

THE MIGRANT

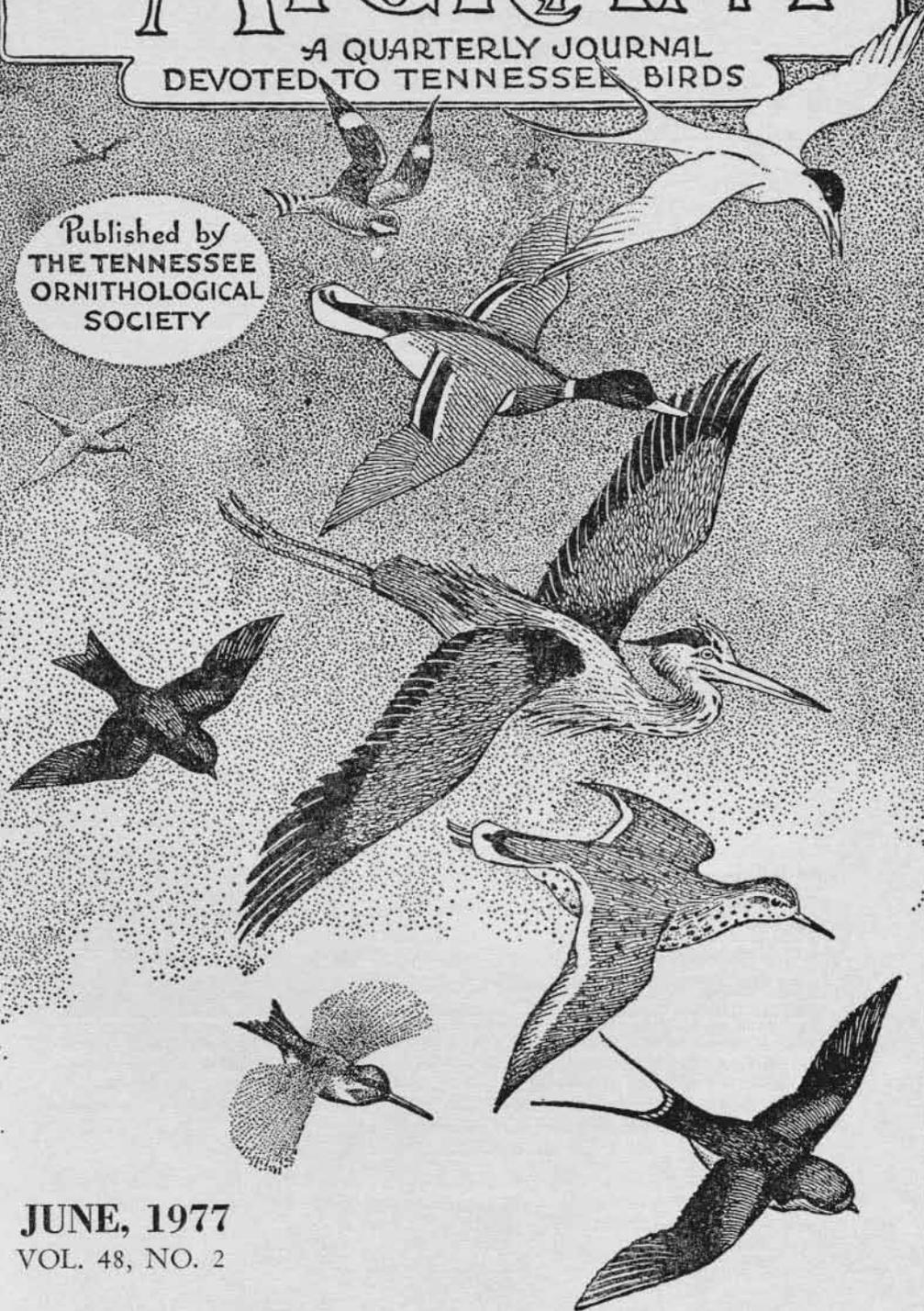
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TENNESSEE HERON AND EGRET COLONIES: 1973-1975

T. DAVID PITTS

This paper is a report on the continuation of an effort begun in 1972 (Pitts, *Migrant* 44:89-92, 1973) to locate all of the active heron and egret colonies in Tennessee. Since 1972 at least two colonies have disbanded and five new colonies have been discovered. Species occurring in Tennessee colonies in 1973-1975 include Great Blue Herons (*Ardea herodias*), Black-crowned Night Herons (*Nycticorax nycticorax*), Yellow-crowned Night Herons (*Nyctanassa violacea*), Cattle Egrets (*Bulbulus ibis*), and Green Herons (*Butorides strictus*). Green Herons and Yellow-crowned Night Herons normally nest solitarily, but occasionally are found in colonies; the data in this paper are not indicative of the populations of these two specimens in Tennessee.

I have relied heavily on data from other observers; their specific contributions are acknowledged in the colony reports. I wish to thank all the people who responded, whether positively or negatively, to my questions concerning heron and egret colonies.

COLONIES LOST SINCE 1972

HOP-IN COLONY (Great Blue Herons)

The Great Blue Heron colony near Hop-In, Weakley County, was in 1971 and 1972 the second largest colony in the state with 116 nests in 1971 and 91 nests in 1972. In 1973 nesting activities began normally, but construction of a drainage ditch approximately 100 m from the colony during the nesting season resulted in total failure of the colony. The site was not used by herons or egrets in 1974 or 1975.

ROGERSVILLE COLONY (Night Herons)

In February, 1973, Mr. Robert McDonald, Rogersville, Hawkins County, informed me of a colony of herons on his farm approximately 2.5 miles south of Rogersville. My wife and I visited the site in February, 1973. Approximately 25 old nests were present in a grove of pine trees (*Pinus* sp.) bordering a pond. The nests appeared to be well constructed of pine branches; a fallen nest measured about 15 cm thick and 35 cm in diameter. Mr. McDonald assured me he had personally seen large white birds (Black-crowned Night Herons?) using the nests during the summer of 1972. In mid-April, 1973, we again visited the site, but no nesting herons or egrets were present, except for Green Herons. Three Black-crowned Night Herons were feeding at the edge of the pond, and 34 Cattle Egrets were present at the John Sevier Steam Plant about one mile

to the south. Morris Williams visited the site on 20 May 1973 and found six nests of Green Herons, but no other herons or egrets. The history and composition of this colony is therefore unknown, except that for at least one year, 1972, it contained approximately 25 nests of herons, probably Black-crowned Night Herons.

COLONIES REPORTED IN 1972 AND STILL ACTIVE THROUGH 1975

DUCK RIVER COLONY (Great Blue Herons)

The Duck River colony, Humphreys County, was the largest active colony in 1972. However, the colony had shown a steady decrease in size and many TOS members expressed concern over the future of the colony. Unfortunately, the decline has continued, and Mr. V. L. Childs, TN National Wildlife Refuge Manager reported (pers. comm., 8 February 1976) 95 nests in 1973, 85 nests in 1974, and only 33 nests in 1975; all nests were of Great Blue Herons.

SINKING POND COLONY (Great Blue Herons)

This colony is located in the Sinking Pond area of the Arnold Engineering Development Center in Coffee County. The following account summarizes a longer report prepared by Kenneth H. Dubke. In the last report (Pitts, op. cit.). I was not able to trace the history of this colony beyond 1967. Since then data have been found showing that Kenneth H. Dubke and Ralph T. Bullard, Jr., visited the site in November, 1965, and counted 25 complete and incomplete nests. This is the largest number of nests ever counted here. Data from 1966 are missing although it is known the colony was active. Nest counts from 1967-1972 were previously reported (Pitts, op. cit.). On 2 April 1973 Kenneth H. Dubke counted 16 active nests and 2 incomplete nests. In April, 1974, Daniel Jacobson counted 16 active nests. In April, 1975, Lee Shafer counted about 6 active nests, but in December, 1975, Kenneth H. Dubke counted 17 nests. The dense vegetation made the spring count very difficult in 1975, and it is hoped the December count is more indicative of the number of active nests.

The area has been designated by the Air Force Commander of Arnold Center as The Sinking Pond Natural Area and the site has been preserved. Very few people visit the area because of the usual standing water. Deer hunters are allowed in the area, but they have a negligible effect as their activities occur in the fall and winter months. However, there has been some concern that the Turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo*) hunts in the spring could possibly have an adverse effect. This possibility has been brought to the attention of the proper officials.

BORDEAUX COLONY (Black-crowned Night Herons)

Michael Lee Bierly summarized recent activities in the colony as follows. The Bordeaux Heronry at Nashville, Davidson County, is comprised principally of Black-crowned Night Herons and occasionally a few Yellow-crowned Night Herons. In 1973, 1974, and 1975 about 110 adult Black-crowned Night Herons and perhaps a pair of Yellow-crowned Night Herons nested in the heronry. The size of the colony has remained at about 50+ nests of Black-crowned Night Herons for some time. Buena Vista Marsh, a good feeding area for the species, will soon be lost and harassment at the nesting site has increased in the past few years. However, it is felt as long as the site is undeveloped that the species will continue to use the heronry for nesting.

COLONIES DISCOVERED SINCE 1972

RIVERSIDE PARK COLONY (Yellow-crowned Night Herons)

Mr. Robert McGowan furnished the following information about a colony of Yellow-crowned Night Herons in Riverside Park, Memphis, Shelby County. The colony is located in mature deciduous forest near McKellar Lake. Reports to Mr. McGowan indicate the colony was active in 1972 and 1973, but he did not see the colony until 1974. In spring, 1975, one count listed 18 nests, some of which may have been inactive. The colony is not in danger of destruction.

OLD HICKORY COLONY (Black-crowned Night Herons)

Mr. and Mrs. William A. Fintell located a colony of Black-crowned Night Herons on an island in Old Hickory Lake, Sumner County. Although the island had been previously frequented by Black-crowned Night Herons, 1975 was the first year in which nests were constructed. Sixteen nests were built. Most nests were 5-10 m above ground in honey locust trees (*Gleditsia triacanthos*). There were 1-3 nests per tree. The land is U.S. Government property (Army Corps of Engineers). Maximum elevation of the island is about 1 m above normal pool of Old Hickory Lake. Actions are being taken to discourage human activity on the island.

ARMSTRONG BEND COLONY (Great Blue Herons)

The following account summarizes a longer report prepared by Kenneth H. Dubke. A colony of Great Blue Herons is located on the east side of the Tennessee River (Chickamauga Lake), Meigs County, near the boundary line of the Hiwassee Wildlife Management Area and private property. The colony is on private property. The nests are located in several large deciduous trees surrounded by scrubby second-growth timber that is now rapidly regenerating.

Chief William Mercer of the U. S. Coast Guard reported a colony to Kenneth H. Dubke in 1965. However, no evidence of the colony could be found in 1966. The present colony site has apparently been in use for at least nine years, indicating the colony originally observed by Mr. Mercer may have relocated between 1965 and 1966. Spring counts of active nests were as follows: 1973—26; 1974—33; 1975—31 (count by Don Hammer, from airplane). Fall counts of empty nests in 1973-1975 were 36, 66, and 40, respectively.

An abundance of food and feeding areas are within easy access of the colony. At this time it is relatively isolated and few people know about it. However, the future of the site may be in jeopardy as the land ownership has recently changed and a group of individuals plan to develop the area. Mr. Carl Dalton, who is being retained as the land planner, is aware of the uniqueness of the colony, and in his plans the preservation of the colony is of primary concern. The addition of the colony site to the Hiwassee Wildlife Management Area seems desirable.

CONCORD PARK COLONY (Black-crowned Night Herons)

A small colony of Black-crowned Night Herons was reported in Concord Park, Knox County, in 1966 (Campbell, Migrant 37:74), but the colony apparently disbanded. Another colony was formed in the Concord Park area in

1974. In December, 1974, Morris Williams visited the site and counted about 30 heron nests, all located in a 5 acre pine plantation. The nests were about 10 m above ground, with one nest per tree except for two trees each with two nests. Mr. John J. Craig, the land owner, indicated that 1974 was the first year the colony had used this site. In 1975 approximately 50 nests were present. Morris Williams and Chuck Nicholson visited the colony several times and have prepared a report of their findings to be published separately.

