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TELEVISION TOWER CASUALTIES, NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 1976-1983

KATHERINE A. GOODPASTURE

Casualties have been monitored at two television towers, WSMV (formerly WSM), and WKRN (formerly WNGE), at Nashville, Davidson County, Tennessee, each fall since 1960. The most recently published report, in the March 1976 *Migrant* (47: 8-10), reported on casualties during the fall of 1975. Members of the Tennessee Ornithological Society have continued to monitor the towers during the 1976-1983 fall migrations. This paper presents a summary of birds collected those years.

Towers were routinely visited each morning from 1 September through 31 October. Through the years, efforts at WSM have not diminished; collections at WNGE were irregular in 1982 and 1983. The date of collection of each bird is in the author's files.

RESULTS

Table 1 presents the 1976-1983 total casualties broken down by tower, year, and by species. Table 2 shows the number of casualties collected at each tower each year as well as the number of species found. Table 3 presents the same information for the 8 years preceding 1976, i.e., during 1968-1975. The species list numbers 73 and 29 species of wood warblers (Parulinae) make up most of the casualties. Of the 1988 birds identified, 1582 (79.5%) are warblers. The Ovenbird (*Seiurus aurocapillus*) at 430 (21.6%) was the most abundant species, followed by the Tennessee Warbler (*Vermivora peregrina*), 395, Bay-breasted Warbler (*Dendroica castanea*), 190, and Magnolia Warbler (*Dendroica magnolia*), 173. Among the notable records was the single Orchard Oriole (*Icterus spurius*), collected on 25 September 1979, much later than their average departure date in mid-August (Parmer, 1975, Birds of the Nashville Area).

DISCUSSION

The total number of birds collected for the 8-year period 1968-1975 was 13,911, and for the period 1976-1983 was 2,126, a decrease of 84 percent. I do not intend to say that the avian population has decreased; only that the number of casualties collected at 2 Nashville TV towers decreased. There was a dip in 1973-74 and in 1980-83. Many factors may influence the number of birds collected, and I will briefly mention 3 possible factors which may have influenced the number of birds collected in recent years.

TABLE 1. Total birds collected, 1976-1983, broken down by tower, year, and by species.

	1976		1977		1978		1979	
	WSM	WNGE	WSM	WNGE	WSM	WNGE	WSM	WNGE
Green-back, Heron								1
Virginia Rail	1				1			
Sora						1		
American Coot	1							1
Mourning Dove	1							1
Cuckoo, Yellow-b.								1
Black-billed	1	1	2			1		4
Yel-bel. Sapsucker								1
Northern Flicker	1		2					1
Eastern Wood-Pewee					1	1		
Yel-b. Flycatcher	1							
Brown Creeper								1
Wren, Carolina								
House							1	
Winter								
Sedge					1			
Marsh					3	1		
Kinglet, Gold.-cr.		1						
Ruby-crowned	2	1	2					
Veery	1	1			1	1		
Thrush, Gray-ch.	1						1	
Swainson's	4	2					3	
Wood	4	1			3	4		1
American Robin								
Gray Catbird	9	6		2	10	25		2
Brown Thrasher								1
Vireo, White-eyed					1	1	1	1
Solitary	1							1
Yellow-throated								1
Philadelphia	6						1	1
Red-eyed	27	2	5	1	16	7	15	6
Warbler, Blue-w.								
Golden-winged				1		2		
Tennessee	56	5	26	8	32	31	158	12
Orange-crowned								
Nashville				1	2		2	1
Northern Parula		1						
Warbler, Yellow		1	1					
Chestnut-sided	13			1	2	4	1	3
Magnolia	37	18	2	5	7	41	14	6
Cape May			1			1		
Yellow-rumped			1					1
Blk-thr. Green	2	1	5	6	6	1	8	1
Blackburnian	1		2	1	2	6	7	
Yellow-throated	1							
Palm	3	3	2	1	6	2	2	
Bay-breasted	37	18	18	10	6	9	45	6
Cerulean		1					1	
Black-and-White	11	1	3		17	8	8	1
American Redstart	2	3			9	17	6	5
Warbler, Prothon.					2			
Worm-eating					2			
Ovenbird	49	14	10		129	114	46	18
Waterthrush, No.	2		3		2	2	1	
Warbler, Kentucky		1				1		
Mourning		1						
Com. Yellowthroat	3	1	2	1	15	28		4
Warbler, Wilson's								
Canada	1					1		
Yellow-br. Chat	2	3	1		1	1	1	
Scarlet Tanager		2			1	1		
Rose-br. Grosbeak	4	2	1	1	1			1
Indigo Bunting	1	1				1		3
Rufous-s. Towhee	1							
Sparrow, Chipping								
Field		1		1				
Savannah	1							
Grasshopper						1		
Fox			1					
Swamp	1			1				
White-throated						7		12
Oriole, Orchard								1
Northern						1		
Unidentified	4	21	3	6	60		9	
TOTAL	292	114	93	48	339	328	352	78

TABLE 1. continued.

1980		1981		1982		1983		TOTAL
WSM	WNGE	WSM	WNGE	WSM	WNGE	WSM	WNGE	
								1
								2
			1					2
								2
								2
	1							3
								3
	1		1		1		1	3
								13
								1
	1		1		1		1	8
								2
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								1
								6
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								1
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								3
								11
	4				1		1	7
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TABLE 2. Number of individual birds and number of species collected at WSM and WNGE towers, 1976-1983.

		1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	TOTAL
WSM	Birds	292	93	339	352	94	84	107	106	1467
	Species	34	20	27	34	21	29	25	34	
WNGE	Birds	114	48	328	78	37	31	8	15	659
	Species	27	16	35	17	18	17	7	10	
TOTAL	Birds	406	141	667	430	131	115	115	121	2126
	Species	43	27	41	36	30	33	28	35	

TABLE 3. Number of individual birds and number of species collected at WSM and WNGE towers, 1968-1975.*

		1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	TOTAL
WSM	Birds	5537	1602	3683	990	357	56	67	435	12727
	Species	73	51	66	52	49	22	20	45	
WNGE	Birds	197	307	104	135	199	109	55	78	1184
	Species	39	51	21	24	40	35	27	32	
TOTAL	Birds	5738	1909	3787	1125	556	165	122	513	13911
	Species	78	70	67	55	58	42	35	53	

*Information from *Migrant*, Vol. 40-47, 1969-1976.

First, tower kills are broadly related to vagaries of the weather. A shift in wind direction might shift a migratory flight into or away from a vertical hazard. Rain or fog might depress the height of a flight low enough for it to collide with a TV tower. Especially hazardous to night-flying birds is a change in the weather during the night. Conversely, periods of mild weather allow birds flying at night to fly above unnatural, high-rising structures.

Second, a general decline in the overall population of nocturnal migrants certainly might be reflected in the count of casualties found at the base of a TV tower. Although declines in numbers of several species have been demonstrated from Christmas Bird Count data, Breeding Bird Survey data, etc., no widespread decline of the magnitude shown here has yet been demonstrated.

Third, nocturnal predators foraging on fallen birds have apparently become more of a problem in the last 3 or 4 years. A fox den was observed on the WSM tower grounds for at least 2 years, and WSM maintenance personnel observed a fox collect dead birds into a pile before carrying them away. Attempts by Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency personnel to trap these foxes were unsuccessful. Cats also take a toll of birds, and 2 or 3 have been observed from time to time at WSM, and as many as 7 at WNGE. Feathers of large owls and cast pellets composed of feathers have been observed at WSM, and Common Crows (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*) have been observed flying away with small birds.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This long-term study could not have been carried out without the help of the following persons who monitored the towers. They share the authorship of this report: Frances Abernathy, Jan Alexander, Sue Bell, Sandy Bivens, Milbrey Dugger, Clara Fentress, Bill Finch, Joe McLaughlin, Henry Parmer, Marg Patrick, Oscar Patrick, Virginia Price, Ellen Stringer, Ann Tarbell, David Vogt and Miriam Weinstein. I am grateful to Margaret Mann for typing this paper, to David Vogt for help in preparing the tables, and to Ann Tarbell, Ann Houk and Sandy Bivens for helping check the tables.

