Europe Solidaire Sans Frontières > English > Europe, Great Britain > France > Ecology: Parc des Beaumonts (France) > France: Ornithology: reports > **Beaumont's Birds: Annual Report 2010**

Beaumont's Birds: Annual Report 2010

Friday 4 February 2011, by THORNS David (Date first published: 31 December 2010).

Contents

- <u>SYSTEMATIC LIST</u>
- <u>APPENDIX</u>

126 species were recorded this year – a very good total and an improvement on 2009. The site was visited on almost every day and in comparison to last year there were more early morning visits paid during the autumn.

Several half-expected species did not make the list such as Turtle Dove (Tourterelle des bois) and Marsh Warbler (Rousserolle verderolle) and it was a rather poor year for waders with no reports of either Common Sandpiper (Chevalier guignette) or Green Sandpipier (Chevalier cul-blanc).

During the spring and autumn a total of 230 observer hours were spent 'skywatching' from the Cascade. 131 larger raptors were observed migrating over the park which was 30% fewer than in 2009. A summary of raptor migration may be found at the end of the report (Appendix I & II).

Two new species were recorded this year, both involving escaped cage-birds: Zebra Finch (Pinson mandarin) and Red Munia (Bengali rouge) were both observed on two occasions.

Observers at Parc des Beaumonts in 2010 :

AB= Alain Bloquet AT= Alain Thellier BD= Benoit Delbove BW= Bruno Walter DG= Didier Godreau DT= David Thorns KH=Klaire Houiex LS= Laurent Spanneut MD= Michael Duffy OP= Olivier Laporte PD= Pierre Delbove PH= Peter Hayman PM= Philip Redman PV=Pierre Rivallin PR= Pierre Rousset RP= Roland Paul SC= Stephane Chambris VB= Vincent van de Bor YF= Yves Fleury-Collet

SYSTEMATIC LIST

The status symbols employed are those employed by Pierre Rousset in the original birdlist : C = Captive (escape) E = Summer Visitor F = FeralH = Winter Visitor M = Migrant S = Resident

Great Cormorant (Grand cormoran) Phalacrocorax carbo M

Recorded occasionally in small numbers in winter. Larger numbers of migrants noted in early spring and (especially) autumn. Absent in late spring and summer

Less regularly noted in spring in comparison with 2009; the maximum daily count was of 64 birds on

5th April [LS/PR/DT]

First reported in autumn (13 birds) on 28^{th} August [DT]. Most were reported during October with a daily maximum of 259 on 9^{th} October [DT]

Grey Heron (Héron cendré) Ardea cinerea S M

A single bird observed at the Mare Perchée irregularly throughout the year although there were apparently no reports in February, May or July. Most frequently noted on site in the early mornings in August and early September

Sadly last year's confiding individual suffered in the extreme weather at the beginning of the year and was found dead on the 4^{th} February [RP]

1-2 'migrating' birds occasionally noted on skywatches: in spring 1-2 birds noted on 5 dates between 5^{th} March – 26^{th} April. In autumn noted on 3 dates between 29^{th} September – 17^{th} October

White Stork (Cigogne blanche) Ciconia ciconia M

Observed migrating over the park on 3 dates; in winter, early spring and autumn

2 NNE, 31st January [LS/DT] - 5 N, 25th February [DT] - 8 SO, 12th September [PR/DT]

Mute Swan (Cygne tuberculé) Cygnus olor M

1 record in spring

9, 25th April [PR]

The observation was of 2 small groups (of 4 and 5 individuals) flying south in the late afternoon

Greylag Goose (Oie cendrée) Anser anser M

Observed on 6 dates - 3 in early spring and 3 in late autumn

2, 20^{th} February [DT] - 10, 4^{th} March [PR] - 15, 6^{th} March [PR/DT]

16, 10th November [PR] - 49, 16th November [PR] - 6, 20th November [PR]

See Appendix III

Canada Goose (Bernache du Canada) Branta canadensis F

Observed flying overhead on 5 dates

5, 3rd April [DT] - 2, 5th April [PR] - 2, 11th April [PR] - 6, 17th September [PR] - 6, 16th October [DT]

Mallard (Canard colvert) Anas platyrhynchos S M

Small numbers seen irregularly throughout the year. A pair bred successfully at the Mare Perchée for the second consecutive year

First reported on 7^{th} February (one day later than in 2009 !) and up to 6 birds noted daily thereafter until 21^{st} May. Breeding confirmed with the appearance of 8 ducklings on 28^{th} May although 3 of

them were to be lost over the course of the next 8 days. The remaining 5 were to be seen daily up until 6th August, usually in the close company of the adult female. Thereafter just one juvenile remained until the end of the month, the bird appearing to be in good health, albeit with a very slightly deformed bill and apparently unable to fly

The species was absent in September although up to 6 birds were occasionally noted in flight during the last 3 months of the year $\,$

Northern Pintail (Carnard pilet) Anas acuta M

2 flying south on 14^{th} November [PR]

Osprey (Balbuzard pêcheur) Pandion haliaetus M

A good year : recorded on 5 dates (3 in spring and 2 in autumn)

1, 5th April [LS/PR/DT] - 1, 12th May [PR] - 1, 13th May [PR/DT]

1, 11th September [PR/DT] - 1, 7th October [PR]

See Appendix I & II

Red Kite (Milan royal) Milvus milvus M

Observed migrating over the park on 3 dates in autumn

1, 9th October [DT] - 2, 10th October [DT] - 1, 18th October [PR]

See Appendix I & II

Black Kite (Milan noir) Milvus migrans M

Observed on 4 dates (3 in spring and 1 in autumn)

1, 5th April [PR/DT] - 2, 15th April [AB/PR/DT] - 2, 12th May [PR]

1, 1st August [SC/PR/DT]

See Appendix I & II

Short-toed Eagle (Circaéte Jean-Le-Blanc) Circaetus gallicus M

1 record in autumn

1, 7th October [PR]

See Appendix I & II

Marsh Harrier (Busard des roseaux) Circus aeruginosus M

Recorded more often and in greater numbers than in 2009. Observed on 17 dates (4 in spring and 13 in autumn). At least 51 birds were involved

