

**Monthly report to Landsort Board by Observatory Wardens:
Chris Sharpe & Kay Collister
November 2017**

Summary

West to north-west winds dominated the first three days of the month, mainly very strong, before winds backed to the south/ south-west, remaining strong to very strong on the 4th and 5th. It was not until the 6th that the westerly winds gradually decreased through the day, with the 7th giving lighter SW winds and clear skies with light north-west winds on the 8th. The 9th brought very strong south-west winds which by the final days ringing on the 10th had moved more to the West and decreased slightly to a strong wind which moved south-west during the morning. Ringing finished on the 10th.

Ringing

All data entered onto Fågel3 and submitted to Ringing Central together with year-end files.

1,101 new birds of 24 species were caught in the month, the highest November in the 30 years of the Observatory though it should be noted that ringing effort during the month of November has historically been low. The end of year total stands at 11,154, significantly more (55%) than the 1988-2017 average as at the end of November which stands at 7,184.

Captures of note included:

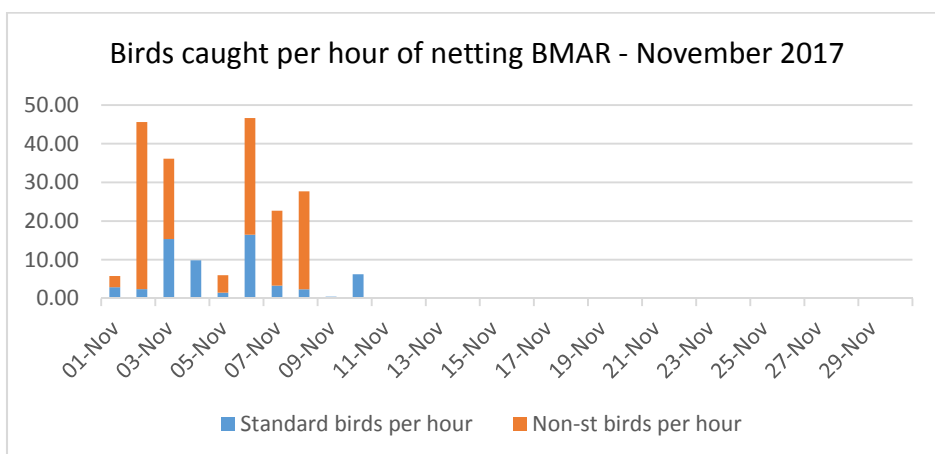
- 11 Grönsiska (Siskin) on the 2nd;
- 12 Stjärtmes (Long-tailed Tit) on the 3rd;
- The only Skata (Magpie) of the year on the 3rd;
- An overall total of 988 Gråsiska (Redpoll)

Available days	10
Days netting	10
%age	100%

Hours netting	54.75
Average per day	5.5

Av birds/hr	20.1
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Total birds	1,101	
Standard	277	25.2%
Non-standard	824	74.8%



Sightings of note during November

Among a range of interesting sightings for the month, mostly covered on the daily diary, or on Artportalan, the following were of note:

- Gröngöling (Green Woodpecker) on the 2nd, 7th, 8th and 10th;
- 80 Björktrast (Fieldfare) on the 2nd;

- 200 Sidensvans (Waxwing) also on the 2nd with several flocks present during the period;
- 2 Sångsvan (Whooper Swan) on 8th;
- 250 Björktrast (Fieldfare) migrating SW on 11th.

Other work on the Observatory

- All bird bags washed, dried and stored;
- All nets and poles removed from BMAR and stored for the winter;
- Notices about ringing removed from site and stored for the winter;
- All remaining nest boxes cleaned and repaired; a total of 223 during the autumn.
- Summary bird data sheets on noticeboard updated to include 2017 records;
- All filters in washing machine and clothes drier cleaned;
- Shower, floor and sink water traps in bathroom cleaned;
- Tools in cellar and ringing pliers oiled;
- Hose pipe emptied of water to prevent ice damage;
- Wardens fridge/freezer de-frosted, cleaned and un-plugged;
- Computer folder of files to be used in 2018 compiled and stored on office computer;
- Month-end and year-end ringing data submitted to Ringing Central;
- External clothes drier stored in cellar;
- Wood placed under legs of outside seats to reduce rot;
- Board-walks on paths placed upright to reduce rot;
- List of ring stock and schedule of new nets needed submitted to RIC;
- More trees cut down;
- List prepared and submitted to Treasurer of outstanding jobs for Landlord to do;
- List of equipment needed before next spring prepared and submitted to Board;
- Daily diary blog kept up to date;
- Weekly cash reconciliations undertaken and record kept of over-night stays;
- Lab cleaned;
- Room 1, living room, hall, pingers room, kitchen and bathroom cleaned.

Chris Sharpe & Kay Collister.

11th November 2017