3407 Hopkins Lane, Nashville, Tennessee 37215. Accepted 10 February, 1985.

BOOK REVIEW

COMMON BIRD SONGS. SONGS OF EASTERN BIRDS. SONGS OF WESTERN BIRDS. — by Donald J. Borror. 1984. Dover Publications, Inc., Mineola, NY. 50 minute cassettes, each with illustrated 64 page booklet. \$7.95 each. — These are reissues of bird song recordings originally produced as LP records by Dover between 1967 and 1971. Each 50 minute cassette has songs, and in some cases, calls, of 60 species on it. The only duplication between the sets is for a few species in which the song differs markedly between eastern and western populations (e.g. Solitary Vireo and Rufous-sided Towhee). Species are arranged on the tapes into groups with similar songs. Several song variations are given for many species. The quality of the recordings is high, and there is little background noise. The birds on the tapes are primarily passerines, but goatsuckers and most of the eastern woodpeckers are included, as are a few species from other orders. There are no owl calls on the tapes. The booklets include a brief general discussion of bird vocalizations, black-and-white illustrations of all the species represented, thorough descriptions of the vocalizations on the tapes, and many sonagrams. All of the species on the Common Bird Songs and Songs of Eastern Birds tapes occur in Tennessee, although some of them do not often vocalize while in the state. Recommended. — CHARLES P. NICHOLSON.

THE 1984 SPRING FIELD DAYS

RICHARD L. KNIGHT

This year 220 species were reported from 11 counts across Tennessee. The species total has been exceeded only once; 225 species were recorded last year. Nashville lead all counts with a staggering 184 species. Most counts experienced stormy or rainy weather. Several unusual species were reported. Among the most notable are Merlin, Peregrine Falcon, King Rail, Purple Gallinule, Piping Plover, Baird's Sandpiper, Long-billed Dowitcher, Laughing Gull, and Yellow-bellied Flycatcher. For the most part, these and other unusual species were reported without documentation, although some compilers provided the names of the observers.

INFORMATION ON THE COUNTS

MEMPHIS — 29 April; temp. 69-80°F; stormy, wind S, 10-30 mph; Ben B. Coffey, Jr. (compiler — 672 N. Belvedere, Memphis, TN 38107); group leaders — William Bean, Lula Coffey, Helen Dinkelspiel, Rob Peebles, Martha Waldron, and Jeff Wilson.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY — 5-6 May; temp. 70's°F; clear. Joe Allen, Gary Baker, Mike Dinsmore, Floyd Ford, Annie Heilman, Nancy Hughes, Ellen Hutchison, Marilyn Lucy, Bill & Gloria Milliken, John Quick (compiler — Rt. 1, Box 114B, Cunningham, TN 37052), Ellen Walker.

LAWRENCEBURG — 28-29 April; temp. 70-86°F; 28th — stormy to partly cloudy; 29th — partly cloudy with scattered afternoon showers; 10 observers in 3 parties. Andy Augustin, Michael Beuerlein, Helen & Lloyd M. & Lloyd W. Clayton, Lee Mann, Damien J. Simbeck (compiler — Rt. 2, Box 3A, Loretto, TN 38469), Dawn & Don Simbeck, Wylie Willis.

COLUMBIA — 28-29 April; temp. 60-80°F; partly cloudy with occasional showers; wind SE, 8-15 mph. Kenneth Anderson, Dot & Ed Byassee, Dan & Gaither Gray, Mary Ann Guschke, Bill Jernigan, Sam Kuykendall, Allen Lay, Ann & Bedford Lochridge, Henry & Mary Lyles, Cleo & George Mayfield, Mark Mayfield (compiler), Allen & Diane Pressnell, Kari Seal. Also reported: *Empidonax* sp. (2).

NASHVILLE — 5-6 May; about 55 observers, 9 parties plus yard watchers. Also reported: *Empidonax* sp. (5).

MURFREESBORO — 5-6 May; temp. 60-70°F; severe thunderstorms with extensive flooding. Lou Erwin, C. E. Greever, Anne L. Hettish (compiler — 1018 Lawndale Dr., Murfreesboro, TN 37130), Bob Hettish, Wilma Hunter, David McCarroll, Don & Linda McGee, Larry McFarlin, Gene & Ruth Odom, John Patten, Terry Witt.

LEBANON — 5-6 May; temp. 50-70°F; cloudy and rainy. Earlene & Vernon C. Berry, Melissa Cannon, Fred Detlefsen, Ruth V. McMillan (compiler — Rt. 2, Box 141, Lascassas, TN 37085), Margaret P. Partee, Ray Pope, Alice Savage.

THE 1984 SPRING FIELD DAYS

	MEMP	MONT	LAWR	COLU	NASH	MURF	LEBA	HIGH	CHAT	KNDX	GREE	ELIZ
Common Loon			1		8				15			1
Pied-billed Grebe	4			15	5		3		1			1
Double-cr. Cormorant	165				2		15		3	10		
American Bittern							1		1			
Great Blue Heron	3	2		2	11		6	3	20	1		
Great Egret			1		1					1		
Snowy Egret					1							
Little Blue Heron	16		1			1						
Cattle Egret	62		1	22	4	1	6					
Green-backed Heron	4	2	13	14	37	10	8		8	13	6	10
Black-cr. Night-Heron					52	5						1
Yellow-cr. Night-Heron	10				6	3	1		5			3
Canada Goose			11	32	265	30	79	36	18	4	27	3
Wood Duck	25	2	8	10	29	3	6	22	17	11	21	31
American Black Duck					1							
Mallard	13		6	8	40	5	13		13	8	6	28
Blue-winged Teal	41		6	22	33	7	2		40		10	7
Northern Shoveler	12		2						4			
Gadwall	2								4			
American Wigeon		1										2
Greater Scaup									3			
Lesser Scaup					2							
Hooded Merganser					1					1		
Red-breasted Merganser					6							4
Ruddy Duck	9								1			
Black Vulture		1	1		47	6	11	3	5		5	2
Turkey Vulture		4	52		34	5	6	8	51	5	14	43
Osprey			1		5	3	2		6	2	1	3
Mississippi Kite	7											
Northern Harrier					1							1
Sharp-shinned Hawk					2		1		4		2	2
Cooper's Hawk					2			2			2	
Red-shouldered Hawk	3	3			25		1	2	1	1		
Broad-winged Hawk	6		2		3			1	11	7	1	3
Red-tailed Hawk	6	9	5		19	3	1	3	21	5	2	2
American Kestrel		5	3		18	26	11			5	2	9
Merlin					1							
Peregrine Falcon					1							1
Ruffed Grouse											1	12
Wild Turkey	4			2								
Northern Bobwhite	18	9	22	60	71	31	14	6	10	36	12	18
King Rail				8	1							
Virginia Rail				27	11	1						
Sora	1				2				2			
Eurasie Gallinule												
Common Moorhen				1								
American Coot				43	26		1		95			
Lesser Golden-Plover	7											
Semipalmated Plover	2			1	3				1			
Piping Plover				1								
Killdeer	27	9	21	10	34	24	6	9	25	42	20	33
Greater Yellowlegs	3		12	1	19	1			13			
Lesser Yellowlegs	42			6	11	28			20		2	1
Solitary Sandpiper	31		8	7	44	14	1	1	20	11	9	30
Millet					80							
Spotted Sandpiper	7	2	2	9	20		2	1	6	9		7
Semipalmated Sandpiper	12				4							
Western Sandpiper	1				4							
Least Sandpiper	112		2	10	33	5			2			3
Baird's Sandpiper					4							
Pectoral Sandpiper	72		1	3	39	21			12			1
Dunlin					6							
Stilt Sandpiper	6											
Short-billed Dowitcher	1											
Long-billed Dowitcher									11			
Common Snipe	5		6		6			1	53	2		9
American Woodcock					3				1			5
Wilson's Phalarope					1							
Laughing Gull									1			
Ring-billed Gull	74				28		20		77	3		25
Herring Gull								1	1		5	