1, 21st March [PR/DT] - 1, 23rd March [PR] - 1, 8th May [PR] - 1, 13th May [PD/DT]

1, 21st August [SC/DT] - 4, 28th August [DT] - 1, 31st August [DT] - 2, 5th September [LS] - 1, 11th September [PR/DT] - 10, 12th September [PR/DT] - 4, 17th September [PR] - 1, 18th September [PR/DT] - 2, 25th September [SC/KH/PV/PR/LS/AT/DT] - 2, 30th September [PR] - 13, 7th October [PR] - 4, 9th October [DT] - 2, 10th October [SC/DT]

See Appendix I & II & III

Hen Harrier (Busard Saint-Martin) Circus cyaneus M

Recorded on 4 dates (1 in spring, 3 in autumn)

1, 21st March [PR]

3, 7^{th} October [PR] - 1, 30^{th} October [DT] - 1, 31^{st} October [SC/PR/DT]

See Appendix I & II

Montagu's Harrier (Busard cendré) Circus pygargus M

1 migrating south on 29^{th} August [DT]

See appendix I & II

Common Buzzard (Buse variable) Buteo buteo M

Lower numbers than usual (-58% on 2009) and inexplicably absent in spring. Recorded flying over the park on 19 dates, the vast majority in autumn. In late August one or two birds sometimes noted 'wandering' around the area, in stark contrast to pernis apivorus which was observed migrating in a much more purposeful fashion at this time. At least 30 individuals were involved

1, 14th February - 1, 27th February

1, 31^{st} July - 1, 1^{st} August - 1, 7^{th} August - 1, 8^{th} August - 1, 21^{st} August - 3, 22^{nd} August - 3, 28^{th} August - 1, 29^{th} August - 1, 5^{th} September - 1, 12^{th} September - 3, 18^{th} September - 2, 19^{th} September - 2, 9^{th} October - 1, 22^{nd} October - 2, 24^{th} October - 1, 1^{st} November - 1, 7^{th} November - 1, 20^{th} November

1, 18th December [DT]

See Apprendix I & II

Honey Buzzard (Bondrée apivore) Pernis apivorus M

A rather disappointing year with 64% fewer reported than in 2009. Although the situation in spring was identical to last year (reported on 3 dates) the reduced numbers were notable in autumn with just 7 birds observed on 6 dates. At least 14 individuals were involved

2, 13^{th} May [PD/DT] - 4, 15^{th} May [PR/DT] - 1, 16^{th} May [PR/DT]

1, 21^{st} August [SC/DT] - 1, 22^{nd} August [LS/DT] - 1, 10^{th} September [PR] - 2, 11^{th} September [PR/DT] - 1, 12^{th} September [PR/DT] - 1, 17^{th} September [PR]

See Appendix I & II & III

[Unidentified larger raptors (Grands rapaces non identifié)]

Unidentified larger raptors reported on 9 dates

13 individuals were were involved (2 in spring and 11 in autumn)

See Appendix I & II

Eurasian Sparrowhawk (Epervier d'Europe) Accipiter nisus S M

Regularly recorded (usually 1-3 individuals) throughout the year. Breeding confirmed for a fourth consecutive year in the woodland bordering the Parc Mabille with begging calls from juveniles heard in this area at the end of July and early August (as was the case in 2007-2009)

Juveniles (2 birds) noted for the first time on 22nd July [DT]

Eurasian Kestrel (Faucon crécerelle) Falco tinnunculus S M

Breeding in the immediate vicinity of the park, 1-3 birds (usually 1) noted almost daily

Although the vast majority of sightings refer to local birds, some birds were noted in active migration (ex: 1, 28^{th} August [DT] – 2, 7^{th} October [PR])

Eurasian Hobby (Faucon hobereau) Falco subbuteo E M

Up to 3 birds noted occasionally in spring, summer and autumn

Almost absent during the summer (as was the case last year) with just 2 sightings between 22^{nd} May – 21^{st} August

First recorded in spring on 25th April [DT] - last autumn sighting 7th October [PR]

Peregrine Falcon (Faucon pèlerin) Falco peregrinus S M

The now regular presence of 2 birds at the nearby Porte d'Ivry (94) has made the species less of a rarity. 1-2 birds noted on 7 dates in spring. 1 observation in winter

1, 23^{rd} March [PR] - 2, 27^{th} March [PR/DT] - 1, 15^{th} April [PR/DT] - 1, 17^{th} April [PR/DT] - 1, 29^{th} April [PR] - 1, 16^{th} May [PR/DT] - 1, 20^{th} May [PR]

1, 17^{th} December [PR]

It is not surprising that this was almost exclusively a spring bird: Porte d'Ivry is situated some 5kms away to the southwest and in autumn observers are looking the other way !

Merlin (Faucon émerillon) Falco columbarius M

1 record in late autumn

1 migrating south on 14^{th} November [PR]

Red-footed Falcon (Faucon kobez) Falco verspertinus M

 $1 \ observation \ in \ spring$

1 adult male on $22^{\mbox{\scriptsize nd}}$ April [PR]

Common Crane (Grue cendrée) Grus grus M

1 observation in early spring

11, 5th March [PR]

Common Moorhen (Poule d'eau) Gallinula chloropus S

A familiar resident breeding species with 1-8 birds seen daily throughout the year

A more successful year in terms of breeding success with 2 pairs rearing young in two broods at the Mare Perchée. Copulation there noted in the early morning of 10^{th} April [DT]. Chicks (2) observed for the first time on 2^{nd} May [DT] and 4 were noted there on 13^{th} May [PD]. However by the 20^{th} May each pair was considered to have just one chick [DT]

A rather more successful second brood with 6 chicks noted at the Mare Perchée at the end of June. A maximum of 8 birds (2 adults with juveniles) was noted on 12^{th} November [DT]

It is highly probable that a healthy population of rats at the Mare Perchée is responsible for the loss of several very young birds

See Appendix III

Eurasian Golden Plover (Pluvier doré) Pluvialis apricaria M

Observed flying high over the park, always in small flocks. Recorded on 2 dates (1 in late autumn and 1 in winter)

2, 21st October [PR] - 10, 19th December [DT]