CHEROKEE LAKE COLONY (Black-crowned Night Herons)

In 1974 Mr. Dave Bishop, Assistant Manager, Region IV, Tn. Wildlife Resources Agency, reported a colony of night herons (presumably Black-crowned) near his home on Cherokee Lake, in Grainger County. My wife and I visited the site in October, 1974. Approximately 60 nests were counted; all nests were in a dense stand of pines. Numerous shell fragments and remains of young herons were present. Mr. Bishop told me herons had been present in the colony throughout the summer and into the fall months. In previous years the colony had nested at another site but had frequently roosted at this site. Mr. Bishop informed me that in 1975 he did not make a count of the number of active nests, but the number of nesting birds had increased significantly and included four pairs of Cattle Egrets which reared eight young.

Although the actual colony is reasonably safe, being owned by Mr. Bishop, adjacent land was converted to a mobile home park in 1975. However, activity in the mobile home park, including night security lights, did not appear to have any significant impact on the herons.

DISCUSSION

Although the reported number of active heron and egret colonies was larger in 1975 than in 1972, the total number of nests did not increase. Approximately 300 nests were active in 1972 (Pitts, op. cit.), and 280+ nests were reported in 1975 (Table 1). The 1975 total is somewhat conservative as the Cherokee Lake colony probably had more than 50 nests of Black-crowned Night Herons. Great Blue Herons have shown the greatest decrease with the

TABLE 1. NUMBER OF ACTIVE NESTS IN TENNESSEE HERON AND EGRET COLONIES IN 1975

Armstrong Bend Colony	40 <i>Great Blue Herons</i>	0 <i>Black-crowned Night Herons</i>	0 <i>Cattle Egrets</i>	0 <i>Yellow-crowned Night Herons</i>	40 <i>Colony Total</i>
Armstrong Bend	40	0	0	0	40
Bordeaux	0	50	0	2	52
Cherokee Lake	0	50+	4	0	54+
Concord Park	0	50	0	0	50
Duck River	33	0	0	0	33
Old Hickory	0	16	0	0	16
Riverside Park	0	0	0	18	18
Sinking Pond	17	0	0	0	17
TOTALS	90	156	4	20	280+

loss of the Hop-In colony and the drastic decline of the Duck River colony. The number of reported Black-crowned Night Heron nests increased between 1972 and 1975 (40 in 1972; 156+ in 1975). However, this may not represent an actual increase in the population but merely increased efficiency in reporting colonies. For example, Mr. Bishop indicated the Cherokee Lake colony had occupied other nearby locations in past years. Cattle Egrets nested in Tennessee (Cherokee Lake colony) in 1975 for the first time since 1969, when they last nested at Dyersburg (Leggett, *Migrant* 41:58, 1970). No nests of Great Egrets (*Casmerodius albus*) have been reported since 1972. Although no colonies of Little Blue Herons (*Florida caerulea*) or Cattle Egrets are known in West Tennessee, both species may be found there during the summer. Little Blue Herons seen feeding in Lauderdale County are thought to nest in Arkansas. Cattle Egrets seen feeding in Lake County, southwest of Tiptonville, may likewise be crossing the Mississippi River to nest. Other reports of various herons from all parts of the state during the nesting season indicate a number of colonies have escaped our detection, or that many non-nesting individuals remain in Tennessee during the summer months.

SUMMARY

Although the number of reported colonies in Tennessee has increased since 1972, the number of heron and egret nests in colonies has not increased. The Great Blue Heron population has declined, and the Black-crowned Night Heron population may have increased. No Great Egrets or Little Blue Herons are known to have nested in Tennessee in the period 1973-1975.

Biology Department, University of Tennessee at Martin 38237.

* * * * *

A comprehensive bibliography of the North and South American martins (*Progne spp.*) is currently in preparation. It will include all papers dealing solely or partly with martins, except local annotated checklists. Authors wishing to have material included should send an abstract or reprint to Charles R. Brown, Box 1309, Austin College, Sherman, Texas 75090.



THE 1976 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

RICHARD D. LURA

The 136 species seen on the 22 counts across the state places this count as the second highest, being two less than the record 1971 count.

Three species appearing for the first time on the Tennessee Christmas Counts are Common Nighthawk, Barn Swallow, and White Pelican. The addition of these species brings the total number of species recorded on the Christmas Counts to around 190. The supportive data for these new species, not published here for reasons of space, are in the files of the editor.

Two northern species, Tree Sparrow and Evening Grosbeak, showed opposite tendencies this year. The Tree Sparrow was recorded on six counts while the Evening Grosbeak was recorded on only one count. The Virginia Rails and Sora in Columbia are, for a second consecutive winter, noteworthy.

As is the custom, the counts are tabulated from west to east across the state.

INFORMATION OF THE COUNTS

MEMPHIS—19 Dec.: 06:45 to 16:45; partly cloudy; temp. 57° to 66°; wind, N, 5-10 mph; 34 observers in 12 parties; 102 party hours (84 on foot, 18 by car); 164 party miles (63 on foot, 101 by car).

Diane Beane, David R. Brown, Richard Caldwell, Fred T. Carney, Mrs. Ed Carpenter, Lula and Ben Coffee (compilers—672 North Belvedere, Memphis 38107) Julian Darlington, Mary Davant, Fred Dickson, Henry and Helen Dinkelspiel, John H. Embury, Mrs. Sue Ferguson, Joe B. Guinn, Van Harris, Russell A. Jones, Allan R. Larrabee, Jerald Ledbetter, Mrs. Iris Moeller, Nellie Moore, Calvin Newnam, George Payne, Jr., Ernest Restivo, Alice Smith, NoREEN and Arlo I. Smith, Richard G. Taylor, Martha Waldron, Wade Waller, Wendell L. Whittemore, W. Rowlett Whittemore, Richard L. Whittington Theodore Wilson, Jr.

One of the towhees was of the spotted race. Western Meadowlark was deleted, no details—RDL.

REELFOOT—18 Dec.: 05:30 to 16:30; clear; temp. 42° to 63°; wind NW 0-5 mph; 8 observers in 4 parties; 39½ party hours (14 on foot 16½ by car, 9

Wendell Crews, Robert Clemmons, Ben and Lula Coffee, W. C. McDaniels, Don and Gina Manning (compilers—103 Stonewall Circle, McKenzie 38201), Clell Peterson.

A Podiceps Grebe was observed by Wendell Crews. The White Pelicans were identified by Clell Peterson. Twenty-eight of the Bald Eagles were immature. Five of the Snow Geese were blue forms.

DOVER—19 Dec.: 16:30 to 16:00; cloudy with rain in am; 5 observers in 2 parties; 126 party miles (5 on foot, 121 by car).

THE 1976 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS

	Memp	Reel	Dove	Clar	Lavr	Ashl	Colu	Nash	Hick	Murf	Leba	High	Cook	Onst	Hiwa	Knox	GSMN	Gree	King	Eliz	Bris	Rosa	
Common Loon	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	7	--	--	23	--	2	--	--	--	--	--	4	1	--	--
Horned Grebe	--	4	6	--	--	1	2	--	214	--	--	200	--	35	--	--	--	--	--	1	1	4	--
Red-billed Grebe	4	5	7	5	18	2	19	4	8	--	5	40	1	15	3	29	--	--	--	41	1	4	--
White Pelican	--	2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Dbl.-cr. Cormorant	--	2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	5	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--
Great Blue Heron	1	20	112	2	2	27	9	4	14	--	15	5	--	8	68	53	--	5	20	2	7	--	
Green Heron	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Bl.-cr. Night Heron	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Canada Goose	126	10.6M	1.8M	--	7	196	91	--	170	--	2.5M	350	--	48	1M	6	--	11	40	--	--	--	--
Snow Goose	--	7	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Mallard	238	180M	8M	3	45	2.5M	126	25	421	500	3.1M	15	2	70	5M	46	--	2M	235	7	42	165	--
Black Duck	--	2.2M	750	8	8	276	13	2	19	--	1.6M	24	5	35	1M	--	--	317	7	39	60	--	--
Gadwall	--	1.2M	84	61	2	44	57	--	41	--	500	9	--	31	20	72	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Pintail	--	1.5M	80	--	--	21	4	--	1	--	24	--	--	31	--	--	--	--	--	--	3	--	--
Green-winged Teal	--	50	26	--	--	--	11	--	--	--	150	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Blue-winged Teal	--	10	--	--	--	--	--	--	7	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--
American Wigeon	--	2M	550	9	--	32	12	--	16	--	1.1M	--	--	--	51	5	--	--	--	9	--	--	--
Northern Shoveler	1	2.3M	2	--	1	10	11	--	--	--	90	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Wood Duck	7	100	8	2	--	2	2	--	6	--	41	2	--	40	3	--	--	2	11	--	--	--	--
Redhead	1	7	3	--	--	2	6	--	--	--	25	12	--	1	--	--	--	3	3	--	--	--	--
Ring-necked Duck	34	2.3M	38	6	99	40	101	81	80	20	200	--	20	--	9	--	--	--	150	78	--	--	--
Canvasback	1	80	78	--	--	5	33	4	6	--	1.0M	8	3	--	1	--	--	--	36	--	--	--	--
Greater Scaup	--	--	--	--	6	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	35	9	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Lesser Scaup	--	250	--	2	--	13	33	79	18	--	--	--	--	15	--	--	--	3	--	2	10	--	--
Scaup Sp.	--	--	--	6	--	--	--	--	--	--	135	51	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Common Goldeneye	--	10	--	--	--	1	1	--	58	12	75	20	5	46	19	10	--	--	--	--	33	--	--
Bufflehead	--	60	--	3	--	5	--	20	15	--	50	34	--	--	2	--	--	27	23	68	--	--	--
Ruddy Duck	--	850	4	--	5	--	12	--	--	--	1	2	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--
Hooded Merganser	--	80	--	--	--	--	--	--	24	--	105	103	--	22	16	4	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Common Merganser	--	30	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	2	--	--	12	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Red-br. Merganser	--	2	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	7	--	--	--
Turkey Vulture	--	--	103	21	20	183	2	4	--	2	20	32	2	--	--	--	--	2	11	--	--	--	--
Black Vulture	--	--	200	8	50	14	153	39	--	25	6	59	--	2	--	--	--	--	8	--	--	--	--
Sharp-sh. Hawk	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	2	--	--	3	1	--	2	--	1	--	--	--	1	--	--	--
Cooper's Hawk	--	1	2	2	--	2	1	1	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	3	1	5	--	--	--	--
Red-tailed Hawk	39	26	23	19	12	26	17	32	14	5	5	16	2	19	6	14	4	3	5	4	--	2	--
Red-shld. Hawk	3	5	3	6	--	14	1	2	--	1	--	3	3	3	--	--	1	--	--	1	--	--	--
Golden Eagle	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Bald Eagle	--	60	1	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	5	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Marsh Hawk	9	6	9	2	6	4	2	4	1	1	2	2	--	--	6	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Osprey	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--
American Kestrel	16	9	5	14	15	29	21	39	15	26	15	37	--	12	5	20	12	1	8	8	4	1	--
Bobwhite	121	10	14	58	51	36	37	69	53	25	36	1	26	11	10	26	2	35	2	1	15	--	--
Turkey	15	7	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Virginia Rail	--	--	--	--	--	--	2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