	MEMP	MONT	LAWR	COLU	NASH	MURF	LEBA	HIGH	CHAT	KNOX	GREE	ELIZ
Ring-billed Gull	74				28		20		77	3		25
Herring Gull					5			1	1		5	
Caspian Tern									1			
Foster's Tern				13			1		3			
Rock Dove	1	57	10	16	65	60	164	5	117	140	19	103
Mourning Dove	42	37	105	91	253	180	32	48	81	340	73	228
Black-billed Cuckoo					2	1						
Yellow-billed Cuckoo		1		4	9	9	5	1	2	6		1
Common Barn-Owl		1					3					2
Eastern Screech-Owl				2	5		9		1	16		1
Great Horned Owl			1	10	5	1	7			8		
Barned Owl	1	2	3	8	19	2	16	1	1	6		
Common Nighthawk		17	2	1	20	30	11	5	9	3	5	14
Chuck-wills-widow		2	2	19	2	8	22	4	3	20	1	3
Whip-poor-will		2	4	13	2	8	15	2		1		5
Chimney Swift	46	97	56	59	552	175	79	50	129	445	198	478
Ruby-thr. Hummingbird	24	9	5	7	44	11	6	4	8	14		9
Belted Kingfisher	8	2	7	9	17	13	1	4	7	8	3	12
Red-headed Woodpecker	34	5	1	18	33	2	9	1	1	1		1
Red-bellied Woodpecker	29	17	22	22	80	24	16	14	13	60	21	27
Yellow-bel. Sapsucker				1	1	1						
Downy Woodpecker	11	2	11	25	67	6	5	8	13	39	14	34
Hairy Woodpecker	2	16	1	15	2	3	3	1		6		8
Northern Flicker	11	6	5	9	33	21	6	15	14	55	21	55
Pileated Woodpecker	8	7	10	16	41	1	4	4	10	29	10	22
Olive-sided Flycatcher					1							
Eastern Wood-Pewee	21	10	8	14	98	10	6	6	2	5	7	2
Yellow-bel. Flycatcher					1		1					
Acadian Flycatcher	18	1	4	11	21			1	5	3		3
Willow Flycatcher					2							
Least Flycatcher		3			30							1
Eastern Phoebe	3	5	3	12	44	4	6	11	5	17	9	25
Great Cr. Flycatcher	31	11	12	13	41	9	15	4	6	22	7	20
Eastern Kingbird	27	5	11	36	134	72	25	13	25	48	19	17
Horned Lark	6		12	8	2						1	
Purple Martin	13	28	43	49	91	146	136	63	515	105	11	165
Tree Swallow	205	12	24	33	259	10	23	2	109	9	9	4
N. Rough-wing. Swallow	22				1507	7	99	2	199	42	42	148
Bank Swallow					126	200			4	2		
Cliff Swallow		15	6	2	3024	150			315	1		
Barn Swallow	94	75	108	28	415	450	200	67	344	234	78	287
Blue Jay	36	49	58	76	371	131	49	48	317	697	113	263
American Crow	14	31	68	50	173	350	56	27	121	221	92	223
Fish Crow	7											
Common Raven												4
Carolina Chickadee	61	29	14	37	161	51	9	25	32	207	36	93
Tufted Titmouse	86	34	40	41	117	42	25	2	37	97	32	69
Red-breasted Nuthatch				2	1				2	7	1	9
White-br. Nuthatch		9	5	16	31	1	1	12	7	17	3	17
Brown-headed Nuthatch									2			
Carolina Wren	72	20	10	27	92	12	6	17	21	161	61	93
Bewick's Wren				2	3	3						
House Wren		5		2	13	4	5	1	2	14	13	9
Winter Wren			1									5
Sedge Wren					1				1	1		1
Marsh Wren					3				2			
Golden-crowned Kinglet		2			2							
Ruby-crowned Kinglet			2	3	9	4	3	2	6	45	1	22
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	101	14	27	54	81	10	5	10	65	89	21	50
Eastern Bluebird	10	19	43	48	211	27	131	27	41	41	41	67
Veery	5		1	5	21	5		1		9		
Gray-cheeked Thrush	23	2	2	23	1	4			3	1	3	
Swainson's Thrush	104	31	1	7	115	22	5	1	6	46	1	3
Hermit Thrush			1	2		3			1	1		
Wood Thrush	51	9	11	28	70	18	9	5	17	89	7	73
American Robin	91	103	65	139	265	386	60	58	172	470	169	487
Gray Catbird	13	17	9	19	66	35	11	11	48	54	13	41
Northern Mockingbird	21	21	44	37	112	60	57	42	44	158	53	83
Brown Thrasher	14	17	32	38	60	59	22	25	33	67	32	33
Water Pipit												2
Cedar Waxwing	102	9	25	75	110	315			16	15	6	43
Loggerhead Shrike	3	1	20	5	21	4	3		2	1	1	1
European Starling	198	186	60	250	601	1000	275	61	271	522	520	798
White-eyed Vireo	71	16	23	58	99	20	4	9	16	69	17	32

	MEMP	MONT	LAWR	COLU	NASH	MURF	LEBA	HIGH	CHAT	RNOX	GREE	ELI2
Solitary Vireo		1			3	2	1		2	2		9
Yellow-throated Vireo	14	10	3	14	13	2	4	3	6	10	1	18
Warbling Vireo	6	2		4	19		3					
Philadelphia Vireo		2			3		3					
Red-eyed Vireo	46	15	12	22	76	34	11	10	49	143	7	66
Blue-winged Warbler		2	4	22	20	1	1	3	6	5		4
Golden-winged Warbler	1	2	2		7							
Tennessee Warbler	94	36	2	67	149	23	21	2	38	30		3
Orange-crowned Warbler										1		2
Nashville Warbler	3	11		12	25	6			4	25		1
Northern Parula	73		1	13	18				1	9	1	28
Yellow Warbler	4	12	7	64	107	31	20	6	9	23	11	38
Chestnut-sided Warbler	3	2		10	23	32	11		4	19		20
Magnolia Warbler		3		1	23	29	8		3	4		
Yellow-rumped Warbler	9	25	15	95	274	83	13	12	101	161	40	32
Blk.-thr. Grn. Warbler	7	16	1	4	44	21	16	2	4	30	3	19
Blackburnian Warbler	2	3	1	6	13	11	28	3	3	8		2
Yellow-thr. Warbler	1	2	2	11	19			2	13	2		13
Pine Warbler	3		5	6	7	5		1	10	3	5	4
Prairie Warbler		19	3	29	36	23	7	11	15	17		6
Palm Warbler	8	19	15	42	280	26	6	4	57	14		3
Bay-breasted Warbler		12	2	6	39	19	5		8	18		
Blackpoll Warbler	9	15	19	24	108	23	7	8	42	45	2	4
Cerulean Warbler	17	15	4	20	38	1			14	9		1
Black-and-white Warbler	6	6	4	17	41	21	3	4	13	26	3	55
American Redstart	21	2	1	10	29	15	2		35	7	1	2
Prothonotary Warbler	35	3	1	27	52	1	10		3	8	3	1
Worm-eating Warbler	5		2	12	15				2	13		13
Swainson's Warbler	11		1				1		1			
Ovenbird	5	2	7	4	20	4	1	2	5	34		110
Northern Waterthrush	3		1	3	9	6	5	2	4	2	1	2
Louisiana Waterthrush	10	1	5	15	18	2	4		5	4		12
Kentucky Warbler	43	9	3	27	55	1	9	2	4	13		9
Connecticut Warbler							1					
Mourning Warbler					1		1					
Common Yellowthroat	48	13	21	64	203	38	22	12	11	102	44	22
Hooded Warbler	19	2	1	15	24	1	1	1	4	22	1	54
Wilson's Warbler					3		1			2		3
Canada Warbler			2				3					
Yellow-breasted Chat	6	7	10	33	49	5	11	10	14	26	20	15
Summer Tanager	67	12	12	14	35	11	8	8	12	14	2	1
Scarlet Tanager	6	3	3	19	60	14	3	10	21	52	2	22
Northern Cardinal	127	114	81	94	327	450	117	65	122	493	126	220
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	14	57	4	41	109	38	9	10	35	90	7	32
Blue Grosbeak	4		5	1	13	7	5	8	5	12	2	3
Indigo Bunting	184	63	126	75	452	93	106	41	89	112	36	35
Painted Bunting	1											
Dickcissel	27	35		10	5	2				1		
Rufous-sided Towhee	22	33	42	37	158	46	15	27	45	165	33	109
Chipping Sparrow	6	9	23	23	69	11	6	16	31	41	21	38
Field Sparrow	5	15	24	86	102	21	27	23	43	166	73	33
Vesper Sparrow									2	1		
Savannah Sparrow	9		1	1	43				19	3		14
Grasshopper Sparrow				5	8		3		14	5		10
Fox Sparrow								1				
Song Sparrow	4	5	2	5	41	4		6	51	312	47	257
Lincoln's Sparrow	4			1	11							
Swamp Sparrow	6		5	21	38		3			1	7	23
White-throated Sparrow	86	35	10	96	125	40	6	39	81	257	99	103
White-crowned Sparrow	3	5	15	26	19	7	4	6		8	14	12
Dark-eyed Junco							4	1			1	12
Bobolink		6	93	54	41	300		12	30	29		
Red-winged Blackbird	284	69	115	139	753	2000	60	51	96	292	88	313
Eastern Meadowlark	65	52	99	105	227	2000	52	86	118	190	114	179
Rusty Blackbird				1			2		6			
Common Grackle	136	97	166	150	359	706	231	93	138	523	324	910
Brown-headed Cowbird	160	23	45	79	254	32	19	66	19	101	40	105
Orchard Oriole	28	5	5	22	56	12	13	15	11	22	13	9
Northern Oriole	33	5	11	11	30	4	11	1	3	12	4	11
Purple Finch		18	3	9	32	6	3	27	13	73	9	121
House Finch					2		1		3	32	10	15
Pine Siskin	26	7	12	23	42	7		14	150	198	16	26
American Goldfinch	165	53	71	199	208	33	63	134	271	376	133	673
Evening Grosbeak	3		144	19	17	3			40	3	9	166
House Sparrow	com.	67	140	22	79	100	50	70	78	200	53	131
TOTAL SPECIES	133	112	126	142	184	129	139	106	157	142	102	148

HIGHLAND RIM — 27-28 April; mild, rainy. Marjory Harper, Ruth Luckadoo, Nicky & Phillip Medley, Anna Parker, Cloe & Howell Peebles, Erma Rogers, Violette Wakefield, Lillie Willard (compiler — 100 N. Washington, 2D, Tullahoma, TN 37388), Evelyn Wilson, Wanda Winnett, Harry & Jean Yeatman, Grady & Willa York. American Tree Sparrow (2) deleted.

