

## ARROWSMITH NATURALISTS BRANT COUNT

**Date** 20 April 2026

Time 9:30 am

Tide at the beginning of count: 11 feet

Tide at the close of count: 6.6 feet

Falling tide

**Weather:** mild, partly cloudy, calm seas

**Participants:** Bonnie Mullin, Dave Erickson, Liz & Jim Thorne, Jane Osborne, Jonathan France, liz Bredberg

**Total brant counted: 116**

**Zone 1:** North area:

- -Qualicum Beach—Tourist Info (Beach Creek), and the gazebo viewing stand.
- Foot of Kincaid Rd. beach access
- East end of Surfside Drive, Offshore view
- Little Qualicum Estuary, west end of Surfside Dr. and mouth of Little Qualicum River

**Total brant counted in area: 0**

Other birds observed: 3 black oystercatchers, common merganser, 2 red-necked grebes, 5 common loons, 23 horned grebes, white-crowned sparrow, bald eagle, 2 red-breasted mergansers, mallards, song sparrow, cormorant sp, +/- 50 gulls, incl. California gulls, Bonapartes' gulls, 1 greater yellowlegs, +/- 25 wigeons, 3 swallows (violet green?), 12 shorebird sp.

2 pedestrians, no dogs observed

**Zone 2:** Central area:

- French Creek Marina—east side view offshore and towards Parksville, view the creek mouth from the west side
- Columbia Beach, Admiral Tryon Blvd. east; view offshore, and French Creek River mouth
- Admiral Tryon West, beach access to tidal pools
- Foot of Johnstone Rd.
- Foot of Butterball, off Pintail & Yambury Rd.

**Total brant counted in area: 0**

Other birds observed: 10 common loons, many gulls distant offshore, 2 bald eagles, 52 Bonaparte gulls, 1 cormorant sp, 4 great blue herons, 2 yellowlegs, few wigeons, white-crowned sparrow, 8 grebes, 5 immature bald eagle, 4 scoter sps, 16 white-winged scoters, 12 buffleheads, 1 black-bellied plover, 1 killdeer, mixed flock of gulls (mostly Bonapartes), 2 oystercatchers. 1 scoter sp, ~8 grebes, 1 red-breasted mergansers, California quail,

No dogs observed.

**Zone 3:** South area:

- Rath Trevor Beach, Brant Point, Craig Bay, may need to walk to the right along the bay
- West end of Mariner Way—view offshore and to river mouth, may need to walk to river
- Parksville Bay, Parksville Community Park—from the Labyrinth view offshore, sandbars, and west shore of PVBay

**Total brant counted in area: 118**

**Other birds observed:** 1 great blue heron, 24 surf (?) scoters, 2 common loons, 9 white-crowned sparrows, 3 spotted towhees, 3 black oystercatchers, 2 red-necked grebe, 1 ruby-crowned kinglet, 1 northern flicker, 7 European starling, 6 American robins, 2 hooded mergansers, 2 chipping sparrows, 3 dark-eyed juncos, 4 violet-green swallows, 1 common loon, 4 purple finches, 2 black-bellied plovers, 2506 assorted gull sps—mostly Bonapartes, some glaucous wings, western, and hybrids, 6 mallard, 1 (Likely) common goldeneye, 3 harlequin ducks, 2 red-necked grebes, 18 dunlin, 50 green-winged teal, 2 northern pintails, 2 killdeer, 6 mallards, 20 shorebird sps, 50 bufflehead.

No dogs observed.