	Memp	Keel	Dove	Clar	Lowr	Ashl	Colu	Nash	Hick	Murf	Webb	High	Cook	Chat	Hiwa	Knox	GSMN	Gre	King	Eliz	Bria	Roan
Sora	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
American Coot	31	3,58	27	1	40	--	600	2	123	60	250	265	--	302	270	817	--	--	32	71	1	15
Killdeer	56	17	13	31	14	70	14	58	25	27	17	19	--	110	83	95	31	17	125	48	--	6
American Woodcock	--	2	--	--	1	--	3	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Common Snipe	35	--	16	27	11	22	42	4	3	5	1	10	--	34	29	4	5	--	8	7	--	--
Spotted Sandpiper	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Greater Yellowlegs	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Least Sandpiper	--	--	--	--	--	2	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	--
Dunlin	--	2	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--
Herring Gull	11	2	--	--	--	--	--	47	--	--	10	28	--	--	14	--	--	--	4	1	--	--
Ring-billed Gull	170	48	--	--	--	1	--	480	--	41	41	--	123	25	84	--	--	--	8	--	5	--
Bonaparte's Gull	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	474	--	2	2	--	4	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Rock Dove	1	4	11	29	25	74	46	116	97	5	41	25	54	155	1	168	6	89	173	68	--	--
Mourning Dove	553	40	56	359	66	79	56	359	135	18	51	28	200	790	41	461	129	210	108	103	74	--
Barn Owl	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	5	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--
Screech Owl	--	2	2	1	6	3	5	4	6	--	10	3	--	1	7	3	--	1	2	3	1	--
Great Horned Owl	1	3	--	4	2	4	8	4	2	--	7	6	--	1	4	5	1	1	3	--	1	--
Barred Owl	2	13	--	3	3	1	2	--	--	--	11	--	2	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Common Nighthawk	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Belted Kingfisher	6	8	12	14	12	43	10	11	13	9	3	9	2	12	10	36	17	4	16	14	--	1
Common Flicker	206	127	16	59	23	57	16	42	52	20	23	18	17	61	11	47	11	14	13	7	1	--
Fleated Woodpecker	20	33	2	18	12	35	8	22	7	1	1	4	6	16	4	21	30	5	9	6	3	--
Red-bel. Woodpecker	68	95	11	73	22	28	24	88	18	3	10	13	19	24	8	34	6	9	3	3	--	--
Red-hd. Woodpecker	17	32	5	48	14	49	2	--	--	2	8	5	15	--	1	--	1	1	1	3	--	--
Yel.-bel. Sapsucker	25	7	4	30	4	21	17	50	23	14	9	1	7	33	6	32	13	--	6	11	--	--
Hairy Woodpecker	19	3	3	22	7	9	9	17	4	--	5	--	4	7	2	4	17	2	2	3	1	--
Downy Woodpecker	65	34	6	53	15	57	32	63	20	10	11	16	19	35	8	33	45	8	8	29	6	7
Eastern Phoebe	--	--	--	3	1	15	--	2	--	1	1	1	--	1	4	3	15	--	3	8	1	--
Horned Lark	39	65	8	--	194	15	19	20	40	--	5	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Barn Swallow	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Blue Jay	224	25	44	357	91	190	37	220	99	51	111	112	104	251	59	200	136	50	133	122	39	--
Common Raven	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2
Common Crow	24	18	96	168	106	310	66	657	131	63	71	402	150	216	325	237	54	152	219	35	17	--
Fish Crow	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Blk.-cap. Chickadee	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	244	--	--	--	--	--
Carolina Chickadee	235	126	27	123	42	90	68	205	77	42	145	45	73	163	33	185	68	90	126	21	35	--
Tufted Titmouse	85	79	31	114	31	63	41	106	37	8	56	13	42	100	8	79	127	33	56	50	20	18
White-br. Nuthatch	1	6	7	10	2	9	1	6	--	--	1	9	38	--	7	54	5	7	28	5	11	9
Red-br. Nuthatch	6	--	--	1	4	6	1	1	1	1	--	--	--	5	3	10	17	2	4	20	--	--
Brown Creeper	16	7	2	12	4	6	2	5	7	1	1	--	1	9	1	9	12	1	4	9	--	5
House Wren	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	8	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Winter Wren	15	15	--	6	4	4	3	3	3	--	2	--	2	3	3	2	23	3	4	1	1	--
Bewick's Wren	--	1	--	1	--	--	3	4	--	--	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Carolina Wren	243	110	20	103	28	92	23	91	31	13	16	19	22	89	13	151	57	16	11	53	2	--
Lg.-bil. Marsh Wren	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

	Meap	Real	Dove	Clair	Lavr	Asht	Colu	Nash	Hick	Murf	Lebs	High	Cook	Chat	Hwa	Knox	GSMN	Oree	King	Eliz	Bris	Roan	
Sh.-bill. Marsh Wren	--	16	13	107	--	46	59	36	153	104	66	104	--	45	120	27	153	24	--	29	53	49	15
Mockingbird	154	1	1	5	8	163	2004	758	11,84	666	437	11	1	1	5	58	1,58	282	2	3	78	95	14
Brown Thrasher	92	20	12	1,48	9	11	4	3	6	--	--	1	--	--	--	11	22	1	4	6	6	1	--
American Robin	10	11	2	8	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Herrit Thrush	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Eastern Bluebird	4	6	24	155	47	221	19	100	20	8	77	58	65	94	13	54	37	7	41	78	--	--	--
Golden-cr. Kinglet	25	11	4	11	2	24	1	13	6	2	20	1	--	18	18	49	49	1	21	31	--	--	4
Ruby-cr. Kinglet	107	56	2	23	8	40	11	26	8	4	7	2	--	56	16	49	21	4	4	6	--	--	4
Water Pipit	--	21	25	1	--	30	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	11	--	--	--	70	--	--	--	--
Cedar Waxwing	111	3	64	26	55	34	480	484	555	394	12	56	199	55	266	38	2	12	5	--	--	--	--
Loggerhead Shrike	14	9	4	10	9	14	9	14	15	3	5	11	--	4	3	3	2	2	5	2	1	--	1
Starling	4,51	604	225	1,51	634	2,71	7001	3,58	28,34	101	607	11	--	5,84	2,11	241	789	256	400	1,41	322	4	4
Orange-cr. Warbler	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Yell.-rumped Warbler	108	95	8	56	--	32	7	62	58	2	274	6	5	85	33	149	43	11	27	21	--	--	--
Fine Warbler	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	1	2	4	--	--	--	--	--
Fawn Warbler	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	1	--	--	--
Common Yellowthroat	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
House Sparrow	291	534	41	130	110	49	51	49	36	90	642	343	130	124	10	55	82	33	93	68	25	30	30
Eastern Meadowlark	236	100	88	237	131	251	80	295	94	55	46	166	137	210	200	128	97	27	102	104	8	--	8
Red-wing, Blackbird	3,51	300M	3,3M	1,2M	111	1,6M	200M	300	422	12	5	100	4	1,4M	200	31	1	--	64	--	152	--	--
Northern Oriole	--	20	--	--	--	15	25	240M	24	112	15	33	11	--	59	110	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Rusty Blackbird	154	109	78	1,41	152	82	54	500M	134	102	76	23	108	40	4,31	211	1,51	4	32	750	1	1,2M	--
Common Grackle	380	80M	43	66	595	42	160M	533	3,114	3	56	43	58	44	100	32	1	3	45	--	160	--	--
Brown-hd. Cowbird	629	256	80	340	169	221	260	401	315	109	172	45	138	229	60	253	232	51	102	134	31	18	--
Cardinal	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Evening Grosbeak	--	--	--	--	--	2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Purple Finch	72	8	17	89	55	58	131	68	206	208	182	6	24	260	8	125	500	9	49	38	15	4	4
House Finch	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	25	--	45	--	--
House Wren	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Fine Siskin	--	18	--	--	--	--	--	--	2	8	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2	--	--	--	--
American Goldfinch	268	73	71	205	168	306	83	235	193	118	117	81	16	289	80	187	80	13	72	149	7	20	20
Red Crossbill	77	2	29	89	127	68	56	60	51	36	26	16	128	108	26	48	62	2	4	30	6	18	4
Sufous-hd. Towhee	29	15	10	--	12	16	8	8	--	10	--	3	--	45	48	22	2	25	30	--	--	--	--
Savannah Sparrow	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Leconte's Sparrow	2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Vesper Sparrow	524	330	95	514	541	559	149	565	420	40	102	73	8	98	219	123	1,118	15	85	127	41	51	51
Dark-eyed Junco	2	20	--	2	--	1	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Tree Sparrow	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Chipping Sparrow	131	128	16	46	356	157	105	226	219	24	81	21	10	207	198	116	127	42	249	46	1	6	6
Field Sparrow	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
White-cr. Sparrow	114	47	6	16	61	7	81	53	97	44	23	6	--	8	--	9	3	20	20	5	11	--	11
White-th. Sparrow	1,54	251	37	371	470	337	92	246	41	41	29	29	53	682	237	531	832	63	45	161	113	8	8
Fox Sparrow	236	265	35	52	29	238	42	63	285	1	29	1	--	110	135	26	112	1	3	--	3	--	3
Song Sparrow	423	95	24	83	87	205	125	230	305	5	324	20	38	235	121	220	252	41	203	97	40	8	8
Leconte's Sparrow	--	2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Lepland Longspur	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Total Species	75	98	78	75	73	82	86	73	82	59	90	78	54	82	78	76	63	66	75	67	53	25	25

M=1,000 *see information on counts

Bill Blakeslee, Mike Filson, Scott Gunn, Dianne Sexton, John W. Sexton (Compiler—Route 1, Dover 37058).

CLARKSVILLE—18 Dec.: 06:15 to 16:30; clear, temp. 32° to 60°; wind calm; 13 observers in 5 parties; 48 party hours (23½ on foot, 24½ by car); 293 party miles (20 on foot, 273 by car).

Joe Allen, Bill Blakeslee, David Chiles, Mike Filson (compiler—1671 Paradise Road, Clarksville 37055), Floyd Ford, Scott Gunn, Jim Lester, Beverly Mock, Millie Perry, Kathy Robertson, Dave, Juanita and Shawn Snyder.

LAWRENCE CO.—23 Dec.: 10 observers in 4 parties; no weather conditions or time reported.

Lloyd Clayton (compiler—Route 4, Lawrenceburg, 38464), Bill Davis, Ralph Ring, Don and Damien Simbeck, Dave Ihrie, Mark Reeves, Delton Porter, Paul Porter and M. D. Williams.

ASHLAND CITY—18 Dec.: 03:15 to 18:00; partly cloudy to overcast; temp 18° to 48°; wind S 5-10 mph; 20 observers in 7 parties; 79½ party hours (46¼ on foot, 30¼ by car, 3 by boat); 342 party miles (41 on foot, 288 by car, 13 by boat).

Rocky Milburn (compiler—2923 Sharon Hills Circle, Nashville, 37215). Names of other observers not submitted.

Seen in count period: Snow Goose (Blue form), Lesser Scaup, Ruddy Duck, and Osprey. LeConte's Sparrow was deleted, no details—RDL.

COLUMBIA—30 Dec.: 06:00 to 18:00; clear to overcast; temp. 28° to 55°; wind SW 0-20 mph; 8 observers in 4 parties; 36 party hours (20 on foot, 13 by car, 3 by canoe); 287 party miles (18 on foot, 260 by car, 9 by canoe).

Barbara Finney, Daniel Gray, III, Ann and Bedford Lockridge, Mary Lyies, George Mayfield, Jr. (compiler—999 Sunnyside Drive, Columbia 38401), Mark Mayfield, Allen Pressnell.

Seen in count period: Snow Goose (Blue form), Bufflehead, Hooded Merganser, Eastern Phoebe, and Palm Warbler.

NASHVILLE—26 Dec.: 06:00 to 18:00; clear; temp. 25° to 49°; wind 10-15 mph; 39 observers in 8 parties and 6 at feeders; 87 party hours (51 on foot, 36 by car); 265 party miles (36 on foot, 229 by car).

