

RINGING ON HOLT ISLAND 22 JANUARY & 6 FEBRUARY 2020

In January there were two floods which got up to 1.07 meters above normal river level and covered much of the boardwalk. The January session was just after the water had gone down but the day was grey and damp so there was little movement of the birds. The February session was a bright cold sunny day. During the flood most ground feeding birds left the Island to feed elsewhere. The floods covered 90% of the Island for up to five days each time. With Hemingford Meadow being covered as well the majority of the birds were forced north and west.

The numbers of birds on the Island have still not recovered and very few are using the feeders. In particular the Blue Tit numbers are much lower. Due to the length of the floods there must be less for the birds like Blackbirds to find as much will have drowned or gone deeper into the ground.

The Muntjac are very evident with their footprints in the soft mud. In the last few days over 500 fish, Bream, Roach and Perch, have been caught and returned to the Backwater, some as long as 150 mm

| Species | New juveniles | Re-trap Adults | Re-trap Juveniles | Total |
|--------------|---------------|----------------|-------------------|-----------|
| Wren | 1 | | | 1 |
| Dunnock | | | 1 | 1 |
| Robin | | 2 | | 2 |
| Blackbird | | 1 | | 1 |
| Blue Tit | 2 | | 2 | 4 |
| Great Tit | 2 | | 3 | 5 |
| Tree creeper | | | 1 | 1 |
| Total | 5 | 3 | 7 | 15 |

Catch from 22nd January 2020

| Species | New Adults | New Juveniles | Re-trap Adults | Re-trap Juveniles | Total |
|-----------------|------------|---------------|----------------|-------------------|-----------|
| Wren | | | | 1 | 1 |
| Dunnock | | | 1 | | 1 |
| Robin | | | 2 | 4 | 6 |
| Blackbird | | | | 1 | 1 |
| Song Thrush | | 1 | | | 1 |
| Long tailed Tit | | | 1 | | 1 |
| Blue Tit | | 1 | | 3 | 4 |
| Great Tit | | 1 | 1 | 4 | 6 |
| Tree creeper | | | | 1 | 1 |
| Reed Bunting | 1 | 2 | 1 | | 4 |
| Goldfinch | 1 | | | | 1 |
| Total | 2 | 5 | 6 | 14 | 27 |

Catch from 6th February 2020

Julian & Sue Limentani