Charles).

One: Adult. Roe Estuary, Lough Foyle, 16th February (Neal Warnock).

2011

Antrim

One: East Strand, Portrush. One adult from 2010 remained to 16th April and again from 22nd September into 2012 (Matthew Tickner, Colin Guy *et al.*).

Two: Whitehouse Lagoon, Belfast. One first-winter 29th January with a second-winter on 3rd December (Keith Bennett *et al.*).

One: First-summer. Ballycastle, 21st June to 16th August (Colin Guy *et al.*).

One: Second-winter. Sandy Bay, Larne, 28th November (Cameron Moore).

Down

One: First-summer. Belfast Lough RSPB Reserve, Belfast Harbour Estate, Belfast, 2nd July (Derek Charles, Walter Veale, Chris Sturgeon).

One: Second-winter. Groomsport, 16th October into 2012 (James Robinson *et al.*).

One: Adult. Kiltonga Duckpond, Newtownards, 30th November to 13th December (Craig Nash *et al.*).

Londonderry

Two: Donnybrewer, Lough Foyle. One adult 9th January to 2nd March with a second-winter on 23rd January only (Derek Charles).



Ring-billed Gull *Larus delawarensis*,
Ballycastle, 29th June 2011. Photo courtesy of Ian Dickey.

2012

Antrim

One: East Strand, Portrush. One adult from 2011 remained to 6th April and again 2nd September into 2013 (Neal Warnock *et al.*).

One or two: Whitehouse Lagoon, Belfast. One second-winter 2nd February with an adult on 13th November. (Neal Warnock).

One: First-summer. Glynn, Larne, 1st April (Neal Warnock).

Down

One: Second-winter. Groomsport, from 2011 remained all year and into 2013 (Richard Weyl *et al.*).

Londonderry

One: Adult. Bann Estuary, Coleraine, 10th March (Neal Warnock).

One: Adult. Donnybewan, Lough Foyle, 14th March (Matthew Tickner, Brad Robson, Gareth Bareham).

2013

Antrim

One or two: Carrickfergus Harbour, Carrickfergus. One adult 14th January to 4th April, presumed same 29th October into 2014 (Stephen Maxwell, Cameron Moore *et al.*).

One or two: East Strand, Portrush. One adult from 2012 remained to 15th March, presumed same 24th September into 2014 (Peter Robinson, Hill Dick, Matthew Tickner *et al.*).

One: Adult. Whitehouse Lagoon, Belfast Lough, 23rd February (Wilton Farrelly).

Down

One: Third-winter. Groomsport, from 2012 remained to 14th May (Ed O'Hara, Stephen Maxwell *et al.*).

One: Second-summer. Belfast Lough RSPB Reserve, Belfast Harbour Estate, Belfast, 18th April to 8th May (Derek Charles *et al.*).

One: Second-summer. Kinnegar Shore, Belfast Lough, Holywood, 3rd to 12th May (Ronald Surgenor *et al.*).

Londonderry

One: Adult. Myroe Levels, Lough Foyle, 14th September (Derek Charles, Majella Callaghan, Walter Veale).

2014

Antrim

One: Adult. Carrickfergus Harbour, Carrickfergus, from 2013 remained to 15th March (Adam McClure *et al.*).

One or two: East Strand, Portrush. One adult from 2013 remained to 25th March and presumed same 10th September (Colin Guy *et al.*).

Down

One: Adult summer. Belfast Lough RSPB Reserve, Belfast Harbour Estate, Belfast, 12th to 16th April (Stuart McKee).

Londonderry

One: Adult. Sainsbury's, Strand Road, Londonderry, 11th December (Derek Charles, Theo Campbell).

2015

Antrim

One or two: East Strand, Portrush. One adult 3rd January to 6th April and presumed same 23rd to 25th September (David Clarke, John Pyper, Colin Guy *et al.*).

One: First summer. Dargan Bay, Belfast, 19th July to 26th August (Derek Charles *et al.*).

One or two: Carrickfergus Harbour, Carrickfergus. One adult 24th January to 15th March and presumed same 15th November into 2016 (Derek Charles *et al.*).

One: Adult. Glynn, Larne Lough, 28th February (Neal Warnock).

One: Adult. Whitehouse Lagoon, Belfast, 7th March (Derek Charles, Walter Veale).

One: Adult. Dargan Bay, Belfast Lough, 22nd December (Richard Gray).