Frances Abernathy, Clyde and Vivian Anderson, Michael Bierly, Ralph Cazort, Annella Creech, Milbrey Dugger, Evelyn and John Ellis, Clara Fentress, Luey Finch, Margaret Finch, Katherine Goodpasture, John Hart, Evelyn Heron, Evelyn Holt, Louise Jackson, Daniel Jacobson, Oliver Lang, Margaret Mann, Rocky Milburn, David Newton, Corinne Oakes, Marge and Oscar Patrick, Virginia Price, Pat Quarterman, Alice Savage, William Scurlock, Win Shaughnessy (compiler—6413 Currywood Dr., Nashville 37205), Pat Stallings, H. Sterling, Anna Sulser, Ann Tarbell, Kenneth and Sarah Walkup.

HICKORY PRIEST—2 Jan.: 06:00 to 17:00; cloudy to overcast; wind 0-8 mph; 18 observers; no hour or mileage data submitted.

Frances Abernathy, Ann Arnett, Mike Bierly, Dwight Cooley, Craig Empson, Sally and William Fintel, Katherine Goodpasture, Tom Harston, Daniel Jacobson, Carol Knauth, Oliver Lang, Margaret Mann, Rocky Milburn, Win Schaughnessy, Pat Stallings (compiler—406 N 17th Street, Nashville 37206) Anna Sulser, Ann Tarbell.

Orange-crowned Warbler seen by Daniel Jacobson and Pat Stallings. Le-Conte's Sparrow seen by Daniel Jacobson, later by several others.

Seen in count period: Redhead, Water Pipit, and Lincoln's Sparrow.

MURFREESBORO—18 Dec.: 08:00 to 17:00; clear; 6 observers in 2 parties and 11 feeder observers; 104 party miles; party hours not submitted.

Gary Borthich, Cleo Edwards, Lou Erwin, Dr. and Mrs. C. E. Greener, Edith Haynes, Linda Johnson, Bob and Ann Hettish (compiler—108 Lawndale, Murfreesboro 37130), Steve McKnight, Pat Martin, Elizabeth Pendleton, Ruth Odum, Alberta Spence, Frances Vaughn.

LEBANON—18 Dec.: 06:00 to 22:00; clear; wind 0-5 mph; 32° to 67°; 7 observers in 3 parties and 15 at feeders; 36 party hours (20 on foot, 16 by car); 300 party miles (20 on foot, 280 by car).

Earline Berry, Ed and Virginia Cunningham, Mrs. Louis Chambers, Louise Bouton, Margaret Gaston, Marjorie Lloyd, Gwendolyn McFarland, Ruth McMillan, Lou Overman, Ray Pope, Corrine Rose, William Senter, (compiler—313 West Hills Dr. Lebanon 37087), Sue Smith, William A. Smith, Bessie Walker, Mrs. William Welt, and Mary Wharton.

The Common Nighthawk was seen by Ed and Virginia Cunningham and heard by Ray Pope. The Barn Swallow was seen by Lou Overman.

Seen in count period; Bald Eagle (2a), Tree Sparrow.

HIGHLAND RIM—18 Dec.: no weather condition or time submitted; 14 observers; 95 party hours; 490 party miles.

Debbie Acuff, Mrs. Acuff, Bonnie Bacon, Carroll Barr, Stanley Barr (compiler—Route 2, Box 475 A-1, Estill Springs, 37330), Ron Bingham, Mark Brothers Keith Corbett, Marjorie Harper, Betty King, Glenn King, Ruth Luckado, Erma Rogers and Violette Wakeland.

COOKEVILLE—18 Dec.: 08:00 to 16:00; sunny; temp. 30° to 60°; 30 observers; hour and mileage data not submitted.

Gregg Archer, Mary Barbour, Beulah Clark, Sam and Katherine Coward, Lillian and Will Glen Crawford, Dr. and Mrs. Cummins, Florence Earhart, Roy and Delorus Hinds, Jimmy and Frazier Jaques, Amy Johnson, Ray Jordan, Elizabeth Killefer, Rosalee and Tom Link, Francis and Edith Loline, Marjorie McGee, Annice Moore, Roy Hugh, Patty Sullivan, Thelma Tinnon, Chrissa Wendt, Marie White, and Florence Williams.

CHATTANOOGA—19 Dec.: 06:00 to 21:00; partly cloudy; temp. 31° to 67°; wind 4-12 mph; 30 observers in 12 parties; 88 party hours, (55 on foot, 33 by car); 560 party miles (63 on foot, 497 by car).

Lloyd and Betty Anderson, Jim and Francis Barnwell, Benton and Peppy Basham, Gary and Chris Bayne, Wilbur Butts, Edie Carden, Bob Crawford, Lloyd Davis, Jon and Nancy DeVore, Isabelle Dickerson, Ken and Lil Dubke, John Freeman, Anne Gibson, Bill Hampton, Daniel Jacobson (compiler—Route 1, Box 477, Wildwood, GA 30757), Lemuel Jacobson, David Shafer, Deborah Shafer, Lee and Mary Shafer, Veta Slinger, Pat Stallings, Joe Stone and Bruce Wilkey.

HIWASSEE—1 Jan.: 06:00 to 18:30; clear; temp. 12° to 29°; wind 10-15 mph; 8 observers in 3 parties; 25 party hours (14 on foot, 8 by car, 3 by boat); 256 party miles (21 on foot, 27 by car, 8 by boat).

Jon DeVore, Ken and Lil Dubke, Daniel Jacobson (compiler—Route 1, Box 477, Wildwood, GA 30757), Russ Moore, Alicia Moore, Janet Phillips, Joe Stone.

KNOXVILLE—19 Dec.: No details submitted.

Seen in count period. Bald Eagle and House Finch.

GREAT SMOKEY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK—2 Jan.: 06:00 to 17:30; clear to partly cloudy; temp. —1° to 35°; wind 0-7 mph; 42 observers in 19 parties; 103 party hours (77.5 on foot, 25.5 by car); 341 party miles (90 on foot, 251 by car).

Kathleen Ambrose, Fae Andrews, E. H. and P. Y. Burt, James Campbell, Stan Canter, Glenn Cardwell, Howard Chitwood, Don DeFoe, (compiler—Route 2, Box 176, Gatlinburg 37738), Jay DeFoe, Shirley DeFoe, Bob and Dottie Ely, Maurice Grigsby, David Highbaugh, Nona Hinkle, Betty Reid Hinton, Monica Hollenbeck, Bill Hooks, J. C. Howell, Louis Koella, Tony Koella, Henry Lix, Chester Massey, Terry McGown, Alison and Bill McNutt, Gary Muffly, Charles Nicholson, J. B. Owen, Truett Patterson, Boyd and Mary Jane Sharp, Bill and Mary Simpson, Michael Sloan, Art Stupka, James Tanner, Keith Voges, Clara Mae Wodtke, George and Hedy Wood.

Black-crowned Night Heron (1) was seen by James Tanner.

GREENEVILLE—19 Dec.: 05:00 to 17:00; clear, temp. 32° to 55°; wind 5-10 mph; 16 observers in 8 parties; 24 party hours; 60 party miles (6 on foot, 46 by car, 8 by boat).

Mrs. O. C. Armitage, Mr. and Mrs. William Fischer, Gary Foshie, Mr. and Mrs. King Gaut, Wilma Irvine, S. B. McGuire, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Nevius (compiler—Rt. 6, Greeneville 37743), Doug, Steve, and Mary Ratledge, Dr. and Mrs. Royal B. Spees, Mrs. Caesar Stair.

KINGSPORT—18 Dec.: 16:20 to 20:00; clear; temp. 31° to 60°; wind calm; 14 observers.

Fred Alsop, Jean Alsop, Tom Bowman (compiler—Bays Mtn. Park Nature Interpretive Center, Kingsport 37660), Teresa Brown, Devorda Eiklor, John W. Eiklor, Dottie Ely, Robert G. Ely, Jr., Jim Gilland, Haden Hannabass, Monica Hollenbeck, Chester Massey, Rick Phillips, and Arthur Smith.

ELIZABETHTON—18 Dec.: 05:00 to 17:45; clear to partly cloudy; temp. 25° to 59°; wind 0-15 mph; 21 observers in 7 parties; 64 party hours (42 on foot, 20 by car, 2 by boat); 323 party miles (24 on foot, 289 by car, 10 by boat).

Donna and John Adams, Martha Dillenbeck, Tom Dosser, Helenhill Dove, Glenn Eller (compiler—Route 3, Grandview Terrace, Elizabethton 37643), Harry and Harry Lee Farthing, Sally Goodin, Lee Herndon, Joy Kyle, Mark Lewis, Dick Lura, John Martin, John McGettrick, Pete Range, Ed Schell, Jake Slonaker, Glenn Swofford, Gary Wallace and Keith Young.

Double-crested Cormorant seen by Ed Schell.

Seen in count period, Gadwall and Ovenbird.

BRISTOL—2 Jan.: 09:00 to 18:00; cloudy to overcast; temp. 10° to 20°; wind 10 to 20 mph; 10 observers in 4 parties and 3 at feeders; 18½ party hours (7½ on foot, 7½ by car, 2¾ by boat, ¼ by plane); 180 party miles (7 on foot, 89 by car, 44 by boat, 40 by plane).

Rockwell Bingham (compiler—216 Melody Lane, Bristol 37620). Names of other participants not submitted.

ROAN MOUNTAIN—28 Dec.: 07:30 to 17:00; cloudy to overcast; temp. 26° to 42°; wind 5-35 mph; 6 observers in 3 parties; 27 party hours (19 on foot, 8 by car); 99 party miles (13 on foot, 86 by car).

Glenn Eller (compiler—Route 3, Grandview Terrace, Elizabethton 37643),



MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL SPRING MEETING, 1977

ANNUAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

The 62nd Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Ornithological Society was held at Ellington Hall, Reelfoot Lake State Park, at 2 p.m. on 7 May, 1977. The President, Ray Jordan, presided.

The minutes of the 1976 Spring meeting and of the 1976 Fall Symposium meeting were approved, as printed in *The Migrant*.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS:

There were no reports from the Vice Presidents, Secretary, or the Directors-At-Large. Copies of the Treasurer's Report were distributed and explained by Ken Dubke. A Treasurer's Report is filed herewith.

For the Editorial Staff, Gary Wallace reported that the March issue of *The Migrant* is at the printers, and the June issue is being compiled. Everyone was urged to submit articles and photographs for future issues.

Changes in the Editorial Staff: Morris Williams is leaving Tennessee in August to pursue a doctoral program in Louisiana. Dr. David Pitts will temporarily take over the duties of the compiler for the Middle Tennessee area and the Central Plateau. These reports may be sent to him at: Biology Department, UTM, Martin, Tennessee 38238.

Richard Lura will be the new State Count Compiler and the spring and Christmas counts should be sent to him at: 1903 Eastwood Drive, Johnson City, Tennessee 37601.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

FINANCE COMMITTEE: The Chairman, Daniel Jacobson, reported the recommendation that the new President appoint a committee to study both the certificates of deposit, which expire in two years, and the Endowment Fund invested in MIT stock. This committee should report at the 1977 Fall meeting. The study will be to try to determine the feasibility of reinvesting these funds for a more profitable income. This new committee is to include representatives from each of the three grand divisions of the State. The above recommendation was made in the form of a motion by Daniel Jacobson and seconded by Morris Williams. After discussion, the motion carried.

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE: The current President has asked one representative from each division of the State to serve as a Conservation Committee with George Mayfield as chairman. The new members are: Dr. Arlo Smith (West Tennessee); Chester McConnell (Middle Tennessee); and Wallace Coffey (East Tennessee).