Northern Lapwing (Vanneau huppé) Vanellus vanellus M

Seen flying over the park, almost always in flocks, on 10 dates (3 in spring – 7 in autumn/early winter)

375, 21^{st} February [DT] - 65, 27^{th} February [DT] - 80, 26^{th} March [PR]

30, 24th October [PR/DT] - 274, 31st October [PR/DT] - 394, 1st November [PR/DT] - 6, 16th November [PR] - 148, 20th November [PR] - 549, 9th December [PR] - 80, 18th December [DT]

Eurasian Woodcock (Bécasse des bois) Scolopax rusticola M H

Observed on 4 dates (3 in winter and 1 in early spring)

1, 7^{th} January [PR] - 1, 8^{th} January [PR] - 1, 22^{nd} March [DT] - 1, 4^{th} December [DT]

Black-headed Gull (Mouette rieuse) Larus ridibundus S M

Low numbers (generally 1-10 birds) observed flying over the park fairly regularly in winter, early spring and autumn. Almost absent in late spring and early summer (May-July)

Larger numbers sometimes noted; ex: 34, 2nd January [DT] - 80+, 21st February [DT] - 42, 5th December [PR]

In identical fashion to the last two years a lone individual could be seen swooping low around the Mare Perchée in late autumn, occasionally landing on site

Common Gull (Goéland cendré) Larus canus S M

Rather uncommon in all seasons - small numbers noted on 7 dates

1, 21^{st} February [DT] - 1, 4^{th} April [PR] - 2, 27^{th} July [PR] - 5, 9^{th} October [DT] - 1, 31^{st} October [DT] - 1, 5^{th} December [PR] - 1, 19^{th} December [PR/DT]

Herring Gull (Goéland argenté) Larus argentatus S M

Regularly recorded in small numbers (usually 1-2 birds) in winter, spring and autumn. Slightly larger numbers sometimes reported during the winter months (eg, 19, 5^{th} December [PR])

It was very unusual to see l.argentatus showing a keen interest in the park on two occasions during the spring when at least two individuals were observed circling low around the Mare Perchée, almost landing on site (11^{th} April and 1^{st} May [PR/DT])

Yellow-legged Gull (Goéland leucophée) Larus michahellis H M

Observed far less frequently than the preceding species (just 3 dates)

1, 3^{rd} January [PR] - 1, 25^{th} September [DT] - 3, 17^{th} October [SC/PR/DT]

Lesser Black-backed Gull (Goéland brun) Larus fuscus S M

Not uncommon - reported in small numbers in winter, spring and autumn

In early spring (mid-February – mid-March) appeared to be the only large gull moving north in any numbers (ex: 23, 14^{th} February - 17, 14^{th} March [DT])

Higher numbers noted during hard weather in early December (ex: 32 south on 9th December [PR])

[Unidentified larger gulls (Goéland indéterminé) Larus spp]

Unidentified larger gulls regularly noted in small numbers in winter, spring and autumn. Occasionally larger groups noted (ex: 19 on 9^{th} December [PR])

Common Tern (Sterne pierregarin) Sterne hirundo M

One record in spring

4 flying north on $15^{\mbox{\tiny th}}$ April [PR/DT]

Rock Dove (Pigeon biset) Columba livia S

Common resident - seen daily

Stock Dove (Pigeon colombin) Columba oenas S M

A reasonably common non-breeding resident. Observed fairly regularly flying over the park throughout the year in low numbers (usually 1-3 birds). Up to 6 birds observed perched on buildings to the north-east (and outside) of the park where breeding is suspected

Occasionally considered to be migrating in spring with small numbers (flocks of up to 11 birds) noted between 1^{st} April – 8^{th} May [PR/DT]

Common Wood-Pigeon (Pigeon ramier) Columba palumbus S M

Common breeding resident - seen daily

Small numbers on site supplemented by local movements of birds flying over the park in diverse directions – these sometimes involve large numbers (ex; 812 moving northwest in 2 hours during the afternoon of 21st February [DT])

After breeding groups containing both adults and juveniles noted regularly on the Northern Fields in the early mornings from early June. Such gatherings more important later in autumn (ex; 170, 11th September [DT - 200, 16th October [DT])

Migrating flocks noted occasionally in late autumn (24^{th} October – 16^{th} November) with a maximum of 147 south on 31^{st} October [PR/DT]

Eurasian Collared-Dove (Tourterelle turque) Streptopelia decaocto S

Fairly common resident. 1-2 birds regularly observed in flight or (rarely) perched in trees at the Mare Perchée or the re-cycling plant. A bonded pair in evidence as early as 3rd January [DT]. Breeding attempt confirmed for the first time inside the park with nest construction inside dense foliage atop a tree alongside the Route des Sentiers (29th April [DT]). Observed on the ground and collecting small twigs (presumably nest material) on 7th June [DT]. There is no evidence to suggest that breeding was successful

Common Cuckoo (Coucou gris) Cuculus canorus M

Uncommon passage migrant. A particularly good year with observations on 4 dates (3 in spring and 1 in autumn)

1, 14^{th} April [DT] - 1 heard singing, 25^{th} April [YC] - 2, 29^{th} April [PR]

2, 16th September [PR]

Tawny Owl (Chouette hulotte) Strix aluco S M

An interesting year: heard (calls) inside the park for the first time at daybreak on 14th May [DT]. Heard calling almost daily at around 05h00 during the last two weeks of August [YC] and the first week of September [DT]. Heard calling in early December; an individual observed at length and at close range on 29th December [YC]

Short-eared Owl (Hibou des marais) Asio flammeus H M

One observation in spring

1 flying south on 24^{th} March [LS]

See Appendix III

Common Swift (Martinet noir) Apus apus E M

A common summer visitor, seen daily

First recorded on 17th April [AB/PR/DT]. Last reported on 11th September [PR/DT]

Although small numbers (presumably migrants) were noted in mid-April the local populations appeared to have finally arrived in force by 29th April [PR]. Fewer birds seemed to be in evidence compared to 2009 – only around 25 birds noted daily in May, with higher counts in June (roughly 100 daily)

Numbers swollen by juveniles during July when 150-200 birds seen daily throughout the month (rather fewer than in 2009). Local populations appeared to have left by the beginning of August – at this time up to 200 birds were noted migrating overhead during skywatches (3rd August [SC/PR/DT])