CHATTANOOGA — 28-29 April; temp. 57-77°F; light to heavy rain, some clearing. Betty & Lloyd Anderson, Delbert Blum, Katherine Boyles, Barbara Claiborne, Kathy Davidson, Angela Davis, Jack & Linda Doyle, Ken & Lil Dubke, Gertrude Fleming, Paul Harris, Daniel Jacobson, Al Jenkins, Johnny T. Parks (compiler — 1610 E. 17th St., Chattanooga, TN 37404), Janet Phillips, Gene & Helen Ryther, Billy & Mary Shewall, Jo Stone.

KNOXVILLE — 29 April; temp. 52-68°F; overcast with showers in afternoon; 35 observers; Paul Hartigan (compiler). Also reported - egret sp. (2).

GREENEVILLE — 29 April; 16 observers in 7 parties; Ben Britton (compiler — Rt. 1, Box 348, Greeneville, TN 37743).

ELIZABETHTON — 28 April; temp. 56-75°F; cloudy to partly cloudy; 27 observers in 9 parties; Glen Eller (compiler — Rt. 9, Box 1340, Grandview Terrace, Elizabethton, TN 37643).

BOOK REVIEW

FIELD GUIDE TO THE BIRDS OF NORTH AMERICA — edited by a committee of the National Geographic Society, 1983. National Geographic Society, Washington, D.C. 464 pp., 220 color plates, 533 range maps, paperback. Available from the NGS, Dept. 100, Washington, D.C. 20036, for \$13.95 + \$3 p&h. — This all-new field guide covers North American birds in one volume. Unlike previous guides, which have been written by 1 or 2 authors and illustrated by 1 artist, this book was written by a large committee and illustrated by 13 artists. The book includes all bird species breeding north of Mexico, regularly occurring vagrants, and many accidentals and escaped species for a total of about 800 species. The layout is similar to that of the Robbins guide — text and range maps on one page, and illustrations on the facing page. An average of 4 species are covered in each 2-page spread. Bird names consistent with the 1983 AOU checklist are used, and their arrangement approximates the new checklist.

As might be expected with so many illustrators, the plates range from poor to excellent. The birds in some are poorly proportioned — the coots and gallinules have tiny heads and huge feet. On the whole, the plates are very good and more artistic than in other guides. I especially like those of the Pileated and Ivory-billed Woodpeckers, and the Tennessee Warbler plate, which shows breeding plumaged birds among dogwood flowers and fall plumaged birds among dogwood fruits. The guide illustrates more different plumages than other guides and shows sexual, seasonal and age differences, and in many cases geographic variation. I do have some criticisms of the plates. With some species, the number of individuals illustrated is a bit overwhelming. Some of the sex and age differences which are illustrated are almost impossible to detect in the field. The inclusion of illustrations of different races is helpful in showing the range of variation, but it takes some searching in the text to determine which race should occur in a particular area. In some cases, such as the Horned Lark, some of the races shown have relatively

restricted breeding ranges, while some widespread races are not illustrated. And, as in some illustrations of sex and age differences, some of the differences in the races illustrated are very subtle and probably not discernable in the field. Size differences among those species on the same page are often not shown well.

The range maps, all about 2.5 cm square, are tiny considering the amount of empty space around them. They include state boundaries, and different colors are used to represent breeding, wintering, and year-round ranges. The yellow used for breeding range is hard to see on some maps, and there is no attempt to show migration routes. A quick check showed some inaccuracies in the Tennessee range of some species. Several species of waterfowl are more widespread in Tennessee than the maps indicate, and the maps show some species which breed only on the Cumberland Plateau and in the Blue Ridge as also occurring in the ridge and valley. Part of this latter problem may be attributable to the scale of the maps. The Savannah Sparrow and the Bobolink are incorrectly shown as regularly breeding in upper East Tennessee, and the Brown-headed Nuthatch is not shown to occur in the state, although breeding records have been in print for several years. The breeding range of Wayne's Black-throated Green Warbler, a disjunct population on the coastal plain of Virginia and the Carolinas, is not shown.

The species accounts include the standard information, and often include identification tips not easily available from other sources. Some accounts are quite long and wordy, and thus hard to digest in the field. The information included, however, is generally very helpful.

At 12.5x20x2.5 cm thick and 600+ grams, this is a large, heavy field guide, and will probably not fit in your pants pocket. I would rather have seen a more compact guide, without many of the neo-tropical and Eurasian vagrants. Although I have several criticisms of the "Geographic" guide, I highly recommend it, especially to birders who have advanced past the beginner stage. The color reproduction is excellent, and the price reasonable. It is only available in paperback, but the binding seems strong, and the covers are quite tough. It is not sold in book stores and must be ordered from the National Geographic Society or the American Birding Association. The guide is also available from NGS as part of a package called "The Wonder of Birds", which also includes a very attractive coffee table book, a poster showing bird migration in the Americas and giving introductory birding tips, and a 4-record "Guide to Bird Sounds" which is keyed to the field guide. "The Wonder of Birds" costs \$34.95. — CHARLES P. NICHOLSON.

ROUND TABLE NOTES

FIRST SIGHT RECORD OF "GRAY-HEADED" JUNCO IN TENNESSEE

— At about 0800 on 24 May 1982, my wife Elizabeth and I briefly observed a small, junco-like bird in our yard at Williamsport, Maury County, Tennessee. The bird flashed white outer tail feathers as it flew away, and realizing this was well past the departure date for wintering Dark-eyed (Slate-colored) Juncos (*Junco hyemalis*), I wondered if I had seen a Rufous-sided Towhee (*Pipilo erythrophthalmus*). About an hour later, we saw what appeared to be the same bird at a feeding station, 3-4 m from our window. Using 7 x 35 binoculars, we observed a bird of junco size and shape, which was slate-colored over most of its body. A bright rust or orange-rust triangular patch covered much of its back, and the bird's belly was a light gray which blended into the slate gray of the rest of the body. The bird had a flesh-colored bill, a dark eye with no eye ring, and blackish lores. After consulting Robbins' *et al.* Birds of North America, we decided the bird was a "Gray-headed" Junco, formerly considered a distinct species, but recently (AOU Checklist of North American Birds, 6th Ed., 1983) combined with the Dark-eyed Junco.

The "Gray-headed" Junco stayed in our yard throughout the day, and appeared to follow a regular pattern of feeding on cracked corn, then bathing and preening. It was last observed about 1930 on 24 May. The bird was also seen by others, including Anne and Bedford Lochridge of Columbia, and Dot and Paul Crawford of Gallatin. The normal range of the "Gray-headed" Junco is in the Rocky Mountains from Idaho, Utah and Wyoming into northern Mexico, although there are casual records from Minnesota, Illinois, Arkansas, and Louisiana (AOU *op. cit.*). This is the first record of this distinctively marked subspecies in Tennessee.

KENNETH G. ANDERSON, Williamsport, TN 38487. Accepted 12 February 1985.

A SUMMER RECORD OF AMERICAN COOT IN THE GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK — On 12 June 1984, I observed an adult American Coot (*Fulica americana*) in Cades Cove, Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Blount County, Tennessee. The coot was first seen as it walked out from under the Hyatt Lane bridge over Abrams Creek. The coot ignored me and the 19 other observers present, and calmly walked eastward along the creek. The bird was observed and photographed for about 10 minutes. When it was flushed, it did not appear to be injured.

This is apparently the first summer record of a coot in the park. Stupka, in Notes on the Birds of Great Smoky Mountains National Park (Univ. Tenn. Press, 1963), lists 5 coot records, all in November. A check with park personnel revealed that there were no previous summer coot records on file at park headquarters.

GEORGANN SCHMALZ, Fernbank Science Center, 156 Heaton Park Drive, N.E., Atlanta, GA 30307. Accepted 20 November 1984.