On heron rookeries, Dr. Mayfield was given last year's report on nests by Don Harris of TVA—30 Great Blues at Kentucky Dam; 55 at Duck River (only 27 counted yesterday by Dr. Mayfield from the air). The Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency and the Tennessee Department of Conservation are closely guarding a heronry of about 30 nests here at Reelfoot.

BREEDING BIRD CENSUS: Katherine Goodpasture reported that the survey seems to be underway and in order for the coming season. All routes are expected to be run as usual. There are 48 in Tennessee: 12 in West, 12 in Middle and 18 in East, six of which are in the Chattanooga area.

1977 FORAY: John Sellars distributed lists of available facilities convenient to the 1977 Foray headquarters which will be Cedars of Lebanon State Park. He requested that any information as to what will be needed be given to him. The Foray Bird will be the Lark Sparrow, and it is hoped that the Foray will help to compile a bird list for the Cedars of Lebanon area and one for Camp Boxwell. The Lebanon Chapter will provide doughnuts and coffee in the mornings and a spaghetti supper Saturday evening for the convenience of the workers. It is suggested and agreed that a meeting place will be set up for Friday evening near the area where most people will be sleeping in order that there need be no driving time wasted before getting maps, instructions, etc. for the next day's work.

RESEARCH COMMITTEE: Gary Wallace and Morris Williams reported for Wallace Coffey (Chairman) on a study made as a result of a questionnaire sent out on the plans for future Forays. A motion was made by Gary Wallace that:

(1) Three Foray sites be set up immediately—1978, Decatur and Henderson Counties; 1979, Polk and Monroe Counties; 1980, Pickett and Fentress Counties.

(2) Each year a new site will be added to this list so that each Foray location will be determined three years in advance.

(3) Counties selected for Forays should be those having the least amount of data published thereon.

(4) Each site will be considered on a year-round basis, and the beginning of that year starts with the Foray Weekend and ends with the next Foray.

The motion was seconded by Betty King. After discussion, the motion carried.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: The Committee Chairman, David Hassler, expressed appreciation to Pat Stallings, Henry Dinkelspiel and Lee Herndon for their cooperation in serving on the Committee, and announced the following recommended slate of officers, making the motion that the slate be accepted: For Secretary, Bruce Wilkie of Signal Mountain, Tennessee; Treasurer, Ray Jordan of Cookeville; V. P. East Tennessee, Paul Pardue of Knoxville; V. P. Middle Tennessee, Sanford McGee of Manchester; V. P. West Tennessee, Martha Waldron, Memphis; Director at Large, East Tennessee, Dr. William Bridgeforth of Knoxville; Middle Tennessee, Michael Filson, Clarksville; West Tennessee, Mrs. John Lamb of Dyersburg. The motion was seconded by Lois Herndon, and it carried.

REPORTS—SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

TOS PATCHES AND DECALS: Lil Dubke reported that with the \$97.50 taken in last year, we need only about \$30.00 more in order to break even after which we can begin making a profit on these sales.

DIXON MERRITT MEMORIAL: Ray Jordan reported that two of the plaques have now been obtained. Requests for bids have been put out for the third (TOS sponsored plaque), and it is now in the hands of the Tennessee Department of Conservation.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Constitutional Question (Deletion of Directors-At-Large) was not discussed at this time, as the committee to study the question has not been able to get together and make a recommendation.

NEW BUSINESS:

1978 Spring Meeting will be in conjunction with Georgia Ornithological Society and the Carolina Bird Clubs, at Fontana Village, April 28-30.

Historical Marker of T.O.S. Founding. George Weesner has been helping on this project but nothing has been determined as yet. It is hoped that a marker can be erected in Nashville at the site of the founding and this to be done by the State Historical Society.

Ann Tarbell reported on a new crisis in regard to the natural area of Radnor Lake in Nashville. One hundred acres of direct watershed, owned by one Dr. Hall, is now for sale and soon will be in the hands of a real estate developer, to be sold at \$7,500 per acre. The former Committee which raised the money to save the area is now reactivated, and a picnic supper meeting scheduled on 9 May at Whispering Hills, the home of the Enochs on Otter Creek Road, to begin to formulate plans to fight the ruination of the watershed and the lake. Mrs. Tarbell moved that a letter be sent by the State T.O.S. to Commissioner Allison confirming the organization's desire for the State to do all in its power to purchase or acquire the 100 acre watershed. The motion was seconded by George Mayfield, and it carried. The letter will be composed by Ann Tarbell and signed by either the President or the Treasurer of T.O.S.

Ken Dubke displayed a suggested brochure on the endangered Osprey and Eagle and moved that \$100.00 be authorized to print and distribute a similar folder as an educational feature for local chapters to distribute to individuals, schools, etc. in order to apprise the public, especially fishermen and hunters of the need for awareness of why nesting Ospreys and Eagles should be protected. The motion was seconded by Sam Coward, and it carried.

Fall Meeting. George Mayfield advised that Cumberland Mountain State Park and Natchez Trace State Park would be available for our October 1-2 Fall Symposium and meeting. Natchez Trace has new facilities. We have never met there. It is in Henderson County—one of the 1978 Foray Counties. After discussion, it was agreed that Natchez Trace would be preferable. Dr. Mayfield advised that space would be held for T.O.S. until Labor Day, but reservations should be made early.

The meeting was adjourned at about 4:00 p.m.

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

Following the banquet at Ellington Hall, the business meeting was called to order by the President, Ray Jordan. The roll was called by chapters, and there were 144 members and guests present.

The President presented a summary of items discussed and actions taken at the Board of Directors' meeting earlier in the day. Glenn Eller moved that the recommendations of the Nominating Committee be accepted and these names be elected by acclamation. The motion was seconded by Holly Overton, and it carried.

Following the business meeting, Dr. Julian Darlington introduced Miss Nelle Moore of the Memphis Chapter, who gave the program on "Birding in Ecuador—Mountains, Rainforest, and the Galapagos Islands."

The outgoing President, Ray Jordan, concluded the evening with a word of appreciation to the T.O.S. membership for their assistance and encouragement during his tenure as president. He then briefly outlined the accomplishments during his two years in office.

LOUISE JACKSON, Secretary

BACK ISSUES OF "THE MIGRANT"

Copies of *The Migrant* are now available as described below. Prices given include postage, and payments should be included with an order. Address all orders and make payments payable to James T. Tanner, Curator T.O.S., Route 28, Box 155, Knoxville, TN 37920.

Volume 1 (1930), originally mimeographed and long out-of-print, has been retyped and photocopied on both sides of six by nine inch pages so that it can be bound with the later volumes. The paging has not been maintained but the original page numbers are indicated. Price of Volume 1: \$3.00.

The following numbers are available only as photocopies; price of each number: \$1.50. Volume 2 (1931), all four numbers. Volume 4 (1933), numbers 1 (March) and 3 (September). Volume 5 (1934), numbers 1 (March) and 2 (June). Volume 6 (1935), number 1 (March). Volume 9 (1938), number 1 (March). Volume 10 (1939), number 1 (March).

All other issues are available from the original printings. Price of each \$1.00.

Also available is a bound set of Volumes 6 (1935) through 8 (1937) at a price of \$12.00.

A *Species Index to The Migrant, Volumes 1-47, 1930-1976* is available at a price of \$1.50.

ROUND TABLE NOTES

A BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT HERON COLONY IN SEVIER COUNTY, TENNESSEE—On 20 June, 1976, a group of Tennessee Ornithological Society, Knoxville Chapter, members, including one of the authors (LBN) briefly visited a breeding colony of Black-crowned Night Herons (*Nycticorax nycticorax*) in Sevier County, Tennessee. The colony was located on the property of Cherokee Textile Mills adjacent to a cemetery at coordinates 35° 51' 21" N 83° 32' 16" W (elev. 271M). This is 2.6 km southeast of the intersection of U. S. Highways 441 and 411.

On 26 June both authors spent several hours in a survey of the rookery which was situated within a pine (*Pinus* sp.) plantation. All of the nests were in a block of trees 75 M long by 50 M wide, and all were placed several meters from the periphery of this block. The nests were estimated to be at an average height of 12 or 13 meters above the ground. We carefully marked each tree which contained a nest with a numbered piece of paper in order to determine the exact number of nests. One tree contained two nests; all of the others held only one nest. We found 114 nests which appeared to have been active this year based on the presence of feces, eggshells, fish bones, and other regurgitated food remains which were on the ground under the nests. Several eggshell fragments (MDW #559) and the skeleton of one immature bird (MDW #558) were collected. Three old nests which were possibly heron nests were also seen.

Most of the birds seen were immatures which were capable of flying. Only one young bird was seen in a nest and one bird unable to fly was observed climbing around in deciduous bushes near the ground. Several adult herons were also seen.

We were fortunate to meet Mr. Ray Maples who owned property near the colony. He told us that the colony had been in existence for three or four years. He said that the birds fed at nearby ponds and along Middle Creek which ran 350 M to the southeast of the colony. We saw about six immature birds perched in a pine tree near one of the ponds. He related a story about seeing a heron capture a small green snake and fly away with it. Mr. Maples also told us that several people had shot into the colony in previous years causing the herons to fly to another pine woods which he pointed out on a hill about a kilometer away. He did not think that the birds ever nested in these other woods.

LOUISE B. NUNNALLY, 1436 Agawela Avenue, Apartment I, Knoxville 37919.

MORRIS D. WILLIAMS, Department of Zoology, University of Tennessee, Knoxville 37916. (Present address: Department of Zoology, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70800).

AMERICAN BITTERN NEST FOUND AT GOOSE POND—On 22 May 1976, Glenn King, Daniel Jacobson, and I were birding the Goose Pond Marsh



Young American Bittern, Goose Pond, 22 May 1976. Photo by Daniel Jacobson.

in Grundy, County, Tennessee near Pelham, when a large bird flushed up out of the marsh vegetation about 15 feet from me. As the bird flew away from us, we determined that it was an American Bittern (*Botaurus lentiginosus*). Having noted the spot which the bird flushed from, I investigated and found a nest with one egg in it and one young American Bittern a few feet away which had apparently run out of the nest when the adult flew.

The nest was composed of dead grass and other rotting vegetation and was anchored in a clump of marsh grass in such a way that the top of the nest was from six to eight inches above the surface of the water. It was roughly circular and about eighteen to twenty inches in circumference with no depression in the center in which to deposit the eggs. It was placed in the grass in such a way that it almost could not be seen unless one looked directly into it. I would think that one would almost have to step in it in order to find it unless the adult bird flushed.

The egg itself was of a rather non-descript, plain white color and was elliptical in shape. A visit by Daniel Jacobson two weeks later proved it to be infertile.

The one young bird appeared to be about two weeks old judging from the amount of feathering on its head, wings, and belly. It was banded, and many photographs were taken of it and the nest. Harrison, *Field Guide to Bird's Nests in the U. S. East of the Mississippi River*, states that the American Bittern generally lays four or five eggs. So, it would seem reasonable to assume that there were other young birds which fled the nest as the adult flew; but which we were unable to find.

Research in *The Migrant* indicates that this was the first American Bittern nest found in Tennessee since H. O. Todd found one in the same area 37 years ago. I believe that one reason for this lack of nesting records may be that we do not look for them early enough. Harrison states that the American Bittern incubates its eggs from twenty-four to twenty-eight days. Given the approximately two week age of the young bird, this would place the laying of its egg in about the second week in April. I wonder how many of the American Bitterns which we see in late March and early April and think are only passing through, are actually nesting?

KENTON DICKERSON, 3862 Conahaney Dr., Chattanooga 37406.