Very few reported after mid-August. The last sighting (a singleton) was on 11th September [PR/DT]

See Appendix III

Rose-ringed Parakeet (Perruche à collier) Psittacula krameri F

Reasonably common non-breeding species. Single birds and/or small flocks of up to 12 birds seen irregularly throughout the year flying noisily over the park, usually towards the northeast

Apparently absent in January, February and in early summer (June-July). Noted daily in early August. Birds were observed perching on site on two occasions: 1, 2nd August [PR] and 2, 21st October [PR]

Grey Parrot (Perroquet jaco) Psittacus erithacus C

A single bird observed in autumn

1, 31st August [DT]

One of the more extraordinary events of the year: the bird flew towards the southwest, calling and circling briefly over the Savanna en route

Black Woodpecker (pic noir) Dryocopus martius S

1 observation in late autumn

1, 23rd October [DT]

Green Woodpecker (Pic vert) Picus viridis S

At least one resident breeding pair in or around the park – seen or heard almost daily throughout the year $% \left({{{\left[{{{\rm{AT}}} \right]}_{\rm{AT}}}_{\rm{AT}}} \right)$

At least 1 juvenile noted during the late summer and autumn (first appearing in the park on 17^{th} July [DT]

Great Spotted Woodpecker (Pic épeiche) Dendrocopos major S

At least one resident breeding pair in or around the park – seen or heard almost daily throughout the year $% \left({{{\left[{{{\rm{T}}_{\rm{T}}} \right]}_{\rm{T}}}} \right)$

Middle Spotted Woodpecker (Pic mar) Dendrocopos medius S

Observed on three dates (in early and late autumn)

1, 4^{th} August [DT] - 1, 9^{th} August [PR] - 1, 15^{th} October [PR]

Lesser Spotted Woodpecker (Pic épeichette) Dendrocopos minor S

A rather discreet resident, presumed breeding. As in previous years relatively few records and extremely discreet in spring and summer (apparently not observed between 23rd March – 6th August)

Eurasian Wryneck (Torcol) Jynx torquilla M

1 record in spring

1, 2nd April [PR]

Eurasian Skylark (Alouette des champs) Alauda arvensis M

Usually a common passage migrant in spring and autumn this was a rather disturbing year. Inexplicably absent in spring with just 2 individuals observed in almost 73 hours of skywatching in the 3 months February-April (2, 11^{th} April [PR/DT])

Small numbers (either singles or small flocks) noted in autumn between 17th September [PR] and 16th November [PR]. Numbers significantly lower than in previous years: for the period October-November 162 birds were noted during 65 observer hours (an average of 2.50 per hour). By way of comparison, the same period in 2009 saw 433 individuals for 60 hours skywatching (an average of 7.25 per hour)

Observed in winter during unusually hard, snowy weather on 19^{th} December when at least 150 birds were observed flying west and southwest in small flocks [PR/DT]

Woodlark (Alouette lulu) Lullula arborea M

A regular but rather uncommon passage migrant

Recorded only in autumn with small flocks flying overhead between 6^{th} October – 7^{th} November

14, 6^{th} October [PR] - 3, 7^{th} October [PR] - 4, 9^{th} October [DT] - 6, 23^{rd} October [DT] - 1, 25^{th} October [PR] - 7, 29^{th} October [PR] - 1, 31^{st} October [DT] - 8, 7^{th} November [DG/MD/PR/DT]

The 7 birds on 29^{th} October obligingly landed on site

Crested Lark (Cochevis huppé) Galerida cristata H M

1 record in winter

1, 27th December [PR]

Bank Swallow (Hirondelle de rivage) Riparia riparia E M

Fairly regular passage migrant in small numbers (usually 1-2 birds noted) – observed less frequently than in 2009. None was seen in summer (June-July)

First recorded in spring on 1^{st} April [PR]. Noted on 5 further dates up to and including 22^{nd} May

Just 3 reports in autumn (up to 4 birds on 3 dates in August). Last reported on 28th August [DT]

Barn Swallow (Hirondelle de cheminée) Hirundo rustica E M

Common passage migrant in spring and autumn. Present in low numbers throughout the summer (breeding in near vicinity)

First recorded in spring on 21^{st} March [PR/DT]. Spring migrants noted in small numbers almost daily up to 21^{st} May with a peak of 20 on 5^{th} April [PR/LS/DT]

Autumn migrants noted regularly from 25^{th} July – 9^{th} October with a maximum of 130 on 30^{th} September [PR] Last reported in autumn on 29^{th} October [PR]

House Martin (Hirondelle de fenêtre) Delichon urbicum E M

Passage migrant in spring and autumn. Small numbers noted irregularly throughout the summer

First recorded on 5th April [DT]. Last sighting on 6th October [PR]

Few noted migrating north in spring with 1-8 birds on just 4 dates to 21^{st} May

Almost absent in summer (June-July). Low numbers reported during autumn migration between 7^{th} August – 6^{th} October. The highest daily total was 71 moving south on 6^{th} October [PR]

Meadow Pipit (Pipit farlouse) Anthus pratensis M

A fairly common passage migrant in spring and (especially) autumn

First recorded in spring on 10^{th} March [DT]. Up to 19 birds subsequently seen regularly up to and including 8^{th} May

Absent during the summer (9th May-11th September)

First reported in autumn on 12^{th} September [DT]. Small numbers almost daily throughout the autumn with a peak of 48 on 6^{th} October [PR]. Last autumn sighting on 7^{th} November [PR]

Tree Pipit (Pipit des arbres) Anthus trivialis M

Reasonably common passage migrant in spring and autumn

First recorded in spring on $29^{\rm th}$ March [DT]. 1-3 birds seen fairly regularly up to and including $19^{\rm th}$ May

First reported in autumn on 19^{th} August [DT] – small numbers seen thereafter up to and including 8^{th} October. An exceptionally late individual was present on site on 23^{rd} and 24^{th} October [PH/DT]

See Appendix III

Water Pipit (Pipit spioncelle) Anthus spinoletta M

Uncommon migrant. 3 observations (2 in spring and 1 in autumn)