Down

Two: Belfast Lough RSPB Reserve, Belfast Harbour Estate, Belfast. One first-summer 8th May and one first-summer moulting to second winter 18th to 26th August (Derek Charles, Walter Veale, Majella Callaghan *et al.*).

Londonderry

One: Adult. Donnybewan, Lough Foyle, 7th February (Derek Charles, Majella Callaghan).

One or two: Quayside, Strand Road, Londonderry. Single adults on 17th February and 20th December (Christine Cassidy).

One: Second summer. Bann Estuary, Coleraine, 14th to 30th August (Jeff Larkin *et al.*).

One: Adult. Myroe Levels, Lough Foyle, 8th September (Chris Murphy).

2016

Antrim

One or two: Carrickfergus Harbour, Carrickfergus. One adult from 2015 remained to 20th March and presumed same 31st December (Theo Campbell Paul McCullough *et al.*).

One: Adult. East Strand, Portrush, 1st January to 24th March (Stephen Foster *et al.*).

One: Adult. Glynn, Larne Lough, 28th February (Neal Warnock).

Armagh

One: Second-summer. Reedy Flat, Lough Neagh, Derrytrasna, 10th April (Derek Charles).

Down

Three: Belfast Lough RSPB Reserve, Belfast Harbour Estate, Belfast. One adult 13th March, one second-summer 2nd April with an adult 17th to 23rd April (Stuart McKee Wilton Farrelly *et al.*).

Fermanagh

One: Round O, Enniskillen Town. One first-summer 14th June to 7th July and same now second-winter 12th September into 2017 (Brad Robson *et al.*).

Londonderry

Two: Strand Road, River Foyle, Londonderry. One first-winter and second winter, 30th December the second-winter remaining into 2017 (Derek Charles, Majella Callaghan).

2017

Antrim

One: Adult. Carrickfergus. From 2016 remained to 12th January (Daniel Newtown *et al.*).

One: First-winter. Whitehouse Lagoon, Belfast, 7th January (Keith Bennett).

Down

One: First-summer. Kinnegar, 9th April (Derek Charles, Daniel Newtown).

Three: Belfast Lough RSPB Reserve Belfast Harbour Estate, Belfast. One first-summer 12th April and two adults 24th to 25th April one remaining to 30th April (Matthew Tickner, Daniel Newtown *et al.*).

Fermanagh

One: Second-winter. Round O, Enniskillen Town, from 2016 remained to 3rd February and 21st to 22nd April (Brad Robson).

One: Second-winter. Enniskillen Rubbish Dump, Enniskillen, 12th January to 13th March (Brad Robson).

Londonderry

One: Second-winter. Strand Road, River Foyle, Londonderry, from 2016 remained to 2nd January to 12th February (Derek Charles, Majella Callaghan).

One: Adult. Donybrewer, Lough Foyle, 24th December (Derek Charles).

2018

Antrim

One: Adult. Carrickfergus, 4th January to 21st March (Adam McClure *et al.*).

One: Second-winter. Antrim Road Waterworks, Belfast, 15th January to 20th February (Suzanne Belshaw *et al.*).

One: First-winter. Ballycastle, 3rd February (Derek Charles).

Down

One: Adult. Belfast Lough RSPB Reserve, Belfast Harbour Estate, Belfast, 16th March (Kevin Kirkham-Brown).

One: Adult. Kinnegar Shore, Belfast Lough, Holywood, 21st April (Daniel Newtown).

Londonderry

Three: Strand Road, River Foyle, Londonderry. One, third-winter 1st to 14th January, one first-winter 14th to 21st January with an adult summer on 18th March (Derek Charles).

One: Adult winter. Donybrewer, Lough Foyle, 14th January to 18th March (Derek Charles).

One: First-winter. Bay Road, Londonderry, 4th February (Derek Charles).

2019

Antrim

One: Adult. Carrickfergus, 10th February – 31st March (Daniel Newtown *et al.*).

One: Third-winter / Adult. Belfast Waterworks, Antrim Road, Belfast. 25th February – 7th March (David Knight *et al.*).

Londonderry

One: Second calendar year Roe Estuary, Lough Foyle, 14th September (Neal Warnock).

Ring-billed Gull X Common Gull Hybrid *Larus copelandii* (0, 0, 1). **RV**

The hybrid Ring Billed Gull X Common Gull was present at Millisle, County Down throughout the time period 2009-2019. Typically seen from September – March.



Plate 76 (top). Ring-billed Gull X Common Gull Hybrid *Larus copelandii*