THE SEASON

FRED J. ALSOP, III, *Editor*

WINTER SEASON: 1 NOVEMBER - 15 MARCH

Freezing cold! The observations which follow were made by Tennessee's birders during one of the coldest winters recorded in the past century. A winter with snows, sleet and ice, frozen lakes and ponds, and birds. We shall have to await the nesting season to see the true impact of the severe conditions of this period on some of the insectivores that winter here, especially our populations of Killdeer, Eastern Bluebird, Eastern Phoebe, and Carolina Wren. It was a season in which some Northern wintering species were absent entirely or in lower numbers than reported in recent winters, but in which others were more common and more wide spread across the state than usual. There was one report each of one bird each for the Pine Siskin from just two regions, E. Ridge and Valley and the Central Plateau and Basin. Evening Grosbeaks were reported from all but the western most region, but only in very small flocks or as single individuals. All regions report Tree Sparrows and Fox Sparrows in higher than usual numbers and from many areas within each region. Both species were not only observed in normal wintering habitats but making regular appearances at feeding stations as well. The expanding eastern breeding populations of the House Finch are reflected in the greatest number of winter records ever for Tennessee. This introduced Western species was recorded in all regions except the Western Coastal Plain with the bird being found as far west as the Nashville area. House Finches were observed in three locations in the Central Plateau and Basin, five sites in the Eastern Ridge and Valley, and from Elizabethton in the Eastern Mountain Region.

A new species was added to the State List with the finding of an immature Great Black-backed Gull in February at Old Hickory Lake near Nashville. Many other noteworthy records of water frequenting birds were made including: Double-crested Cormorants in the Eastern Mountain and E. Ridge and Valley; Whistling Swans in the E. Ridge and Valley and the Central Plateau and Basin; and White-winged Scoters were also found in the latter two regions. A Surf Scoter made a rough terrestrial landing in the E. Ridge and Valley; an injured Greater Scaup was found in the Central Plateau and Basin; and White Pelicans were on the Christmas Count at Reelfoot. Late and/or wintering shorebirds of many species are reported from all the regions. Sandhill Cranes, in flight and in feeding flocks on the ground, were observed in the two central regions.

Birds of prey were seen in all regions with the most unusual records, excluding eagles, being: a Goshawk in the Eastern Mountain Region; Rough-legged Hawks in all but the above region and in many areas within the reporting districts; Peregrine Falcons were seen in the Central Plateau and Basin and in the E. Ridge and Valley; the last region also reports Merlins from two areas. Short-eared Owls were found in three areas of the Central Plateau and Basin and in small flocks at each of the sites.

Several summer residents and a few transient species spent the winter. Most were reported in residential areas and some were visiting feeding stations. They include: a Dec. Ovenbird in the Eastern Mt.; a Feb. Rose-breasted Grosbeak in Knoxville; Northern (Baltimore) Orioles in both the Central Plateau and Basin and the Western Coastal Plain; the last region also had an Orange-crowned Warbler in December. The Western Coastal Plain had a member of the western race of the Rufous-sided Towhee with a Spotted Towhee which spent most of the period in the Germantown area.

Purple Finches were abundant with especially heavy concentrations being reported in the Eastern portions of the State where sunflower seed disappeared at a most alarming rate from many feeders. Brewer's Blackbird was identified in Johnson City—an unusual eastern record, and an immature Harris Sparrow was located in the Central Plateau and Basin. LeConte's Sparrows and Lapland Longspurs were observed in all the regions except the Eastern Mountain.

The preceding are but a few selected records from the hundreds that follow. The winter was COLD, but the birding was not!

WESTERN COASTAL PLAIN REGION—The winter temperatures in our section of the state were no different from other sections. Our lakes and ponds were frozen for many days. As a result we had more ducks and geese in the southwestern corner than we have had in many years. An unusual find for the winter was the Northern Oriole in February. We had an unusual number of White-crowned Sparrows in several locations.

Pelican-Sandpiper: **WHITE PELICAN**: Christmas Count (2) R (DM, GM). Common Goldeneye: 31 Jan (1) L (AL). Canada Goose: flocks up to 2,000 at various small lakes in Shelby County and Fayette County from late Jan to early Feb (TOS). Canvasback: 20 Jan (140) PI (LC, HBD, JF, MW). Sharp-shinned Hawk: 16 Dec (1) PF (RJ), 19 Dec (1) PF (CP). **ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK**: 11 Jan (1) PF (RJ), 27 Jan (1) PF (AL). Red-tailed Hawk: 25 Dec (26) on I-40 from Memphis to Nashville (WCMD). American Golden Plover: 5 Mar (17) D (WGC), 13 Mar (98) PF (HBD, HSD, MW), 18 Mar (100) PF (HBD, AS). Greater Yellowlegs: 28 Feb (2) D (WGC), 5 Mar (2) D (WGC). Pectoral Sandpiper: 5 Mar (9) D (WGC), 13 Mar (7) PF (HBD, HSD, MW).

Martin-Longspur: Purple Martin: 21 Feb (1) M (OI), 24 Feb (1) M (OI), 5 Mar (9) D (WGC). Water Pipit: 9 Jan (1) PF (RW). **ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER**: 17 Dec (1) PF (RJ). Pine Warbler: 9 Dec (1) PF (RJ). **NORTHERN (BALTIMORE) ORIOLE**: 5 Feb thru 28 Feb (1 female) M (MEC). **BREWER'S BLACKBIRD**: 13 Jan (3) PF (CO, RJ). **SPOTTED (RUFOSIDED) TOWHEE**: 3 Dec thru 19 Mar (1) G (MCS). LeConte's Sparrow: 14 Dec (2) PF (RJ), 21 Dec (2) PF (Christmas

Count). Vesper Sparrow: 11 Jan (1) PF (RJ). Chipping Sparrow: 27 Jan (1) PF (AL). *TREE SPARROW*: 21 Dec (2 were found on the Christmas count, 16 Jan (11), 18 Jan (18) PF (HBD, HSD, RJ, CO, MW), 20 Jan (10) PI (LC HBD, JF, MW), 12 Feb (1) HNWR (TOS), 18 Dec (20) R (LC, BC). Fox Sparrow: moved into city, 7 yards, each yard 3 to 9 days. 10 were banded by BC from 9 Jan to 25 Jan, and (1) banded 1 Mar. *LAPLAND LONGSPUR*: 18 Dec (2) R (BC, LC), 4 Jan (2) PF (RJ), 9 Jan (35) PF (RW), 16 Jan (12) PF (HBD, HSD, MW), 18 Jan (14) PF (RJ, CO), 20 Jan (12) PI (LC, HBD, JF, MW).

Locations: D—Dyersburg; G—Germantown; HNWR—Hatchie National Wildlife Refuge; L—Lakeland (N.E. Shelby County) M—Memphis; PF—Penal Farm, within Memphis City Limits; PI—President's Island, manmade island west of Memphis on Mississippi River; R—Reelfoot.

Observers: BC—Ben Coffey; LC—Lula Coffey; WCC—W. C. Chriswell; MEC—Mrs. Ed Carpenter; HBD—Helen B. Dinkelspiel; HSD—Henry S. Dinkelspiel; JF—Jess Feldman; OI—Oliver Irwin; RJ—Russell Jones; AL—Allan Larabee WCMD—W. C. McDaniel; DM—Don Manning; GM—Gina Manning; CP—Christmas Party; CO—Chuck Oglive; AS—Alice Smith; MCS—Mrs. Charles Seahorn; MW—Martha Waldron; RW—Richard Whittington, TOS—Tennessee Ornithological Society, Memphis Chapter.

MARTHA WALDRON, 1626 Yorkshire Drive, Memphis 38117.

CENTRAL PLATEAU AND BASIN REGION—*Grebe*—*Merganser*: Horned Grebe: 16 Jan (85) WR (DRJ, MPS). Pied-billed Grebe: 16 Jan (48) WR (DRJ, MPS); 30 Jan (6) WR (DRJ, LD); 9 Feb (2) WR (MW). Great Blue Heron: 16 Jan (3) WR (DRJ, MPS); 19 Jan (1) WB (FB); 23 Jan (2) CCNWR (WPB); 30 Jan (1) WR (DRJ, LD). Great Egret: 13 Nov (1) Duck River Unit TNWR (DRJ, MPS). *WHISTLING SWAN*: 5 Mar (1) ChL (RJM, CE). Canada Goose: 16 Jan (400) WR (DRJ, MPS); 23 Jan (19) CCNWR (WPB); 30 Jan (50) WR (DRJ, LD); 4-12 Feb (migrating flocks: 100, 150, 75, 100) Nashville area (Ann Houk, KAG); 9 Feb (50) WR (MW); 13 Feb (8,000) CCNWR (WPB); 20 Feb (10) CCNWR (WPB); 11 Mar (675) CCNWR (WPB). Snow Goose: 30 Jan (1) WR (DRJ, LD); 13 Feb (4) CCNWR (WPB); 20 Feb (1) CCNWR (WPB); early Dec-3 Mar (C) Ed Penrod. Mallard: 16 Jan (3,500) WR (DRJ, MPS); 23 Jan (29) CCNWR (WPB); 30 Jan (350) WR (DRJ, LD); 9 Feb (4) WR (MW); 13 Feb (2,500) CCNWR (WPB); 20 Feb (139) CCNWR (WPB); 11 Mar (30) CCNWR (WPB). Black Duck: 16 Jan (400) WR (DRJ, MPS); 23 Jan (25) CCNWR (WPB); 30 Jan (1,000) WR (DRJ, LD); 9 Feb (24) WR (DRJ, LD); 13 Feb (1,200) CCNWR (WPB); 20 Feb (127) CCNWR (WPB); 11 Mar (18) CCNWR (WPB). Gadwall: 23 Jan (5) CCNWR (WPB). Pintail: 13 Feb (15) CCNWR (WPB); 5 Mar (20) ChL (RJM, CE). Green-winged Teal: 8 Jan (1) OHL (BF); 23 Jan (3) CCNWR (WPB); 5 Mar (20) ChL (RJM, CE). Blue-winged Teal: 5 Mar (4) Green's Lake (DPC), (4) ChL (RJM, CE). American Wigeon: 30 Jan (2) WR (DRJ, LD); 13 Feb (20) CCNWR (WPB); 20 Feb (14) CCNWR (WPB). Northern Shoveler: 8 Jan (2) Shelby Park Lake (MPS); 5 Mar (1) ChL (RJM, CE). Redhead: 1 Jan (2) OHL (BF); 8 Jan (6) OHL (BF). Ring-necked Duck: 23 Jan (67) CCNWR (WPB); 13 Feb (110)

CCNWR (WPB). Canvasback: 8 Jan (12) OHL (SWF); 16 Jan (21) WR (DRJ, MPS); 30 Jan (4) WR (DRJ, LD). Scaup sp.: 30 Jan (100) WR (DRJ, LD). Greater Scaup: 18 Dec (1, injured) Cumberland River (MLB, Oliver Lang). Lesser Scaup: 16 Jan (50) WR (DRJ, MPS); 13 Feb (1) CCNWR (WPB). Common Goldeneye: 8 Jan (6) OHL (SWF); 16 Jan (23) WR (DRJ, MPS); 30 Jan (42) WR (DRJ, LD); 19 Feb (8) ChL (RJM, CE); 5 Mar (2) ChL (RJM, CE). Bufflehead: 16 Jan (6) WR (DRJ, MPS); 9 Feb (10) WR (MW). *WHITE-WINGED SCOTER*: 16 Jan (1) WR (DRJ, MPS); 30 Jan (1) WR (DRJ, LD); 18-19 Feb (2) OHL (SWF). Ruddy Duck: 30 Jan (3) WR (DRJ, LD). Hooded Merganser: 16 Jan (50) WR (DRJ, MPS); 30 Jan (15) WR (DRJ, LD); 13 Feb (45) CCNWR (WPB); 20 Feb (9) CCNWR (WPB). Common Merganser: 16 Jan (2) WR (DRJ, MPS); 17 Jan-26 Feb (2) ChL (CE, RJM); 30 Jan (28) WR (DRJ, LD); 6 Feb (12) OHL (MLB, MLM, BR). Red-breasted Merganser: 4-24 Dec (up to 3) OHL (SWF); 19-26 Feb (2) ChL (RJM).