1, 6^{th} March [SC] - 1, 19^{th} March [PR] - 1, 17^{th} October [PR]

White Wagtail (Bergeronnette grise) Motacilla alba M

A fairly common passage migrant in spring and (especially) autumn

First reported in spring (4 birds) on 2^{nd} March [DT]. 1-4 birds noted on 5 further dates up to and including 11^{th} April

Small numbers reported on 13 dates in autumn between 24^{th} September – 3^{rd} November with a maximum daily total of 70 on 6^{th} October [PR/DT]

Blue-headed Wagtail (Bergeronnette printanière) Motacilla flava flava M

Passage migrant noted in spring and autumn

First reported in spring on $9^{\rm th}$ April [DT]. 1-4 birds noted on 14 further dates up to and including $14^{\rm th}$ May

First reported in autumn on 9^{th} August [DT]. Up to 12 birds noted on 10 further dates up to and including 11^{th} September

Grey Wagtail (Bergeronnette des ruisseaux) Motacilla cinerea S M

A rather uncommon and irregular non-breeding resident and passage migrant

As was the case in 2008 and 2009 almost absent during the first half of the year with just 3 records in March - singles on 3^{rd} , 18^{th} and 22^{nd} [DT]

During latter half of year up to 8 birds noted on 11 dates (sometimes in active migration) between 16^{th} September – 31^{st} October [PR/DT]. Apparently the migrants noted in the latter half of September coincided with exceptionally high numbers on the northern coast in Pas de Calais (Laurent Spanneut, pers. comm)

Red-backed Shrike (Pie-griéche écorcheur) Lanius collurio M

Very rare passage migrant. 1 observation in spring

1, 15th May [PR/DT]

Constituting only the fourth record for Beaumonts, this was the first in spring

See Appendix III

Winter Wren (Troglodyte mignon) Troglodytes troglodytes S

Common breeding resident - usually 1-4 birds seen or heard daily throughout the year

Dunnock (Accenteur mouchet) Prunella modularis S M

Common breeding resident – 1-4 birds seen almost daily

As in previous years up to 8 birds singing in the latter part of February and March when easy to find (far more discreet in summer)

European Robin (Rougegorge familier) Erithacus rubecula S M

Common breeding resident - 1-4 birds seen almost daily

Like the preceding species discreet during the breeding season with few sightings between May and mid-August. 1 juvenile noted on 25^{th} July [DT]

Daily totals bolstered (rather less so than in 2009) in early spring and autumn by migrants (eg; 7+ on 18^{th} March and 9^{th} September)

Common Nightingale (Rossignol philomèle) *Luscinia megarhynchos* E M

A good year with 2 birds present on site in spring. Breeding very possible but not confirmed

1 heard singing along the Route des Sentiers on 12^{th} April [DT]. 1-2 individuals then either heard or seen almost daily in this area up to and including the 8^{th} June. Presumably the same individuals were heard (calls only) and/or seen between $20^{th}-25^{th}$ July [DT]

In autumn seen and/or heard calling near the Mare Perchée (as in previous years) on three dates : 1, 20^{th} August - 2, 24^{th} August - 2, 3^{rd} September

See Appendix III

Black Redstart (Rougequeue noir) Phoenicurus ochruros M

Rather irregular and uncommon migrant. Absent during the summer (although breeding in the immediate vicinity of the park). 1-3 birds noted on 6 dates in spring and on 5 dates in autumn

1, 18th March [DT] - 1, 20th March [DT] - 1, 24th March [PR] - 2, 26th March [DT] - 3, 28th March [PR] - 2, 1st April [PR]

1, 12th September [DT] - 1, 9th October [PR] - 3, 15th October [PR] - 1, 23rd-24th October [DT]

Common Redstart (Rougequeue à front blanc) *Phoenicurus phoenicurus* M

Uncommon migrant. Observed on 2 dates in spring and on 7 dates in autumn

1, 12th April [DT] - 1, 17th April [DT]

1, 8th September - 1, 10th September - 2+, 11th September - 1, 25th September

A particularly late and very interesting-looking individual was present on site from 30th October – 7th November [DT]. The bird was pale and pallid-looking with a striking wing panel; characteristics associated with the eastern sub-species samamisicus. The bird was photographed (see Appendix III)

Northern Wheatear (Traquet motteux) Oenanthe oenanthe M

Very uncommon passage migrant. Noted on 2 dates in autumn

1, 30th September [PR] - 1, 16th October [DT]

Interestingly both observations involved tired-looking migrants dropping onto the rooftops of buildings outside the park boundary

Whinchat (Tarier des prés) Saxicola rubetra M

Uncommon passage migrant. Just two records in autumn

1, 21st August [DT] - 1, 5th September [LS]

See Appendix III

Common Stonechat (Traquet pâtre) Saxicola torquata M

Uncommon passage migrant. A slight improvement on last year with 2 individuals noted in early spring $% \left({{{\mathbf{x}}_{i}}} \right)$

1, 20th March [DT] - 1, 22nd - 23rd March [PR]

Ring Ouzel (Merle à plastron) *Turdus torquatus* M

A good year: 1-3 birds noted on 9 dates in spring and on 2 dates in autumn

1, 5th April [PR] - 1, 7th April - 1, 8th April - 3, 15th April - 1, 17th April - 1, 20th April - 2, 22nd April - 1, 24th April - 1, 13th May [all DT]

3, 6th October [DT] - 1, 20th October [PR]

Common Blackbird (Merle noir) Turdus merula S M

Common resident – small numbers (usually 1-5 birds) seen daily. Higher daily totals noted in late autumn and winter (ex: 34, 28^{th} December [PR])

Fieldfare (Grive litorne) Turdus pilaris H M

Observed more frequently than in preceding years. Small numbers noted on 10 dates at the start of the year (13^{th} Jan- 22^{nd} March) with a notable flock of 25 on site on 14^{th} February

First reported in autumn (3 birds) on 21^{st} October [PR]. Small numbers noted occasionally at the end of the year. An impressive 41 birds were noted on 27^{th} December [PR]

 $\textbf{Song Thrush} \ (Grive \ musicienne) \ Turdus \ philomelos \ S \ M$

Common breeding resident with 1-5 birds seen on most days – passage migrants increase the numbers observed in spring and autumn

