

Roseate Tern *Sterna dougallii* SV

(Breeds Atlantic coasts of Europe and North America. Winters south to the Caribbean and West Africa).

Unpublished records:

1993

Down

12: St Johns Point, Killough. Three, two adults and one juvenile 14th August, three, one adult and two juveniles 5th September and six, four adults and two juveniles 18th September (Anthony McGeehan, Stephen Foster *et al.*).

1996

Down

One: Adult: Belfast Harbour Estate, Belfast, 25th June (Anthony McGeehan).

1998

Antrim

One: Ballylumford, Larne, 31st May (Jeff Larkin).

2000

Antrim

One: Blue Circle, Larne Lough, 9th May (Dave Allen).

One: Browns Bay, Larne Lough, 21st to 23rd May (Ed O'Hara *et al.*).

Five: Larne Harbour, Larne, 15th July (Richard Hunter).

2003

Antrim

Two: Glynn, Larne Lough 16th July, one remaining to 26th July (Cameron Moore).

Three: Drains Bay, Larne, 21st July (Joe Lamont).

One: Whitehead, 21st July to 9th August (Joe Lamont),

Down

Five: Belfast Harbour Estate, Belfast. Singles on 3rd June, 17th July, 29th July and 2nd to 4th August (Anthony McGeehan).

One: Greencastle, Carlingford Lough, 12th July (Frank Carroll).

2004

Three: Ballylumford, Islandmagee, County Antrim, 19th June (Ian Enlander).

2008

Antrim

One: Ballycastle Bay, Ballycastle, 4th July (Flightline).

Armagh

One: Ringed. Croaghan Island, Oxford Island NNR, Lurgan, 13th July (Oscar Campbell). **First inland Northern Ireland record.**

Down

One: Collectors Bay, Quoile Pondage NNR, Downpatrick, 20th April (Flightline).

Two: Belfast Lough RSPB Reserve, Belfast. Singles on 5th July and 16th September (Flightline).

One: Ringed. Guns Island, Strangford Lough, 3rd August (Flightline).

Ten: Killough Harbour, Killough. Two, one adult and one juvenile 13th August with eight on 2nd September (Flightline).

Four: St John's Point, Killough. Two, one adult and one juvenile 2nd September with two also observed on 3rd September (Flightline).

Londonderry

Two: Bann Estuary, Coleraine. One: 4th July and an Adult. 25th August (Flightline).

2009

Antrim

Two: Belfast Lough RSPB Reserve, Belfast Harbour Estate, Belfast. One 4th to 5th July and one 9th August (Derek Charles, Walter Veale *et al.*).

Down

One: Quoile Pondage NNR, Downpatrick, 13th June (Flightline).

2010

Antrim

Two: Blue Circle, Larne Lough. One on 2nd June with two on 14th June (Brad Robson *et al.*).

Down

18: St John's Point, Killough. 13 20th August and five 22nd August (Oscar Campbell, Anthony McGeehan, Jimmy Whitla, Fulton Summerville Walter Veale, Christopher Veale).

2011

Antrim

One: Belfast Lough RSPB Reserve, Belfast Harbour Estate, Belfast, 13th July (Neal Warnock).

2012

Down

Two: Belfast Lough RSPB Reserve, Belfast Harbour Estate, Belfast. One adult 22nd May and one adult 21st July (Andy Elliot *et al.*).

One: Copeland Island Bird Observatory, Lighthouse Island, Copeland Islands, 6th to 27th June (Kerry Leonard).

Three: Groomsport. Two 6th June and one 1st July. (Kerry Leonard).

Londonderry

One: Adult. Bann Estuary, Coleraine, 23rd August (Derek Charles, Majella Callaghan).

2013

Antrim

One: Adult. Glynn, Larne Lough, 12th July (Neal Warnock).

Down

One: Briggs Rocks, Groomsport, 16th May (Colin Guy).

Three: Belfast Lough RSPB Reserve, Belfast Harbour Estate, Belfast. One adult 16th June, two adults 13th July with one remaining to 20th July (James Robinson *et al.*).

One: Copeland Bird Observatory, Lighthouse Island, Copeland Islands, 30th July (Kerry Leonard)

2014

Antrim

One: At sea. Off the Maidens, Larne, 30th May (Dave Allen, Dennis Weir).