Vulture—Owl: Turkey Vulture: 11 Dec (111 in one roost, 92 in another) Ashland City (RJM); 16 Jan (1) WR (DRJ, MPS); 30 Jan (4) WR (DRJ, LD). Sharp-shinned Hawk: 1 Dec (1) Green's Lake (DPC); 29 Jan (1) Hunter's Point (DPC); 30 Jan (1) WR (DRJ, LD). Cooper's Hawk: 21 Nov (1) Nashville (ATT); 27 Nov (1) Ashland City (RJM); 10 Jan (1) Brentwood (VLP); 22, 29 Jan (1) Gallatin (Bessie Hagan); 26 Jan (1) WB (FB); 19 Feb (1) PPL (MLB); 26 Feb (1) ChL (RJM). *ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK*: 14 Nov (1, light phase) CCNWR (DRJ, MPS); 9 Dec (1, light phase) Coffee Co. (Jon Devore); 24 Dec (1) WB (FB); 20 Jan (2, light phase) Metro Center (MPS et al.); 22 Jan (1) Giles Co. (MDW); 14 Jan (1) Monroe Co. (DRH); 29 Jan-19 Feb (1, dark phase) Ashland City (RJM, TH); 29 Jan (1) Ft. Campbell (RJM, TH); 13-20 Feb (2) CCNWR (WPB); 18 Feb (1) C (Kenneth Anderson, KRG). Golden Eagle: 15 Jan (2) ChL (RJM, CE); 15 Jan (2 ad., 1 imm.) Cannon Co. (DRJ); 1 Nov, 13 Feb, 2 Mar (1) CCNWR (WPB, Kathy Robertson); throughout period (9 maximum; 5 ad., 4 imm.) WB (FB, MW). Bald Eagle: 9 Nov (1) Byrds-town (RDH); 4 Dec-19 Feb (1 imm.) ChL (RJM, CE); 5 Dec-11 Mar (1 ad.) CCNWR (WPB, Kathy Robertson); 24 Dec (1) home (DRH); 16 Jan (1 ad.) WR (DRJ, MPS); 30 Jan (1 ad.) WR (DRJ, LD); 5-19 Feb (1 ad.) ChL (RJM, TH); 19 Feb (1 ad.) Clarkrange (Bill Jones); 20 Feb (1 imm.) CCNWR (WPB). Marsh Hawk: 5 Dec (3) WB (FB). Osprey: 22 Nov-15 Dec (1) ChL (RJM, et al). *PEREGRINE FALCON*: 17 Feb (1) Spring Hill Cemetery, Nashville (MPS). *SANDHILL CRANE*: 20 Dec (20) PPL Dam (John Sellars); 23-25 Feb (45) (6 on ground, first feeding record) Byrds-town (RDH). American Coot: 23 Jan (4) CCNWR (WPB); 30 Jan (93) WR (DRJ, LD). American Woodcock: 16 Feb (2, first singing) Shelby Bottoms (MPS). Common Snipe: 4 Dec (2) WB (FB); 9 Feb (1) WR (MW). Lesser Yellowlegs: 22 Nov (1) Ashland City Marsh (RJM, TH). Pectoral Sandpiper: 22 Nov (1) Ashland City Marsh (RJM, TH). *GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL*: 6-7 Feb (1 imm.) OHL (SWF, MLB, MLM, BR) First State Record. Herring Gull: 16 Jan (12) WR (DRJ, MPS); 30 Jan (4) WR (DRJ, LD); Nashville area "more than usual on lakes." Ring-billed Gull: 15 Jan (up to 400) OHL (SWF); 16 Jan (80) WR (DRJ, MPS); 30 Jan (34) WR (DRJ, LD). Bonaparte's Gull: 15 Jan (up to 180, apparently left area after this date when cold weather hit) OHL (SWF); 16 Jan (75) WR (DRJ,

MPS). Yellow-billed Cuckoo: 7 Nov (1) Clarksville (J. D. Allen); 15 Nov (1) Radnor Lake (Elaine Davidson). Barn Owl: 22 Jan (1) Giles Co. (MDW); Great Horned Owl: 12 Nov (1) Manchester (DRJ); 6 active nests in Lawrence Co., 1 active nest in Giles Co. (MDW). *SHORT-EARED OWL*: 22 Nov (6) Smyrna Airport (MLM); 31 Dec-4 Jan (2-4) Ashland City Marsh (CE); 20-27 Feb (2-9) Williamson Co. (Mel Garland).

Lark-Longspur: Horned Lark: 7-26 Jan (16-125) OHL (Oliver Lang et al.); 15 Jan (300) Byrdstown (DRH); 15 Jan-10 Feb (50) M (Richard Hunter); 24 Jan (150) SHV (KAG); 9 Feb (50) WB (FB); Feb (75-100) Clarksville (WPB). Purple Martin: 26 Feb (1) Donelson (Mr. and Mrs. P. D. Hall fide CMK). Brown Thrasher: 9 Feb (1) WR (MW). Water Pipit: 1 Jan (1) MetroCenter (RJM); 16 Jan (10) Ashland City (RJM); 22 Jan-13 Feb (15) SHV (KAG); 5 Feb (2) WB (FB). Cedar Waxwing: 26 Dec (450) PPL (SWF); 9 Jan (75) WB (MW). Yellow-rumped Warbler: 28 Feb (1) window kill, WB (Violet Hite). Pine Warbler: 30 Jan (1) WR (DRJ, LD); 10 Mar (1) Nashville (Louise Jackson). Palm Warbler: 27 Nov (1) Ashland City (RJM); 1-2 Jan (1) C (Kenneth Anderson, GRM). *NORTHERN ORIOLE*: 4 Dec (1, casualty) Hendersonville (DPC). Rusty Blackbirds: 1 Dec (first small flocks) WB (FB). Indigo Bunting: 8 Nov (1) Brentwood (VLP). *DICKCISSEL*: 15 Feb (1 male) M (Alberta Spence); 18 Feb-15 Mar (1) C (Ed Byassee). Evening Grosbeak: 23 Jan (1) Byrdstown (RDH); absent at WB (MW). Purple Finch: Feb-Mar (24) WB (MW). *HOUSE FINCH*: 2 Dec-2 Jan, 5, 11 Feb (1 male). Old Hickory (SWF); 8 Dec-3 Feb (1 female), 1 Mar (1 male), 13-15 Mar (1 female) Gallatin (DPC); 9 Jan (2) M (Glenn Sanders); Dec-5 Mar (5) WB (FB); 26-27 Feb (1) C, first record (GRM). Pine Siskin: 6 Dec (1) Old Hickory (SWF); absent at WB (MW). Red Crossbill: 15 Jan (1 female) Canon Co. (DRJ). *LECONTE'S SPARROW*: 18-21 Dec (3) Ashland City Marsh (MLB, RJM, SWF); 2-22 Jan (1) Shelby Bottoms (DPC, DRJ, MPS). Vesper Sparrow: 19 Feb (3) ChL (RJM) 10 days early for Nashville area Dark-eyed Junco: (Oregon Junco) 11 Dec-2 Jan (1) Nashville (Ann Nichols). *TREE SPARROW*: 11 Dec-19 Feb (2-130); largest invasion to date) ChL (MLB, RJM); 17 Jan (200) ChL (CE); 22 Jan (5) WB (FB); 15 Jan-1 Mar (1-5, first since 1934) C (H and D Pressnell) 13-20 Feb (20) Clarksville (WPB); 20 Feb (6) Giles Co. (MDW). Chipping Sparrow: 5 Dec (1) Basin Spring (KAG); 6 Mar (1) Ashland City (RJM). *HARRIS' SPARROW*: 5 Mar (1 imm.) Green's Lake (DPC). Fox Sparrow: 9 Jan (2) WB (FB); 15 Jan (1) Byrdstown (RDH); 20 Jan (60) Smyrna (MLB); more numerous at feeding areas than usual in Nashville area. Lincoln's Sparrow: 1 Jan (1) Nashville (Dwight Cooley). *LAPLAND LONGSPUR*: 11-26 Jan (6-10) OHL (Oliver Lang et al.); 29 Jan (1) Hunter's Point (DPC).

Locations: ChL—Cheatham Lake; OHL—Old Hickory Lake; PPL—Percy Priest Lake; SHV—South Harpeth Valley, WR—Woods Reservoir; CCNWR—Cross Creeks Nat'l. Wildlife Refuge; C—Columbia; WB—Woodbury; M—Murfreesboro.

Observers: CE—Craig Empson; BF—Bill Fintel; SWP—Salley and Bill Fintel; TH—Tom Harston; DRJ—Daniel Jacobson; RJM—Rocky Milburn; VLP—Virginia Price; BR—Betty Richards; ATT—Ann Tarbell; MPS—Pat Stallings; LD—Lil Dubke; MW—Mary Wood; FB—Francis Bryson; WPB—

Bill Blakeslee; KAG—Katherine Goodpasture; DPC—Dot and Paul Crawford; MLB—Mike Bierly, MDW—Morris Williams; DRH—David and Robbie Hassler; MLM—Margaret Mann; CMK—Carol Knauth; GRM—George Mayfield.

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EASTERN RIDGE AND VALLEY REGION—The record cold winter brought us records of Whistling Swan, White-winged and Surf Scoters, Common Mergansers in good numbers, Rough-legged Hawk, Merlin, and Tree Sparrows, while Pine Siskins and Evening Grosbeaks were virtually absent.

Close observation showed that the Least Sandpiper and Dunlin wintered in spite of the harsh conditions. Lapland Longspurs and Brewer's Blackbird were recorded in the Chattanooga area for the first time.

Loon-Hawk: Common Loon: until end of Jan (1-2) BL (MD, SG, HD); during period (1-11) ChL (KLD). Pied-billed Grebe: max. 31 Jan (40) ChL (KLD). *DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT*: apparently wintered (4-11) HRA (KLD, DRJ). Great Blue Heron: through period (2-5) BL (MD, SG, HD); wintered, max. (110) SB, HRA (KLD). Black-crowned Night Heron: mid Feb-end of period (5-12) Kingsport (FJA). *WHISTLING SWAN*: 31 Dec (2) NoL (Steve Bennett); 8-12 Mar (1) Holston River (FJA). Canada Goose: 4 Feb (8) Phipps Bend (FJA and Rick Phillips). Snow Goose: 14, 28 Feb (2) 28 Feb (1, blue form) HRA (KLD). Green-winged Teal: 7 Mar-end of period (96) HRA (KLD). Blue-winged Teal: first 14 Mar (1) SeV (DRJ). Common Goldeneye: max 23 Jan (50) ChL (RBW). *OLDSQUAW*: 6, 7 Jan (5) BL (DL, SG, MD); 15 Jan (3) ChL (Doug Wrinn); 13 Feb (1) ChL (GLB). *WHITE-WINGED SCOTER*: 14 Feb-7 Mar (1-2) ChL (KLD); 15 Feb (6), 16 Feb (2) Hawkins Co. (Don Hammer, HO, GM, MG); 26 Feb (2) BL (FJA). *SURF SCOTER*: 19 Nov (1, hit ground below Chickamauga Dam) CH (identified in hand and released by H. L. Yarbrough fide KD). Common Merganser: 6 records, 10 Nov-7 Mar, max 31 Jan (25) ChL (KLD); 3 Dec (12) BL (SG, MD); 17 Feb (20) BL (DL). Sharp-shinned Hawk: 3 reports—Upper East Tenn (ETOS); 7 reports—Chattanooga area (KLD, DRJ); 30 Jan (1) SeV (LSF). Cooper's Hawk: 4 reports—Upper East Tenn (ETOS). Red-shouldered Hawk: 6 Feb (1, building nest) Roan Co. (JCH, GM). *ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK*: 16 Nov (1) Collegedale (LS); 6 Jan (1) CH (Paul and Dot Crawford). Bald Eagle: 26 Dec (1, imm.) CH (CPN); 11 Jan (1) KN (Al Kinser); 13 Jan (1) Sevierville (Mike Young); 25 Jan-7 Mar (1-2 adults) HRA (KLD); 22 Jan (1, imm.) NL (GLB); 6 Feb (1) KN (JCH, GM). Osprey: first 7 Mar (1) HRA (KLD). *PEREGRINE FALCON*: 7 Nov (1) AS (JS). *MERLIN*: 22 Nov, 17 Dec, 20 Jan (1) SeV (LS, LMJ); 25, 27 Nov, 4 Jan (1) K (Louis and Johneta Smith).

