

Bald Eagle: Eagles can be seen at our site at any time during the season, although they are more likely after mid-October. Even then, they can't be considered common, being seen in only 5-7% of

hours of observation. As with most of our hawks, Bald Eagles prefer west to northwest winds, but they show a definite preference for colder than normal days. On the rare occasions when we have had more than two in a day, they usually show up late in the day – the frequency at 4 p.m. is only 30% of the peak at 5 p.m. *Photo by Mary Kay Rubey*.



Northern Harrier: Harriers are one of four species that we have recorded during every week of the season. They peak the third week in October, seen in 31% of the hours of observation. They show a strong preference for west winds, and are most likely after a cold front, the stronger the better. They are prima-

rily a midday bird, peaking at 10 a.m., but at 70+% of peak frequency from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. *Photo by Mary Kay Rubey.*



Sharp-shinned Hawk: One of our most abundant and familiar hawks, Sharpies are another species recorded every week of the season. They do show a peak in abundance the 2nd and 3rd week of October with 65-67% of hours having Sharpies. They are at their best on clear days with west winds, and

generally better on windy days. Their daily peak is from 9-10 a.m., but they are at 80% of peak frequency or better from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Quite often on days with strong flights, the first bird of the day is a Sharp-shinned. *Photo by Eric Walters*.



Cooper's Hawk: This is the one species where our models show no effect of date. They have been recorded every week of the season, although they do show a spread-out peak from the third week in September to the end of October, typically seen in 24-27% of hours during that span. They prefer strong

west to northwest winds with clear skies, and are most likely after fronts. They are primarily a morning migrant, with a peak at 11 a.m., falling to 60% by 1 p.m., and 20% by 3 p.m. *Photo by Jerry Kumery.*



Northern Goshawk: One of our most eagerly awaited migrants, Goshawks are a late migrant – we have not recorded them before September 10, and usually not before October. They peak the first week in November, when they are seen during 11% of hours. Again, Goshawks prefer strong west-north-

west winds and clear skies, and they are most likely on colder than normal days. They peak at 11 a.m., but are at 60% of peak from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. *Photo by Geoffrey Williamson*.



Red-shouldered Hawk: Red-shouldered Hawks are another late migrant. Although we have seen a few in late September, they peak the first week in November, in 22% of hours. They prefer strong winds after a cold front, and seem to like flying on colder, clear days. Surprisingly, they are most often

seen in the morning, with a peak of activity from 9 a.m. until noon, falling away quickly to 60% by 1 p.m. and 50% by 2 p.m. *Photo by Mary Kay Rubey*.



Broad-winged Hawk: Broad-wings show the most concentrated season of any of our raptors – they can be seen from the beginning of the season until the middle of October, but the great majority move through between the third week in September and the first of October. At their peak around the 24th of

September, they are seen in 25% of the hours of observation. Large flights of Broad-wings tend to occur at our site, if at all, on strong westerly winds, on days with some cloud cover. Our data indicate that they fly most in the afternoon, peaking between 1 p.m. and 3 p.m., but this generalization largely comes from the four days in 2003 mentioned above. *Photo by Travis A. Mahan.*



Red-tailed Hawk: Red-tails are another species seen every week of the season. They do show a distinct peak, though, the first week of November, when they are spotted during 76% of hours of observation. Large flights usually occur the last week in October or the first week in November. Like most of

our hawks, strong west to northwest winds deliver the largest flights, and they seem to prefer cold, clear days after a cold front. Red-tails peak from noon to 2 p.m., but are at over 80% of peak activity from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. *Photo by Kanae Hirabayashi.*

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