BROWN PELICAN AT MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE — Memphis Zoo curators Cliff Ross and I captured an immature Brown Pelican (*Pelecanus occidentalis*) at a church parking lot in southeast Memphis, Shelby County, Tennessee, on 12 April 1983. According to workmen in the area, the pelican had been in the area for several days and had attempted to feed in nearby small ponds. The bird had no obvious injuries, but was weak from apparently not feeding in several days. The pelican consumed approximately 30-8" herring during its first day at the zoo. On 3 May 1983 the pelican was released at Gulfport, Mississippi. Shortly after release, the pelican was recaptured on a yacht, and re-released on an island with a breeding

colony of Brown Pelicans. This is the third published record of a Brown Pelican in Tennessee. Previous records are of 1 bird on 17 May 1936 at Mud Lake, Shelby County (*Migrant* 7:38, 1936), and of an adult bird on Norris Lake on 6 June 1937 (*Migrant* 8:87, 1937).

JOHN STOKES, Assistant Curator of Birds, Memphis Zoo and Aquarium, Overton Park, Memphis, TN 38112. Accepted 15 February 1985.

RETURN AND RECOVERY RATES FOR BANDED PURPLE FINCHES
— During the winters of 1978-79, 1979-80, and 1980-81, I banded 1,150 Purple Finches (*Carpodacus purpureus*) at my banding station at 2223 Tomassee Drive in south Knoxville, Knox County. The return and recovery rates which I recorded during this banding project are summarized below.

The return rate (i.e., ratio of birds retrapped at a station in a winter following banding to total birds banded) which I experienced was low, though perhaps normal. Of 136 finches banded in 1978-79, one returned in 1979-80 (and again in 1980-81); of 335 finches banded in 1979-80, 3 returned one year thereafter. Thus, the return rate (5:471) was slightly more than one percent, which is approximately the rate recorded by A. R. Laskey (*Migrant*, 45: 73, 1974), who had 50 returns of 4,954 Purple Finches banded. However, Laskey also reported that a subpermittee, B. Walker, banded 131 Purple Finches in early 1972; of these, 13 returned the owing winter, a 10 percent return rate. (*Migrant*, 45: 74, 1974). The Purple Finch obviously exhibits a tendency towards winter site fidelity in Tennessee, though the parameters of the philopatric population vary considerably. At this time the factors which account for this variation are uncertain. Certainly some of this variation may be due to changes in banding activity (i.e., changes in total trapping hours from year to year, etc.), but some is undoubtedly due to changes in the finch population itself, as well as in a number of environmental conditions.

The recovery rate (i.e., ratio of birds recovered at a different site than where banded to total birds banded) which I experienced also approximates the rate reported by Laskey (*Migrant*, 45: 73, 1974). She reported 15 recoveries of 4,954 finches banded (1:330), while 4 of 1,150 (1:287) finches I banded were recovered elsewhere. The specific circumstances of these four recoveries follow: 920-89787 was banded 9 Feb. 80 and was recovered in Hartland, Vermont, on 28 April 82; 920-14953, banded 9 Apr 80, was recovered in Brandon, New York, sometime (exact date unknown) in April, 1983; 950-03125, banded 7 Feb 81, was recovered near Mt. Storm, West Virginia, on 8 Aug 82; and 950-29559 was banded 15 Mar 81 and recovered at Temple, Maine, on 10 Jan 83. Laskey also reported Purple Finches being recovered in Maine, Vermont, and New York, but none of her finches was recovered in West Virginia, which supports the southernmost breeding population of the species. This population is consequently the one closest to Tennessee. Although it might be expected that a number of Tennessee-banded Purple Finches originate in West Virginia, that has not yet proved to be the case.

Generally, the return and recovery rates which I recorded in Knoxville parallel those reported by Laskey in Nashville, suggesting that they may be generally applicable to the Tennessee population of Purple Finches. However, the return rate reported by Walker indicates that at least in some years this species returns to its winter sites in greater numbers than Laskey and I found to be the case, warranting further investigation.

STEPHEN J. STEDMAN, Rt. 6, Pinewood Rd., Franklin, TN 37064. Accepted 1 March 1985.

SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHERS IN MEIGS COUNTY, TENNESSEE

— On 2 October 1983, at 1000 I located a Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (*Tyrannus forficatus*) in the southern part of Meigs County, on a powerline adjacent to TN 58, about 1.6 km south of the intersection of TN 58 and Brittsville Rd. The bird was first observed on 1 October 1983 by Cary Hambleton, Lee Brown, and Bob Morris, all from Southern College in Collegedale, Tennessee. I found the bird exactly where they had observed it, on the wires in front of 3 houses on the west side of TN 58. I had previously observed several in West Texas. Using binoculars and a "Discoverer" spotting scope, I studied the bird for 30 minutes under excellent lighting conditions and at a distance of less than 50 m. It moved about flycatching, resting, and affording every possible view. The bird had all the field marks (coloring, etc.) of an adult bird, except for the tail, which was about equal to the length of its body. The Peterson field guide shows the adult with a tail twice the length of its body. I learned that several other birders tried to find the bird on 3 and 4 October, but, as far as I know, no one got a good look and most failed to find it.

Ten months later on 24 and 25 August 1984, several Chattanooga birders, including Daniel Jacobson, Joe Stone, Paul Dietrich, and Del Blum, viewed a Scissor-tailed Flycatcher at the same location as the October 1983 observation. Although I did not observe this bird, those who did described it as having a very short tail (Figure 1). This bird was observed at the same location on 8 and 15 September 1984. On 30 August 1984, Al Jenkins (pers. comm.) and Gene Ryther saw one about 5 km away, at the edge of the Blythe Ferry Goose Management Area. Ryther (pers. comm.), who also observed the bird along TN 58 on 15 September, noted that the bird seen on 30 August had a slightly longer tail than the bird seen along TN 58.

According to Oberholser (Bird life of Texas, 1973), juvenile Scissor-tailed Flycatchers have a tail shorter in length than either the adult male or adult female birds. A molting adult bird could have a short tail, although most have completed their molt by late summer. Based on the length of the tail, the bird observed in 1983 was presumably an adult, while the 1984 birds could have been either juveniles or molting adult birds. Except for records at Murfreesboro, where Scissor-tailed Flycatchers have recently nested (Bierly, *Migrant* 49:91-93, 1978; Bierly, *Migrant* 53:15-17, 1982), the few previous published records of the species from Middle and East Tennessee have all been in May. The presence of the flycatchers two years in a row is intriguing, and further observations may eventually disclose a small population of breeding Scissor-tailed Flycatchers in East Tennessee.

PAUL C. HARRIS, 4519 Cloverdale Loop, Hixson, TN 37343. Accepted 19 March 1985.

FIGURE 1. Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, Meigs County, Tennessee, 25 August 1984. Photograph by Starr T. Klein.



THE SEASON



SPRING: 1 MARCH - 31 MAY 1984

Temperatures during much of the spring were below normal, and rainfall was above normal. Precipitation during March was near normal in most regions, while some regions had an excess of several inches of rain in April and May. Especially heavy rainfall in early May produced heavy flooding, and lake levels in West Tennessee stayed well above normal until late May. Cooler than average temperatures persisted until mid-May, and a cold snap at the end of May set some record low temperatures and produced a killing frost at the higher elevations in the Smokies.

As a result of the cool temperatures, spring foliage was retarded somewhat, many birds arrived later than normal, and some transients stayed later than normal. Several winter residents, including Red-breasted Nuthatches, Purple Finches, Pine Siskins, and Evening Grosbeaks, stayed into mid-May, somewhat later than normal. The heavy rains occurred after most waterfowl had departed, and their numbers were generally low. Other waterbirds - herons, egrets, rails and gallinules, and some shorebirds - were reported in impressive numbers. The 1,150 Double-crested Cormorants near Memphis in April, if not a record count, is the largest number reported from the state in some time. The 2 Anhingas near Memphis at the end of the period are also notable, especially if they were breeding birds. — Charles P. Nicholson.

WESTERN COASTAL PLAIN REGION — The spring migration was late and most species were present in fewer than average numbers.

Grebe-Avocet: Horned Grebe: 1 Mar (15), 29 Mar (5) Paris Landing (DWB). Double-crested Cormorant: 9 Apr (**1150**) MUL (BBC, LCC); this is the largest concentration reported in recent years, and certainly one of the highest counts ever for the state. **ANHINGA**: 3 Jun (2) SW Shelby Co./DeSoto Co., MS (BBC, LCC). Cattle Egret: 14 May (113) MUL (BBC, LCC). Glossy Ibis: 21 Apr (1) PEF (James A. Ferguson, SCF). Ruddy Duck: 9 Apr (700), 14 Apr (120), 14 May (0) Robco Lake, Shelby Co. (BBC, LCC). Osprey: 14 May (1) Lake Lipscomb, DeSoto Co., MS (James O. Ewart). Mississippi Kite: 14 Apr (2), 18 Apr (1) Chucalissa, Shelby Co. (Kay Smith); 25 May (35) MEM (Joe H. Womick). Peregrine Falcon: 26 May (1) REL, Lake Co. (RCS). Common Moorhen: 25 May (4) REL, Lake Co. (RCS). White-rumped Sandpiper: 29 May (10) Britton Ford, Henry Co. (DWB). **AMERICAN AVOCET**: 9 May (27) Bradley, Dyer Co. (RCS).

