

Wildfowlers frequent the areas below the high tide mark walking outwards over the exposed mud flats creeks and gulleys hoping for of a shot or two so its always nice during the close season to see whats happening around our local lochs, gravel pits, and flooded water bodies. That's just what I did early one Sunday morning. First stop Loch Leven. May 2017



Lapwing, teal, gadwall, mallard, tufted, moorhen, heron, and greylag all making an appearance. There was also a fair old scurring about above my head on the hide roof, no doubt a squirrel wanting in on the act. I half expected to see shoveler but it was not to be, a pair were in the area the week before, however they are pretty shy at nesting time and it would have required a we bit of luck to spot them again. Roe deer seem to be in abundance throughout Fife.



Second stop was north east towards some local gravel pits and that's where I found shoveler also gadwall feeding away quite happily loving the shallow flooded areas adjacent to the pits. The shoveler were feeding by way of their high tech filtering system and I had to be especially quick to obtain pics with their heads above water.

May usually sees the remaining pinkfoot geese gather in numbers before heading off to their breeding grounds, around fifty or so were feeding close to the flooded areas looking in great shape prior to departure time which is any day now when the winds are favourable.



Shoveler and Gadwall feeding non stop loving the shallow flooded areas. This type of water was also attracting greylags and mute swans. One pair of greylags were seen with at least 3 goslings the first I've noticed this year. A sighting of great crested grebes, little grebes, and tufted ducks further enhanced the morning.



Always nice to get out and about in your local areas changes are always going on, it may also pay dividends for you during the wildfowling season.

JM TVWA Secretary