In spring up to 83 birds (24^{th} March [PR]) noted on site and/or in migratory flight north/northeast (March and early April)

Rather more discreet in July-August. As in previous years, heard singing on site in summer (ex: 2, 25^{th} July)

Numbers bolstered by migrants in autumn (mid-September – late October), with a maximum of 58 birds noted flying south on 9^{th} October [DT]

Redwing (Grive mauvis) *Turdus iliacus* H M

Reasonably common winter visitor and passage migrant

Around 10-25 birds noted on site at the start and end of the year. Active migration in spring noted in the last 2 weeks of March (ex: 33, 17^{th} March - 52, 24^{th} March)

Unusually a singleton observed in April : 1, 15th April – 1, 20th April – 1, 30th April [DT]

First observed in autumn on 8^{th} October [DT]. Small numbers noted migrating on 9 dates between 8^{th} October- 2^{nd} November

Mistle Thrush (Grive draine) Turdus viscivorus S M

Reasonably common resident with 1-3 birds seen almost daily in early spring, autumn and winter

Estimated 1-2 breeding pairs either in or very close to the park. Very discreet in late spring and summer (almost absent between early April – mid-September)

Visible migration observed in autumn from 22^{nd} September – 21^{st} October - quite sizeable flocks noted flying overhead in early October (11, 8th October - 15, 9th October [DT])

Grasshopper Warbler (Locustelle tachetee) Locustella naevia M

A very good year with 2 singing individuals on site in spring

1, 28^{th} & 29^{th} March [LS/DT] - 1, 19^{th} May [DT]

Eurasian Reed-Warbler (Rousserolle effarvatte) Acrocephalus scirpaceus E M

Summer visitor, seen or heard daily throughout the late spring and summer. One pair bred successfully at the Mare Perchée

First recorded in spring on 22^{nd} April [DT]. 2-3 birds observed regularly at the Mare Perchée at the end of August and beginning of September. Last observation occurred (2 birds) on 18^{th} September (much earlier than in previous years)

Sedge Warbler (Phragmite des joncs) Acrocephalus schoenobaenus M

For a rare passage migrant this was a particularly good year: a singing bird was present for 3 days in spring; singles were noted on 3 dates in autumn

1, 22nd -24th April [SC/PR/DT]

1, 6th August [DT] - 1, 9th August [PR] - 1, 28th August [DT]

Garden Warbler (Fauvette des jardins) Sylvia borin E M

A better year than 2009 - 3 breeding pairs estimated

First recorded in spring on 20th April [DT]. A bonded pair noted in the Savanna on 27th April. Observed carrying nest material on 18th May [DT]. Last reported in autumn on 28th August [DT]

Blackcap (Fauvette à tête noire) Sylvia atricapilla H E M

Common summer visitor and passage migrant – seen or heard daily between mid-March and the end of October. Unlike in previous years, no observations in winter (January and December)

First noted in spring (a male) on 16th March [DT]

Up to 15 birds seen or heard thereafter throughout the spring and summer. Juveniles first noted on

6th June [DT]. Typically increased numbers in autumn with up to 30 birds seen daily on site in mid-September [PR]

Last reported in autumn (a singleton in the Parc Mabille) on 17th November [PR]

Lesser Whitethroat (Fauvette babillarde) Sylvia curruca E M

Uncommon summer visitor. Breeding possible but not confirmed (as was the case in 2009)

First observed on 10^{th} April [DT]. Not seen subsequently until 17^{th} April (2 birds) [DT]. Heard singing regularly from the end of April – early July

Not seen or heard between 25^{th} July – 25^{th} August. Observed for the last time on 26^{th} August [DT]

Common Whitethroat (Fauvette grisette) Sylvia communis E M

A fairly common summer visitor, seen or heard daily. An improvement on last year with 5 breeding pairs estimated

First reported in spring on 8^{th} April [DT]. Juveniles noted for the first time on 6^{th} June

Last noted in autumn (2 birds) on 18^{th} September [DT]

Melodious Warbler (Hypolaïs polyglotte) Hippolais polyglotta E M

Another rather poor year – perhaps declining with just one breeding pair estimated

First reported in spring on 23^{rd} April [PM]. Settled on site by the third week in May

Observed later in autumn than in previous years, probably because of a late-breeding pair (2-4 birds observed daily near the Compost at the end of August/early September) Last reported in autumn on 18th September [DT]

Willow Warbler (Pouillot fitis) Phylloscopus trochilus E M

A non-breeding species noted in spring, summer and autumn

First recorded in spring on 27^{th} March [DT]. 1-2 birds observed irregularly (8 dates) thereafter up until 20^{th} April. A singing migrant noted on 27^{th} April [DT]. Notable 'fall' of migrants on 12^{th} May with 4 birds at the Coffee Dome [DT]

Apparently absent in June. 1-4 birds noted on 9 dates during July-September. Last reported in autumn on 25^{th} September [DT]

Wood Warbler (Pouillot siffleur) Phylloscopus sibilatrix M

1 record in spring

1 seen and heard in the Savanna on $2^{\mbox{\scriptsize nd}}$ May [PR]

Common Chiffchaff (Pouillot véloce) Phylloscopus collybita E M

Common summer visitor, seen daily. At least 5 breeding pairs estimated

 1^{st} reported on 3^{rd} March [DT] and first heard singing on 13^{th} March. Up to 8 birds seen daily thereafter throughout the summer. An adult feeding 4 juveniles on 9^{th} August [DT]

Increased numbers during autumn with the arrival of migrants (ex: 15+ on 28th August). Fewer during October (up to 4 birds daily). Noted for the last time on 12th November [PR]

Goldcrest (Roitelet huppé) Regulus regulus S M

Rather uncommon resident - breeding unconfirmed

Almost absent for most of the year (observed on just 4 dates from January-September). Notable 'fall' on October 17^{th} (at least 5 birds) and small numbers noted daily thereafter until the end of the year

Firecrest (Roitelet triple-bandeau) Regulus ignicapillus S M

Rather uncommon resident. Breeding possible but not confirmed

1-3 birds present at the beginning of the year (ex; 3, 23^{rd} January [DT]). A singing male noted daily between 11^{th} – 27^{th} March [DT]