Flycatcher-Grosbeak: Olive-sided Flycatcher: 9 May (1) Shelby Forest State Park, Shelby Co. (CHB, SCF, Selma L. Lewis, Noreen M. Smith). Willow Flycatcher: 25 May (1), 26 May (0) MUI (BBC). Bewick's Wren: 23 Mar (1) PEF (Russell Jones). **BELL'S VIREO**: 12 May (1) REL, Obion Co. (RCS). Black-throated Green Warbler: 25 May (1) MUI (BBC). "Lawrence's Warbler": 29 Apr - 2 May (1) Dyersburg (RCS). Bachman's Sparrow: 27 May (2) S of Bolivar, Hardeman Co., 27 May (1) SE Fayette Co. (Dollyann Daily, Martha G. Waldron, JRW). Lincoln's Sparrow: 9 May (3) MEM (Ginger Ilard, Robert Ilard, JRW). Western Meadowlark: 14 Apr (1) Hwy 51 By-pass, Dyer Co. (RCS). Evening Grosbeak: 8 Apr (2m, 2f) Ponderosa, Decatur Co. (CHB).

Locations: MEM — Memphis; MUI — Mud Island, Shelby Co.; MUL — Mud Lake, on TN/MS state line S of Memphis; PEF — Shelby Co. Penal Farm.

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CENTRAL PLATEAU AND BASIN REGION — Wet and somewhat cool describe this spring. Although rainfall for March was normal, the excess for April was nearly four inches and that for May over five inches, much of it falling on the soggy week-end of 5-6 May, when extensive flooding occurred in many regional rivers. Temperatures were on the cool side with some records set, as at Nashville on 30 May when a record low of 38°F was established. The generally cool spring retarded foliage somewhat with the predictable result that many transients and summer residents arrived later than normal; additionally, many species lingered past normal departure dates, waiting for spring to develop further north.

Of the reports received by the compiler, perhaps the most notable occur in the heron, rail, and shorebird groupings. Most herons were recorded in high numbers, with at least one species present in "invasion" numbers. Rails and their allies were abundant, perhaps due to the presence of many hard rains, which forced them down and then provided ample suitable, if temporary, habitat for them. Shorebirds, although not present in large numbers, were represented by many infrequently encountered species, again due to the presence of much suitable habitat.

Quite a few field observers were active this spring, although not all of them were equally active in submitting records. To the many observers who did contribute to the report which follows, sincerest thanks are offered.

Finally, let me prepare readers in advance for a modest change in noting the significance of some records. When a sighting represents the earliest or latest record of the season, it is noted by "ers" or "lrs" in the significance section of the citation. This space-saving change ought not be too disturbing to readers.

Loon-Night-Heron: Common Loon: 29 Apr (1) LHL (DJS), perhaps first LWC spring record; 20 May (1) GSP (CGD), lrs. Pied-billed Grebe: 28 May (1) MOP (SJS, BHS), late or possibly breeding. Horned Grebe: 17 Mar (17) MOP (OBL, GRM); 24 May (6) PPL (DRJ, CGD); 30-31 Mar (1) Quarry Pond, RUC (TJW, ALH); no April reports. Double-crested Cormorant: 7 May (8) OHL (CGD), lrs. American Bittern: 7 Apr (1) Bluewater, LWC (DJS), 6th LWC record; 5 May (1) north WLC (FD, Cecile Detlefsen); 9 May (1) GSP (BLP); about normal number of records. Great Blue Heron: 18 Mar (18) ACA (SJS, BHS), number suggests that an undetected rookery may be nearby, as other known rookeries in region (at DRU and AEDC Ponds, CFC) are very active by mid-March; possible these were non-breeding birds. Great Egret: 4 Apr (1) MC (HEP); 4-6 Apr (3) LHL (LWC, HMC), perhaps first LWC record; 28 Apr (2) CFC (F. Nicky Medley); 29 Apr (1) Deerfield, LWC (LWC, HMC); 6 May (1) ACA (CGD, RJM); a fair influx.

Snowy Egret: 5-8 May (1) MC (DFV, HEP, m. ob.); 26 May (1) CFC (Jerry Ingles, ELR, Wanda Winnett). Little Blue Heron: 28 Apr - 1 May (1a, 1i) LWC (DJS, MAB); 5-6 May (1i) RUC (TJW, Linda McGhee, Donald McGhee); 18 May (1a) MC (HEP); 19 May (2a) MOP (BHS). Cattle Egret: significant invasion 22 Apr - 29 May with up to 22 in MUC (ARL, m. ob.), 20 in RUC (ALH, m. ob.), 19 in CFC (ELR, m. ob.), 7 in WMC (BHS, SJS), 3 in DVC (DFV), 1 in SUC (DTC, JPC), and 1 in WLC (Eric Thibault). Green-backed Heron: 7 Apr (1) MC (DFV), ers. Yellow-crowned Night-Heron: 6 reports from CFC, CHC, DVC, RUC, and WLC with high count of 15 in RUC.

Goose-Turkey: Snow Goose: 16 Mar (1) CCNWR (DWB); 17 Apr (1) Snow x Blue hybrid Cage's Bend, SUC (WC); only reports. Green-winged Teal: 31 Mar (1) ACA (CGD), Irs. American Black Duck: 5 May (1) Smyrna, RUC (Henry Benaugh), Irs. Blue-winged Teal: 10 Mar (2) PAP (CGD), ers; 12 May (2) MC (DFV), Irs. Northern Shoveler: 7 reports from 16 Mar - 8 May in CFC, DIC, DVC, MUC, RUC, and SWC. Canvasback: 18 Mar (3) RDL (CGD), only report. Redhead: 31 Mar (1) ACA (CGD), only report. Ring-necked Duck: 1 Apr (30) RDL (CGD); 3 Apr (9) Lewis Pond, SUC (DTC, JPC); 5 Apr (1) MC (DFV), Irs. Lesser Scaup: to EOP (2) RDL (m. ob.), late or summering. Hooded Merganser: 16 Apr - 12 May (1 female) MC (m. ob.). Red-breasted Merganser: 11 Mar (4 males) RDL (CRD); 22 Mar (20+) PPL (J. B. Owen, m. ob.); 20 May (1 female) OHD (CGD), Irs. Ruddy Duck: 1 Apr (1 male in summer plumage) MC (DFV). Osprey: 13 reports from 13 Apr - 19 May in CHC, DVC, LWC, MUC, RUC, SUC, WLC, WMC. Bald Eagle: 27 Mar (1a) PPL, RUC (Paul Strickland); 2 Apr (2a) Cherry Bottom, Humphreys Co. (John Hargrove, Roy Bishops); 13 Apr (2a, 3 downy young) near CCNWR (Chip Grafe, Rebecca Vial); the latter sighting represents the 2nd consecutive year that this species has nested in SWC; see Summer 1984 report for further details. Northern Harrier: 5 May (1) Fernvale, WMC (JCA, LDR), moderately late. Sharp-shinned Hawk: 8 reports from 3 Mar - 6 May in CHC, MUC, SUC, SWC, WLC, and WMC. Cooper's Hawk: 10 reports from 9 Mar - 19 May in CFC, DVC, MUC, RUC, SWC, WLC, and WMC. Red-shouldered Hawk: 5-6 May (15+) ACA (RJM, CGD), encouraging number. Broad-winged Hawk: 7 Apr (1) BAS (KAG), ers. Rough-legged Hawk: 1 Mar (1) COL (KGA), only report. Merlin: 6 May (1 female) HEB (RJM, CGD), only report. American Kestrel: a few observers felt numbers down (DFV, SJS). Wild Turkey: 19 Apr (1) LEF (BHS, SJS), introduced locally some years ago, but thought to have been extirpated.