Grouse-Wren: Ruffed Grouse: 19 Nov (1) Anderson Co. (GM). *SANDHILL CRANE*: 25 Nov (1) NoL, Union Co. (JMC); 26 Feb (3) NoL (JCH); 5 Mar (40) HRA (Bill McSpadden fide KD). King Rail: 17 Nov (1) Alcoa Marsh (Morris Williams). Sora: 8 Nov (1) Da (LSF). American Coot: 16 Nov (11,000) NL (LS). American Golden Plover: 6 Nov (1) HRA (MLB, DRJ); 10 Nov (1) SB (LD). American Woodcock: 8 Jan (1, first flight song) AM (RBW). Common Snipe: max 13 Dec (183) SB, HRA (KLD). Greater Yellowlegs: last 1 Nov (7) HRA (KLD). Lesser Yellowlegs:

last 6 Nov (1) Ch (MLB, DRJ). Pectoral Sandpiper: 6 Nov (6) HRA (MLB, DRJ). Least Sandpiper: all period, max 8 Mar (60) SB, HRA (KLD). Dunlin: all period (up to 154) SB, HRA (KLD). *SEMIPALMATED SANDPIPER*: 28 Feb, 8 Mar (1) SB (KLD). Herring Gull: from late Jan (100+) BL (ETOS); during period (1-31) ChL (KLD, DRJ). Ring-billed Gull: through end of Feb (200+) BL (ETOS); during period (300) ChL (KLD, DRJ). Bonaparte's Gull: max 14 Dec (233) ChL (KLD). Barn Owl: 24 Dec (1, dead) Moccasin Bend (Jon DeVore); 10 Dec (1) Da (LMJ). Horned Lark: 20 Jan (500) SeV, Marion Co (LS); 24-29 Jan (150-200) Da (LMJ, LS); 26 Jan (150) WCG (GLB). Purple Martin: first return, 25 Feb (1) KCo (Clarence Burris). *HOUSE WREN*: 24 Nov (1) JC (SG); 4 Dec (1) NL (DRJ).

Thrush-Longspur: Wood Thrush: late 5 Nov (1) K (HO). *BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER*: 21 Nov (1) KCo (BS, HO, GM, Howard Chitwood, Joan Swan). Water Pipit: 15 Jan (25) KCo (BS, Bill McNutt); 29 Jan (50) Da (LMJ). Cedar Waxwing: 7 Nov (150) AM (MLB, DRJ). Yellow-throated Warbler: early 15 Mar (1) Tenn River Gorge (KLD). *COMMON YELLOWTHROAT*: 7 Nov (1) AM (MLB, DRJ); 21 Feb (1) KCo (BS, KD). *BREWER'S BLACKBIRD*: 8-28 Jan (1-4 irregular) JC (LRH, GE, DL, GW); 29 Jan (1) Da (LSF, DRJ, LMJ). *ROSE-BREADED GROSBEEK*: 19 Feb (2) K (Louis Smith). Evening Grosbeak: only records, 11, 12 Nov (1) K (Page Harris); 28 Jan (6) JC (fide MD); 13 Feb-4 Mar (4-10) Erwin (GS). *HOUSE FINCH*: 2 Nov (2) Maryville (Bill and Irene Williams); 23 Nov (6) Bristol (Wallace Coffey); 29 Nov (1) K (Laveda Harris); Jan and Feb (1-4) Kingsport (Haden Hannibus); 6 Jan-end of period (1-4) Powell (GM); 14 Jan-7 Feb (4-6) JC (HD). Pine Siskin: only record, 20 Jan (1) K (HO). *LE CONTE'S SPARROW*: 4 Dec (1) NL (DRJ); 12, 24 Dec (1) NL (GLB). *TREE SPARROW*: throughout period (1-5) Kingsport (Rick Phillips); (1) Church Hill (FJA); (20-40) Phipps Bend (FJA); 29 Jan-26 Feb (2-3) Da (DRJ, LMJ, LSF, KLD, LRH); 5-10 Feb (1) Greeneville (Mrs. John Martin). White-crowned Sparrow: 29 Jan (100-150) Da (LMJ, DRJ, LSF). *LAPLAND LONGSPUR*: first Chatt. area records, 24-29 Jan (1-3) Da (LMJ, LSF, DRJ); 26-31 Jan (1-4) WCG (GLB). Fox Sparrow: many throughout period in Kingsport-Church Hill area (FJA).

Locations: AM—Amnicola Marsh; AS—Austin Springs; BL—Boone Lake; CH—Chattanooga; ChL—Chickamauga Lake; Da—Daus; HRA—Hiwassee River Area; JC—Johnson City; KN—Kingston; KCo—Knox County; K—Knoxville; NL—Nickajack Lake; NoL—Norris Lake; SB—Savannah Bay; SeV—Sequatchie Valley; WCG—Walker County, Georgia.

Observers: FJA—Fred J. Alsop; GLB—Gary L. Bayne; MLB—Michael Lee Bierly; JMC—Jim Campbell; MD—Martha Dillenbeck; HD—Helenhill Dove; KLD—Ken and Lil Dubke; KD—Ken Dubke; LD—Lil Dubke; GE—Glenn Eller; ETOS—Elizabethton TOS; MG—Maurice Grigsby; SG—Sally Goodin; LRH—Lee R. Herndon; JCH—J. C. Howell DRJ—Daniel R. Jacobson; LMJ—Lemuel M. Jacobson DL—Dick Lura; GM—Gary Muffly; CPN—Charles P. Nicholson; HO—Holly Overton; LS—Lee Shafer; LSF—Lee Shafer Family; BS—Boyd Sharp; JS—Jake Slonaker; GS—Glenn Swofford GW—Gary Wallace; RBW—Dick Wodzinski.

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EASTERN MOUNTAIN REGION—The weather was probably the major influence on birds and birders in the area during the period. With the cold days of early November leading up to a very hard and cold December, January, and February. Snowfall in the Elizabethton area amounted to over 38 inches during the four month period. We had below freezing temperatures recorded for at least 75% of the days. In one 2-week period the lowest temperature recorded was -7° F. and the highest reading was only 29 degrees. This really cold weather did not break until the last week in February.

The bird activity was somewhat subdued during this cold period, but was not noticeably detected until the later Spring Count. This count showed declines in such species as Carolina Wren, Eastern Bluebird, Loggerhead Shrike and Eastern Phoebe.

Few northern finch species were observed with the exception of a very heavy influx of Purple Finches. With no competition at sunflower feeders from the usual multitudes of Evening Grosbeaks the finches were very abundant. Also the *HOUSE FINCH* was added to the Elizabethton area list for the first time.

Almost forgotten during the cold winter were the late fall migration reports of several shorebirds and a few warblers.

Loon-Hawk: Common Loon: only 2 sightings during period, one in Dec and one in Jan, both on WatL by LRH and ES. *DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT*: 18 Dec (1) WatL (ES, GS). Canada Goose: 5 Mar (10) RC (MD, SG, GW). Pintail: three birds spent the entire period on WibL. Canvasback: 4 Jan (5) WatL (GE, HF). *RUDDY DUCK*: 6 Nov (1) WatL (LRH, ES). Common Merganser: 28 Feb (4) WatR (JS); 5 Mar (12) RC (LRH, ES). Black Vulture: 6 Nov (4) RC (LRH, ES); 8 Jan (1) Buffalo Mtn. (ES). Sharp-shinned Hawk: 6 and 17 Nov (1 ea) RC (LRH, ES); 26 Dec (1) WibL (GE); 8 Feb (1) MilC (GW). Cooper's Hawk: 5 Nov (1) RM (LRH, GE); 29 Jan (1) SV (HF); 20 Feb (1) Eliz (GE). Red-shouldered Hawk: 2 Feb (1) Eliz (SG). *GOSHAWK*: 11 Dec (1) RC and on 20 Feb (1) WagIs both observations by PR.

Woodcock-Thrush: American Woodcock: 1st. 28 Feb (1) Eliz (JM). Spotted Sandpiper: 13 Nov (1) *very late* WibL (LRH, GW, DL). Pectoral Sandpiper: 6 Nov (2) also late, RC (LRH, ES). Dunlin: 6 and 7 Nov (2) SV (HF). Herring Gull: 18 Dec (1) WatL (PR). Ring-billed Gull: 6 Nov (10) RC (PR); 21 Nov (2) WatL (DL). Barn Owl: only 1 confirmed pair in Eliz. Horned Lark: 22 Jan (75+) SV (GE). Purple Martin: 1st returned 10 Mar (3) Eliz (*fide* GE). Raven: 1-3 regular thru-out period on RM and IMG. Brown Thrasher: at least 3 spent this winter here despite the unusually cold temperatures. Hermit Thrush: another species more abundant this winter than in previous ones.

Pipit-Sparrow: Water Pipit: 10 Nov (1) RM (ES). Loggerhead Shrike: very low numbers this winter, only 2 seen during entire period. Pine Warbler: 1st returned 10 Mar (1) WibL (LRH, JM). *OVENBIRD*: 1 *very late* bird carefully identified on 15 Dec at WatL by (LRH, ES). Evening Grosbeak: 23 Jan (1) and 27 Jan (1) Eliz (GE, HF). Purple Finch: very heavy population from mid Dec thru end of Period. *HOUSE FINCH*: Elizabethton's first

report 19 and 20 Feb (1) Eliz (HF). Red Crossbill: 5 Mar (4) and 12 Mar (7) WatL (LRH, ES, GW, DL). *TREE SPARROW*: 2 thru 9 Feb (1) Eliz (Mrs. JM). only area's third reported sighting. Fox Sparrow: another very high number this winter compared to previous (common at feeders).

Locations: Eliz—Elizabethton; IMG—Iron Mtn Gap; MilC—Milligan College; RC—Roans Creek; RM—Roan Mtn.; SV—Siam Valley; WagIs—Wagners Island (along Wat R); WatL—Watauga Lake; WatR—Watauga River; WibL—Wilbur Lake.

Observers: MD—Martha Dillenbeck; GE—Glenn Eller; HF—Harry Farthing; SG—Sally Goodin; LRH—Lee Herndon; JM—John Martin; DL—Dick Lura; PR—Pete Range; ES—Ed Schell GS—Glenn Swofford; JS—Jake Slonaker; GW—Gary Wallace.

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WANTED: DATA ON THE SEASONAL DISTRIBUTION OF NORTH AMERICAN GULLS

We are developing a procedure whereby the U. S. Air Force can predict the potential seasonal hazard to aircraft represented by gull in parts of North America. This knowledge will be used to schedule missions around high risk areas thereby reducing the likelihood of bird/aircraft collisions. Supplemental data on local gull populations are needed from all parts of the continent. The assistance of field workers is solicited to aid us in this task. Please submit reports of your gull observations to Dr. William E. Southern, Department of Biological Sciences, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL 60115. Data will be gathered for a 2-year period beginning 1 September 1977.

For each observation, please provide the following information: list of species present, approximate number of each species, precise locality description, dates observed, any information about causes for concentrations (e.g. sanitary landfill operation), and any details about the frequency of such concentrations in the respective areas. Information is sought from inland as well as coastal localities.

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Illustrations by *Fred J. Alsop, III*