



The Queen's Award
for Voluntary Service

Milford Conservation Volunteers

www.milfordconservation.org



February 2022 Observatory Report.



Aerial view of The Pans Wetland area and part of Avon Water.

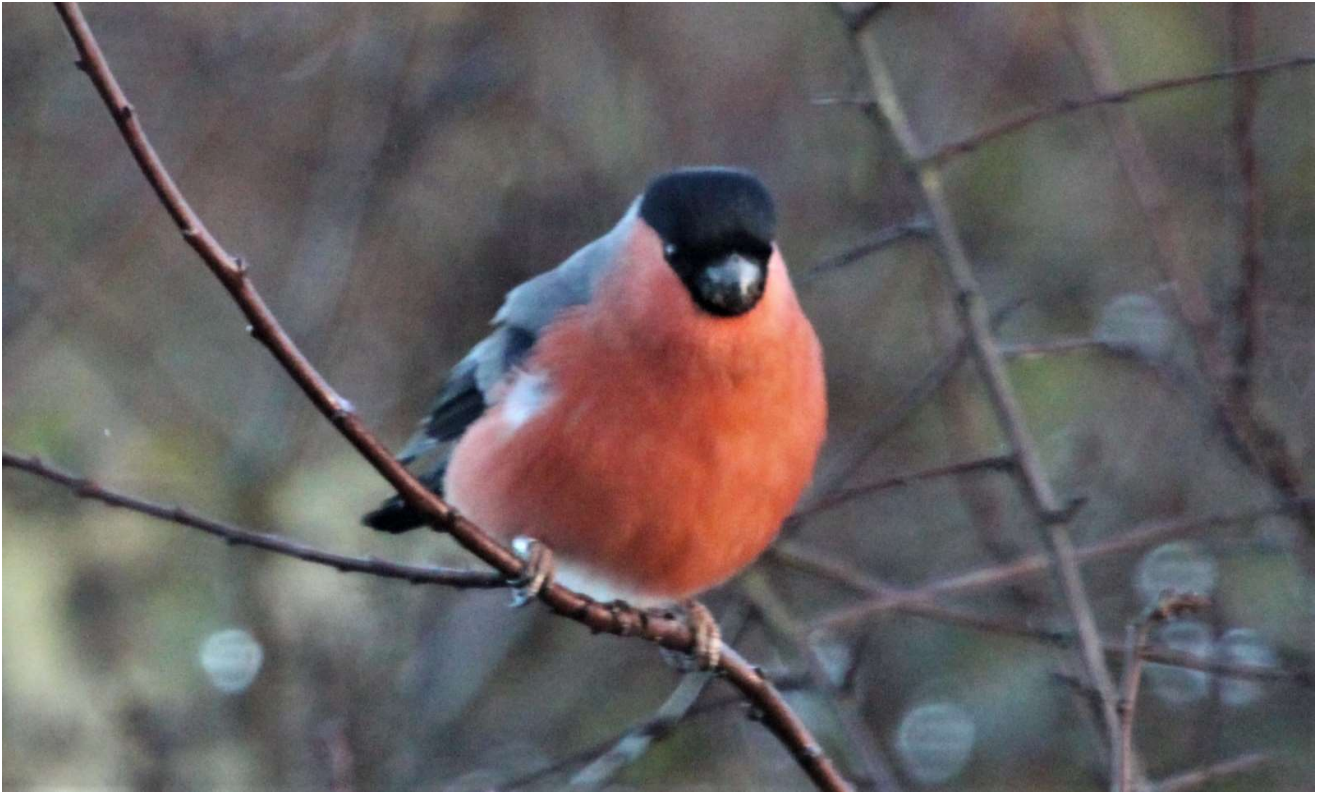
Blackbird: Present nearly everyday.

Blue Tit: Common for the site, one bird is showing a lot of interest in one of the nest boxes.



Blue Tit checking out the nest box.