Crane-Tern: Sandhill Crane: 1 Mar (16) Manchester, CFC (GLY); 5 Mar (3) and 10 Mar (22) Byrdstown, PIC (Robbie C. Hassler); 13 Mar (28) east Nashville (A. W. Conrad), about 3rd NA record. King Rail: 6 May (1) HEB (RJM, CGD), rarely reported in region in recent years. Virginia Rail: 28 Apr (5) and 7 May (3) MOP (OBL, ARL, CGD); only reports. Sora: 8 reports from 17 Apr - 19 May with high of 27 on 28 Apr at MOP (OBL, ARL). Common Moorhen: 24-28 Apr (1) MOP (ARL, OBL, m. ob.); 17-20 May (1) MUR (TJW). Purple Gallinule: 5 May (1) ACA (RJM, CGD); 6 May (1) HEB (RJM, CGD); 12 May (1) MOP (BHS, SJS); first two records possibly of same bird, though unlikely, while latter is probably first MUC record. Semipalmated Plover: 15 reports from 27 Apr - 7 Jun with high of 8 on 28 May at DRU (CGD). Piping Plover: 28 Apr - 6 May (1) MOP (ARL, OBL, m. ob.), only report of a shorebird which occurs annually now in region. American Avocet: 9 May (4) OHD (BLP), 5th NA spring record. Willet: (80+) ACA (RJM, CGD), high number, though not unprecedented. Semipalmated Sandpiper: 5 Jun (1+) MC (DFV), Irs. Western Sandpiper: 6 May (1) ACA (RJM, CGD). White-rumped Sandpiper: 27 Apr (2) Green Pond, SUC (DTC, JPC), new NA early spring date; 19 May (1) MOP (BHS, SJS). Pectoral Sandpiper: 10 Mar (1) ACA (CGD), ers. Dunlin: 3 May (1 in summer plumage)

EWP (DFV). Dowitcher sp.: 14 Apr (1+) PAP (CGD, m. ob.); 30 Apr (1) MUR (TJW); 7 May (7) Del Rio Pike, WMC (CGD); the first 2 sightings were of birds thought to be Long-billed, but adequate documentation was lacking. Common Snipe: 17 Mar (60) MC (DFV); 18 Mar (30) PAP (BHS, SJS); 7 May (1) MC (DFV), Irs. American Woodcock: 7 May (1 calling) RDL (CGD). Wilson's Phalarope: 6 May (1) GSP (Lee F. Kramer), only report. Franklin's Gull: 9-10 May (1) OHD (BLP, CGD), about 10th NA record. Bonaparte's Gull: 10 May (2) OHD (CGD), Irs. Ring-billed Gull: 17 Mar (1000) MC (DFV, HEP); 20 May (15) OHD (CGD), Irs. Herring Gull: 10 May (1) OHD (CGD), Irs. **GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL**: 19 & 24 Mar (1 first-year) Seven Points, PPL, DVC (RCS, CGD, DRJ, m. ob.), injured bird; 3rd state record. Caspian Tern: 20 May (1) OHD (CGD), Irs. Forster's Tern: 4 reports from 28 Apr - 7 May in DVC, MUC, RUC, and WLC. Black Tern: 2 May (2) Fate Sanders, PPL, RUC (TJW, ALH), only report.

Cuckoo-Lark: Black-billed Cuckoo: reported in DVC, RUC, and WLC during 5-6 May; see Spring Count Compilation. Yellow-billed Cuckoo: very late arriving. Common Barn-Owl: only reports from CHC (RJM) and WLC (RP). Common Nighthawk: 27 Apr (1) GAL (DTC, JPC), Irs. Whip-poor-will: 2 Apr (1 calling) LEF (SJS, BHS), Irs. Chimney Swift: 22 Mar (1) RDL (JCM), Irs. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: 7 Apr (1) MUR (Russell B. Driver), Irs. Olive-sided Flycatcher: 5-6 May (1 calling) & 18 May (1) RDL (JCM); 17 May (1) DOV (DWB), only reports. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: at least 5 reports (5 May - 5 Jun) came to the attention of the compiler but none included substantive documentation; the number of sightings suggests that this species migrates through the region more plentifully than the available records indicate; a few tape-recorded songs would be useful. Willow Flycatcher: 5-6 May (1; 1) MC: ACA (DFV; RJM, CGD); 12 May (5 singing) MOP (SJS, BHS, ARH); only reports. Least Flycatcher: 4 May (1) LBL (DWB); 6-9 May (30+) RDL (KAG, JCM), impressive number, but perhaps not unusual; 9 & 11 May (1) BAH (RWS); 24 May (1) Davy Crockett S.P., LWC (DJS); quite a good spring for this species. Great Crested Flycatcher: 13 Apr (1) Holt Patterson Knobs, DVC (RPF), Irs. Eastern Kingbird: 6 Apr (2) L. Elaine, Bedford Co. (Marjory B. Harper), Irs. Scissor-tailed Flycatcher: 25 Apr (1) MUR (ALH, RVM), returnee to local nesting site; 12 May (1) near OHD (Hillis C. Evans). Horned Lark: 28-29 Apr (8) COL (ARL); 5 May (2 giving courtship display) Robertson Co. (RJM, CGD); only reports.

Martin-Vireo: Purple Martin: 10 Mar (2) COL (ARL), Irs. Tree Swallow: 10 Mar (2+) MOP (William N. Jernigan), Irs. Northern Rough-winged Swallow: 1 Mar (1) MOP (KGA), Irs. Bank Swallow: 22 May (1) MC (DFV); 28 May (2+) MOP (SJS, BHS), late if not breeding. Cliff Swallow: 17 Mar (1) CCNWR (DWB), Irs; flooding on 5-6 May washed out many nests in CHC (RJM) and perhaps elsewhere in region. Barn Swallow: 20 Mar (1+) RDL (JCM), Irs. Red-breasted Nuthatch: only 3 reports; remains scarce. Bewick's Wren: 3 Apr (1) RDL (Mary Dunlap, Kathy Shaw, m. ob.); 28-29 Apr (2) MUC (ARL); 5-6 May (3) RUC (ALH); 5-6 May (3) WLC (RVM); 16 May (1) Rock House, TRC (CPN); however, not located at one traditional site in SUC (DTC, JPC) and at another in WLC (RVM). Winter Wren: 21 Apr (1) BAS (KAG); 28 Apr (1) LOR (DJS), Irs. Sedge Wren: 5-6 May (1) PAP (Jim Snapper); 7 May (1) Barkley WMA, SWC (DWB), only reports. Marsh Wren: 5-6 May (3) ACA (CGD, m. ob.), only report. Golden-crowned Kinglet: 1 Apr (100+) RDL (CGD), abundant in some areas; 5 May (1) RDL (JCM); 5 May (1) Fernvale, WMC (JCA, LDR); tie for new NA late spring date. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: 22 Mar (1) RDL (JCM), Irs. Wood Thrush: 15 Apr (1) DOV (DWB), Irs. Hermit Thrush: 26 Apr (1) Nashville (JCM); 28 Apr (1)

LOR (DJS, MAB), late. Gray Catbird: 21 Mar (1) COL (*vide* GRM), early or wintering. Water Pipit: 18 Mar (1+) PAP (SJS, BHS), only report. White-eyed Vireo: 11 Apr (1) Stones River Cedars, RUC (RPF), ers. Yellow-throated Vireo: 13 Apr (1) BAH (RWS), ers. Warbling Vireo: 16 Apr (1) SHV (DFV, KAG), ers. Red-eyed Vireo: 15 Apr (1) DOV (DWB), ers.

Warbler-Chat: Tennessee Warbler: 11 Apr (1) RDL (RPF), ers; 18 May (1) Love Circle Hill, DVC (JCA), lrs. Orange-crowned Warbler: 1 May (1) LSC (OBL, GRM); 5-6 May (1) WLC (*vide* RVM); only reports. Northern Parula: 4 Apr (1) LSC (GRM), ers. Yellow Warbler: 14 Apr (1) SHV (KAG), ers. Magnolia Warbler: 24 Apr (1) DOV (DWB), ers. Black-throated Blue Warbler: 6 May (1) ACA (CGD, RJM); 6 May (1) WLC (RP, FD); only reports. Yellow-rumped (Myrtle) Warbler: 21 May (1) PWP (DFV), lrs. Black-throated Green Warbler: 4 Apr (1) LSC (GRM), ers. Blackburnian Warbler: 31 May (1 male singing) LEF (SJS), new NA late spring date. Blackpoll Warbler: 17 Apr (1) COL (ARL), ers. Pine Warbler: 1 Mar (1 building nest) LOR (DJS), early breeding. Worm-eating Warbler: 13 Apr (1) Holt Patterson Knobs, DVC (RPF), ers. Swainson's Warbler: 28 Apr (1) LOR (Andy J. Augustin), 2nd LWC record; 5 May (1) north WLC (RP, FD), only reports. Louisiana Waterthrush: 18 Mar (1; 1) RDL; BAS (JCM; KAG), ers. Kentucky Warbler: 24 Apr (1) BAS (KAG), ers. Connecticut Warbler: 6 May (1) WLC (RP, FD); 9 May (1) PWP (*vide* DFV), only reports. Mourning Warbler: 5 reports 6 May - 3 Jun in DIC, DIC, and MTC. Wilson's Warbler: 16 May (1) Jhontown, TRC (CPN), few county late records. Canada Warbler: more numerous than usual in PUC (RWS). Yellow-breasted Chat: 11 Apr (1) Stones River Cedars, RUC (RPF), ers.