Two: Glynn, Larne Lough, 14th June (Neal Warnock).

Down

Four: Copeland Islands, "last two weeks of May" (Copeland Bird Observatory).

One: Briggs Rocks, Groomsport, 5th June (Colin Guy).

One: Millisle, 14th June (David McCormick).

One: Adult. Belfast Lough RSPB Reserve, Belfast, 9th August (Derek Charles, Walter Veale, Majella Callaghan *et al.*).

2015

Antrim

One: Glynn, Larne Lough, 17th June to 16th August (Neal Warnock *et al.*).

Down

Up to eight: Belfast Lough RSPB Reserve, Belfast, 20th June to 6th September (Derek Charles *et al.*). At least ten individuals involved.

At least 33: Killough. 11, five adults and six juveniles, Fisherman's Row 12th August, 33 on 21st August with an adult remaining to 22nd August (Tim Murphy *et al.*).

At least 100: St. John's Point, Killough. 38 23rd August, 30 25th August, 100 26th August, two, one adult and one juvenile 29th August and one 31st August (Tim Murphy Derek Charles, Walter Veale, Billy Miskelly *et al.*).

Up to 100: Minerstown. 49 on 25th August rising to 100 on 27th August (Billy Miskelly, Tim Murphy *et al.*).

125: Murlough NNR, Newcastle 30th August (Andrew Crory). **Highest ever Northern Ireland count.**

Six: Four adults & two juveniles. Rockport, Belfast Lough, 31st August (Ronald Surgenor).

Two: One adult and one juvenile. Seahill, Belfast Lough, 7th September (Ronald Surgenor).

One: Adult. Kinnegar Shore, Belfast Lough, Holywood, 19th September (Derek Charles, Walter Veale).

Londonderry

One: Lough Beg NNR, 22nd to 23rd June (David Steele *et al.*). **Second inland Northern Ireland record.**

2016

Antrim

One: Whitehead, 5th August (Ian Enlander).

Down

Up to 17: Belfast Lough RSPB Reserve, Belfast Harbour Estate, Belfast, 19th August to 18th September (Gerard McGeehan *et al.*).

One: St Johns Point, Killough, 19th August (Chris Murphy, Doris Murphy).

One: Copeland Bird Observatory, Lighthouse Island, Copeland Islands, 21st August (David Galbraith).

One: Dundrum Bay, Newcastle, 24th August (Andrew Crory).

Up to 12: Kinnegar, Belfast Lough, Holywood, 11th to 13th September (Robin Vage *et al.*).

Up to five: Seahill, Belfast Lough, 11th to 14th September (Ronald Surgenor).

Londonderry

One: Adult. Bann Estuary, Coleraine, 3rd September (Derek Charles).

2017**Antrim**

Three: Larne Lough. One 5th June with two on 3rd July (Neal Warnock).

Three: Whitehead, 29th August (Cameron Moore).

Down

Five: Belfast Lough RSPB Reserve, Belfast Harbour Estate, Belfast. One 16th June and up to four 27th August to 6th September (Daniel Newtown *et al.*).

Up to two: Kinnegar, Belfast Lough, Holywood, 20th August, one remaining to 29th August (Jeff Larkin *et al.*).

2018**Antrim**

One: Adult. Dargan Bay, Belfast Lough, Belfast, 2nd September (Derek Charles).

One: Adult. Whitehead, 6th September (Cameron Moore).

Down

Up to four: Belfast Lough RSPB Reserve, Belfast Harbour Estate, Belfast, 1st July to 28th August (Daniel Newtown *et al.*). Probably nine individuals involved.

Up to 17. Kinnegar Shore, Belfast Lough, Holywood, 19th August to 1st September (Michael Latham *et al.*).

Londonderry

One: Adult in almost full summer plumage. Magilligan Point, Lough Foyle, 26th August (Derek Charles).

Hundreds of Sandwich, Arctic and Common Terns were feeding in the mouth of Lough Foyle in a Southerly Gale.



Roseate Tern *Sterna dougallii*,
Rockport, Belfast Lough, 31st August 2015. Photo courtesy of Ronald Surgenor.