Bullfinch: A pair were present on 3rd February. The male was ringed.



Male Bullfinch with a ring on its right leg.

Brent Goose: A single bird has been seen on the Pans on three occasions. They are usually seen flying over. 100 plus flying over on 20th February.

Chaffinch: Present on seven occasions. A pair have been seen three times.



Male Chaffinch.

Cormorant: One present most days, three on the 23rd and also 26th.

Coot: Present every day. The highest number recorded was 12 on the 16th February.

Curlew: Recorded on 22 days, the highest number was 21 on the 23rd February.

Duncock: Present every day.

Gadwall: Seen on 21 days during the month. 25 was the highest number recorded on the 8th February.

House Sparrow: Seen or heard everyday.

Kingfisher: At least two birds have been recorded during February, an adult male that has been ringed and an un-ringed bird.

Lapwing: Present nearly everyday. 152 plus were recorded on 13th February.

Marsh Harrier: Present most days, Two on 5 occasions and 3 on 2nd February.

Mediterranean Gull: A single bird was recorded on the 14th February.



Mediterranean Gull

Pintail: Recorded nearly everyday. 7 present the 14th February. They have been getting closer to the Observatory.



Pintail

Redshank: Present most days. Usually halfway down the Pans. Have only been by the Kingfisher Pool once during February.

Robin: Seen nearly everyday. There are at least two Robins around the Observatory, one has been ringed and one that has not been ringed.



The ringed Robin (ring on right leg)



Robin (not ringed).

Teal: Recorded on 24 days. 35 was the highest number for any one day.



Teal



Tufted Duck

Tufted Duck: Most of the time there has been a single female, (photo above). There were 3 (2 males and a female) on the 2nd and 4 on the 23rd February.

Water Rail: Present on 11 occasions. Two on the 3rd, 10th, 12th and 26th.



Water Rail.

White Tailed Eagle: One was seen from the Observatory on the 1st February. It was flying at the far end of the Pans slowly flying North and being harassed by a flock of Carrion Crows.

Birds recorded but not mentioned in the report so far.

Black Tailed Godwit, Black Headed Gull, Buzzard, Canada Goose, Cetti's, Egyptian Goose, Great Black Backed Gull, Great Tit, Greenshank, Goldcrest, Goldfinch, Greenfinch, Grey Heron, Herring Gull, Jackdaw, Jay, Kestrel, Lesser Black Backed Gull, Little Grebe, Long Tailed tit, Magpie, Mallard, Moorhen, Mute Swan, Pied Wagtail, Shelduck, Shoveler, Snipe, Sparrowhawk, Starling, Stock Dove, Woodpigeon and Wren.

Birding for Beginners.

This took place on Saturday 5th of February (the first Saturday of the month) at the Observatory in Keyhaven and was run by David Horne and Chris Barrass. 40 species of birds were recorded. A quiet morning.

Trail Cameras.

Badger:



Photographed on 15 occasions. Two were photographed together on the 26th February (photo above).

Fox

Photographed on 20 occasions



Otter.



Photographed on 5 separate occasions during February.

Birds photographed on the trail cams.

Blackbird, Carrion Crow, Dunnock, Kingfisher, Little Grebe, Little Egret, Mallard, Moorhen, Pheasant and Woodpigeon.



Pheasant



Little Egret

Due to Storm Eunice on the 18th February the Observatory lost power for several days. As there was no power the electronic gate was unable to lock so the gate was wedged open allowing people onto the decking area but without power the Observatory was closed to fob holders. Once power was restored to Keyhaven everything went back to normal.

ON FRIDAY 18TH FEBRUARY THE WEATHER WARNING FOR STORM EUNICE WAS DANGER OF DEATH. I STAYED AWAY FROM THE OBSERVATORY FOR THAT DAY BUT RECORDED THE BIRDS EVERY OTHER DAY DURING FEBRUARY.

Chris Barrass 28/2/2022