2 birds seen on 7th April [DT] but not observed subsequently until 21^{st} August (a singing male). 1-2 birds observed at the end of September/early October (heard singing on 5th October). Unusually absent at the end of the year (17^{th} October- 31^{st} December)

Spotted Flycatcher (Gobemouche gris) Muscicapa striata M

Rather uncommon passage migrant in spring and autumn. Observed on 8 dates (4 in spring and 4 in autumn)

1, 23rd April [PR] - 2, 13th-15th May [PR/DT]

2, 19^{th} - 20^{th} August [DT] - 3, 21^{st} August [DT] - 1, 11^{th} September [DT]

European Pied Flycatcher (Gobemouche noir) Ficedula hypoleuca M

Passage migrant recorded on 12 dates (2 in spring and 10 in autumn)

1, 21st April [DT] - 1, 22nd May [PR]

1, 17^{th} - 20^{th} August [DT] - 2, 21^{st} August [DT] - 1, 22^{nd} August [PR] - 2, 28^{th} August [DT] - 2, 8^{th} - 10^{th} September [DT] - 1, 11^{th} September [DT]

See Appendix III

Great Tit (Mésange charbonnière) Parus major S M

Common breeding resident - usually 1-6 birds seen daily

Coal Tit (Mésange noire) Parus ater H M

Scarce winter visitor and passage migrant – small numbers observed on 6 dates towards the end of the year

3, 12th September [DT] - 3, 8th October [DT] - 1, 13th October [PR] - 7, 31st October [DT] - 3, 1st

November [DT] - 1, 17th December [PR]

The birds noted on 12^{th} September and 31^{st} October appeared to be in active migration, flying purposefully southwards and perching briefly in bushes en route

Eurasian Blue Tit (Mésange bleue) Parus caeruleus S M

Common breeding resident, although slightly less numerous than p.major - usually 1-4 birds seen daily

Crested Tit (Mésange huppée) Parus cristatus H M

Very uncommon. 2 records (1 in winter and 1 in autumn)

1, 7th January [PR] - 1, 21st August [DT]

Marsh Tit (Mésange nonnette) Parus palustris S

Uncommon resident. A poor year with just 2 records

1, 29^{th} July [DT] - 1, 11^{th} September [DT]

Long-tailed Tit (Mésange à longue queue) Aegithalos caudatus S

Fairly common resident - 1 or 2 breeding pairs

Up to 12 birds seen fairly regularly in winter. Last year's breeding pair was again present (one of the birds having a silver ring on the left leg). Juveniles noted for the first time on 17^{th} May [DT]

True to form, a caudatus was either very discreet in late spring and summer, with almost no reports from late May to the end of July

Eurasian Nuthatch (Sittelle torchepot) Sitta europaea S

Inexplicably scarce and/or discreet at Beaumonts - just 5 records

1, 3^{rd} March [PR] - 1, 8^{th} April [DT] - 1, 21^{st} December [PR] - 1, 28^{th} December [PR] - 1, 31^{st} December [PR]

Short-toed Treecreeper (Grimpereau des jardins) Certhia brachydactyla S

Reasonably common resident – small numbers (1-3 birds) either seen or heard irregularly throughout the year. More discreet in spring and early summer (March-mid-July)

Common Magpie (Pie bavarde) Pica pica S

Common breeding resident - usually 5-20 birds seen daily

Eurasian Jay (Geai des chênes) Garrulus glandarius S M

Fairly common breeding resident - usually 1-3 birds seen daily

Eurasian Jackdaw (Choucas des tours) Corvus monedula H M

Uncommon. Recorded on 4 dates in spring. No flocks reported (for the second consecutive year)

2, 27th February [DT] - 1, 22nd April [PR] - 2, 25th April [DT] - 1, 17th May [DT]

Rook (Corbeau freux) *Corvus frugilegus* M

A rather uncommon migrant. Records typically involve small, loose groups of less than 10 birds flying purposefully overhead. Observed on 15 dates (7 in spring and 8 in autumn)

Noted in spring between 27th February – 4th May with a maximum of 7 on 27th February [DT]

Observed in autumn between $10^{\mbox{\tiny th}}$ September – $7^{\mbox{\tiny th}}$ November with a maximum of 10 on $22^{\mbox{\tiny nd}}$ October [PR]

Carrion Crow (Corneille noire) Corvus corone S

Common breeding resident. Up to 15 birds seen daily although occasionally higher numbers noted (ex; 35, 18^{th} September [DT])

European Starling (Etourneau sansonnet) Sturnus vulgaris S M

Common breeding resident, small numbers seen daily

The presence of juveniles at the end of summer and migrants in late autumn increases numbers significantly, although there were fewer birds on site from mid-August to early September in comparison with 2009. First sizeable autumn flock (75) noted on site on 11th September [DT], numbers then increasing to around 220 birds during the third week of September

Up to 230 birds noted in active migration on several dates in autumn between 30^{th} September – 20^{th} November

Eurasian Golden Oriole (Loriot d'Europe) Oriolus oriolus M

An interesting year with 3 observations of a female (perhaps the same individual?) during the summer, followed by another observation in autumn

1, 7th June [DT] - 1, 13th July [PR] - 1, 29th July [DT]

1, 10th September [PR]

Red Munia (Bengali Rouge) Amandava amandava C

A new species for the park: 1 observed at the Mare Perchée on two dates in late autumn

1, 30th October [SC/PR/DT] - 1, 1st November [PR/DT]

Zebra Finch (Pinson mandarin) Taeniopygia guttata C

A new species for the park: 2 different individuals noted in spring and summer

1 (male), 10^{th} April [AB] - 1 (female), 14^{th} July [DT]

See Appendix III

House Sparrow (Moineau domestique) Passer domesticus S

Fairly common resident breeding near the park – usually 1-4 birds seen almost daily

Tree Sparrow (Moineau friquet) Passer montanus H

Now very uncommon at Beaumonts - no doubt declining in the region. 1-2 birds noted on several dates in winter on the edge of the recycling plant (in the same area as in previous years)

1, 30th November [PR] - 1, 3rd December [PR] - 2, 9th December [PR] - 2, 17th December [PR] - 1, 24th December [PR] - 1, 26th December [PR] - 1, 28th December [PR]

Chaffinch (Pinson des arbres) Fringilla coelebs S M

Fairly common in winter with small numbers seen daily. Discreet and rarely reported during the summer (almost no sightings from early April to mid-September).

Common passage migrant in early spring with small numbers noted flying northeast from 12^{th} March - 5^{th} April, with a daily maximum of 46 on 21^{st} March

Much higher numbers flying west or southwest on return passage between 11^{th} September – 20^{th} November, with a daily maximum count of 401 on 6^{th} October [PR/DT]

Brambling (Pinson du nord) Fringilla montifringilla H M

Regular but rather uncommon passage migrant. Unlike last year, not reported in spring. Small numbers noted in autumn and winter

Not recorded during the first 9 months of the year. Observed for the first time in autumn on 6^{th} October [DT]. Thereafter noted fairly regularly on passage until 6^{th} November, with a maximum of 22 on 2^{nd} November

5 birds were on site at the beginning of November, and a singleton was in the Savanna on 10^{th} December [DT]. 1-3 birds noted during the last week of December [PR]

Eurasian Linnet (Linotte mélodieuse) Carduelis cannabina M

Reasonably common passage migrant noted in spring and autumn

First reported in spring on 3^{rd} March [DT]. Noted on 13 further dates up to and including 1^{st} May with a daily maximum of 11 on 5^{th} April [PR/LS/DT]

First observed in autumn on 30^{th} September [PR]. Noted on 6 further dates up to and including 7^{th} November, with a daily maximum of 15 on 2^{nd} November [DT]

Common Redpoll (Sizerin flammé) Carduelis flammea H M

Very uncommon winter visitor and migrant

Another poor year in comparison to 2008 – just 2 records in late autumn

3, 21^{st} October [PR] - 1, 24^{th} October [PH/DT]

European Goldfinch (Chardonneret élégant) Carduelis carduelis S M

Reasonably common resident, breeding in or near the park. Usually 1-3 birds seen almost daily throughout the year

Flock of 10 birds present on site at the end of January/beginning of February

Noted singing at the Mare de Brie on 17^{th} March. Rarely reported in late spring and summer (1^{st} April – 31^{st} July)

In autumn occasionally noted on skywatches and perceived to be migrating (up to 6 birds noted on 12 dates between 6^{th} October- 1^{st} November)

European Greenfinch (Verdier d'Europe) Carduelis chloris S M

Common resident breeding in or near the park. Usually 1-6 birds noted daily

As in previous years rather discreet in late spring and early summer with relatively few reports between mid-May and the end of July. A relatively large flock (16 birds) was present on 4^{th} December [DT]

Eurasian Siskin (Tarin des aulnes) Carduelis spinus H M

A rather poor year with relatively few records (ex: noted on just 3 dates January-September)

Visible migration in spring noted only once on 26^{th} March. Up to 23 birds noted on 16 dates in autumn from 6^{th} October – 7^{th} November. A singleton was seen on 27^{th} November [LS] and 3 noted on 27^{th} December [PR]

European Serin (Serin cini) Serinus serinus S M

Fairly common resident with 1-2 breeding pairs estimated in or very near the park - small numbers (usually 1-2 birds) seen regularly from mid-March throughout the year

2 juveniles noted on $7^{\rm th}\,June~[DT]$

Irregular appearance on site in winter: not observed in January or February although a small party of up to 7 birds present in mid-December [DT]

Eurasian Bullfinch (Bouvreuil pivoine) Pyrrhula pyrrhula S

A discreet but reasonably common resident, although in very low numbers. 1-4 birds seen fairly regularly throughout the year, one pair breeding successfully in the park and raising at least 2 young

2 juveniles observed with an adult at the Mare de Brie on 17th August [DT]. Unlike in 2009, noted regularly towards the end of the year (November-December)

Hawfinch (Grosbec casse-noyaux) Coccothraustes coccothraustes H M

Uncommon winter visitor and passage migrant in spring and autumn. Recorded on 10 dates (2 in spring, 6 in autumn and 2 in winter)

1, 16th March [DT] - 2, 29th April [DT]

1, 6^{th} October [PR/DT] - 4, 7^{th} October [PR/DT] - 1, 9^{th} October [DT] - 4, 31^{st} October [DT] - 2, 1^{st}

November [DT] - 3, 5th November [DT]

1, 9^{th} December [PR] - 1, 29^{th} December [PR]

Red Crossbill (Bec-croisé des sapins) Loxia curvisrostra E M

1 record in autumn

2 flying southeast on $24^{\rm th}$ October [PH/DT]

Reed Bunting (Bruant des roseaux) *Emberiza schoeniclus* H M

Rather uncommon and irregular winter visitor. Recorded fairly often in spring and autumn

1-5 birds noted occasionally at the start of the year (most records in March)

Absent in late spring and summer (not recorded on site between 6th April and 5th October)

In autumn 1-3 birds noted (sometimes in active migration) on 15 dates between $6^{\rm th}$ October – $12^{\rm th}$ November

Yellowhammer (Bruant jaune) Emberiza citronella M

Very uncommon passage migrant. A good year – noted on 3 dates in late autumn 1, 22^{nd} October [PR] - 1, 31^{st} October [DT] - 1, 2^{nd} November [DT]

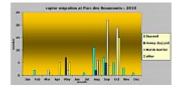
Cirl Bunting (Bruant zizi) Emberiza cirlus S M

Sadly now an uncommon, non-breeding species. Reported on 2 dates (1 in spring and 1 in autumn)

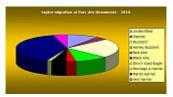
1, 10^{th} April [PR/DT] - 1, 12^{th} September [LS]

APPENDIX

Appendix I : raptor migration (period) - 131 individuals



Appendix II : raptor migration (species share) - 131 individuals



Appendix III - Photos:

Not reproduced here. See the original posting or on ESSF the <u>Beaumonts' Birds — Recent reports:</u> 2010

P.S.

* <u>http://www.skutchia.com/annualreport10en.htm</u>