Grosbeak-Grosbeak: Rose-breasted Grosbeak: 16-17 Mar (1 im. male at feeder) COL (Nina Thomas); many frequented feeders throughout the region with 78 at feeder in BAH (RWS) on 5 May being the most reported. Blue Grosbeak: 23 Apr (1) EWP (DFV), ers. Dickcissel: 24, 26 Mar (1 at feeder) Nashville (Annella Creech). Savannah Sparrow: 17 May (2) MC (DFV), lrs. Chipping Sparrow: 16 Mar (1) Williamsport, MUC (KGA), ers. Vesper Sparrow: 2 Apr (1) EWP (DFV), lrs. Lark Sparrow: 27 Apr (1) near entrance to Cedars of Lebanon S.P., WLC (RVM, m. obs.), ers. Lincoln's Sparrow: 23 May (1) PWP (DFV), lrs; very good spring for this species. Fox Sparrow: 28 Apr (1) Manchester, CFC (GLY), lrs. Song Sparrow: to EOP at MOP and MC (ARL; DFV), breeding at both sites. Swamp Sparrow: 9 May (1) EWP (DFV), lrs. White-throated Sparrow: 15 May (1) DOC (DWB), lrs. White-crowned Sparrow: 8 May (1) EWP (DFV), lrs. Dark-eyed Junco: 30 Apr (1) RDL (JCM), lrs. Bobolink: 6 reports from 30 Apr - 2 Jun in CFC, DVC, PIC, RUC, SMC, and WMC; also 7 Jun (1 male) MC (DFV), new NA late spring date (habitat suitable for breeding but bird not reported after this date). Yellow-headed Blackbird: 17 Apr (1 male) Cage's Bend, SUC (WC), probably first SUC record. Rusty Blackbird: 10 Apr (1) GAL (DTC, JPC), lrs. Purple Finch: 17 May (3) Nashville (LDR), lrs. House Finch: until 28 Mar in LWC (DJS); until 3 May in GAL (DTC, JPC); until EOP in Nashville (DFV). Pine Siskin: 18 May (2) Nashville (CRD), lrs. Evening Grosbeak: 16 May (1) South Tunnel, SUC (Bessie Hagan), lrs.

Locations and other abbreviations: ACA — Ashland City Area, Cheatham Co.; BAH — Barnes Hollow, Putnam Co.; BAS — Basin Springs, Williamson Co.; CCNWR — Cross Creeks National Wildlife Refuge, Stewart Co.; CFC — Coffee Co.; CHC — Cheatham Co.; COL — Columbia; DIC — Dickson Co.; DOV — Dover; DRU — Duck River Unit, Tennessee National Wildlife Refuge, Humphreys Co.; DVC — Davidson Co.; EOP — End of period; ers — earliest

sighting of season; EWP — Edwin Warner Park, Davidson Co.; GAL — Gallatin; GSP — Gallatin Steam Plant, Sumner Co.; HEB — Herbert's Bottoms, Cheatham Co.; LBL — Land Between the Lakes, Stewart Co.; LEF — Leiper's Fork, Williamson Co.; LHL — Laurel Hill Lake, Lawrence Co.; LOR — Loretto, Lawrence Co.; lrs — latest sighting of period; LSC — Lewis Co.; LWC — Lawrence Co.; MC — Metro Center, Davidson Co.; MOP — Monsanto Ponds, Maury Co.; MUC — Maury Co.; MUR — Murfreesboro; NA — Nashville Area (includes all of Davidson Co. and parts of 7 surrounding counties); OHD — Old Hickory Dam, Davidson Co.; OHL — Old Hickory Lake (in 4 counties); PAP — Pardue's Pond, Dickson Co.; PIC — Pickett Co.; PPL — Percy Priest Lake (in Davidson, Rutherford, and Wilson Counties); PWP — Percy Warner Park, Davidson Co.; RDL — Radnor Lake State Natural Area, Davidson Co.; RUC — Rutherford Co.; SHV — South Harpeth Valley, Davidson and Williamson Counties; SUC — Sumner Co.; SWC — Stewart Co.; TRC — Trousdale Co.; WLC — Wilson Co.; WMC — Williamson Co.

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EASTERN RIDGE AND VALLEY REGION — In the Elizabethton-Johnson City area rainfall during the period was above average in March and April and below normal in May. This area also experienced cool weather until about 20 May. Glen Eller reported a good migration of shorebirds and warblers, but waterfowl numbers in upper East Tennessee were down with most species departing before early March.

Knoxville's rainfall was near normal with no late killing frosts or snows as in the previous two years. May was cooler than average, but their big event in May was the heavy rainfall which was about three times normal. They had some good shorebird observations from the UT Plant Sciences Farm. Nicholson reported that Purple Martins were much later than average in arrival. Most of Knoxville's late March - early April arrivals were on time, and some of the end-of-April arrivals were early. Thrushes and the "May migrant warblers" — Bay-breasted, Tennessee, Blackpoll, and Magnolia, were present in above average numbers and stayed a bit later than average, perhaps detained by the rainy weather.

In the Chattanooga area, March was drier with April and May wetter than normal. Waterfowl were not widely reported or conspicuous during migration. Short-billed Dowitchers were reported on 12 May from two widely separated locations. A check through the available references point to these numbers as the largest migration ever reported in Tennessee during the spring movement.

During this season extensive dredging was under way at the ash settling ponds at the Kingston Steam Plant. This, in turn, rendered most of the flats unsuitable for the mass number of shorebirds we had become accustomed to viewing in the past. At this time, there is little hope of the ponds improving in the foreseeable future.

In our region migrating numbers of Eastern Kingbirds are seldom reported so the flock of 50 at Knoxville and another flock of 18 in the Hiwassee River Area are of special interest. The large influx of Purple Finches, House Finches, Pine Siskins, and Evening Grosbeaks had generally departed by April, however, a few lingering individuals were still present in May.

Loon-Ducks: Common Loon: 9 Apr (19) CHL (KHD, LHD); 4 May (1) AUS (RLK); last 12 May (1) (ACD *et al.*). Pied-billed Grebe: 3 Apr (29) CHL (KHD, LHD). Double-crested Cormorant: 9 Apr (3) CHL (KHD, LHD); several reports from FLL at KNX, with a high count of 12 on 16 Apr (PSP); 4 on Melton Hill Lake near Oak Ridge on 11 Apr (WKJ); 14 May (2) NIL (KHD, LHD); last report 20 May (1) Watts Bar Lake (WLK). American Bittern: the wintering bird at Eastgate

Shopping Center, CHA, was last reported 11 Mar (RAR *et al.*). Great Egret: 3 Apr (1) JNC (RLK); 6 Apr (1) EBF (LJF); 29 Apr (1) KNX (PDH *et al.*). Snowy Egret: 4 May (1) JNC (MD). Cattle Egret: 7, 9 May (1) FLL (MLD, PSP); 7 May (1) SAB (LHD); 14 May (8) SAB (KHD, LHD). Green-winged Teal: 4 Mar (11) DOL (JAK). Blue-winged Teal: 3-10 Apr (30-45) CHL (KHD, LHD); 12 May (1) CHA (PCH, JTP). Northern Shoveler: 3 Apr (35) CHL (KHD, LHD); 3 Apr (20) HRA (KHD, LHD); 8 May (3) KNS (KTOS); 12 May (1) CHA (PCH, JTP); 14 May (1) AUS (RLK). Gadwall: 10 Apr (15) KSP (KHD, LHD). American Wigeon: 28 Apr (1) AUS (RLK). Ring-necked Duck: 9 Apr (1) CHL (KHD, LHD). Greater Scaup: last report 3 Apr (10) CHL (KHD, LHD). Lesser Scaup: 2 Apr (600) NIL (KHD, LHD). White-winged Scoter: 17 Mar (2) BOL (RH). Bufflehead: 24 Apr (1) EBF (LJF). Hooded Merganser: 29 Apr (1) KNX (JAK). Red-breasted Merganser: 21 Apr (1) AUS (RLK) — this was the last report after a good migration there. Ruddy Duck: wintering birds on CHL remained to 10 Apr (KHD, LHD).

Osprey-Tern: Osprey: one unsuccessful nesting attempt Cummings Lake, TRG (KHD, LHD, JDR). Bald Eagle: up to 2 all season on Norris Lake (JCH); 1 ad on 10 Apr at EBF (LJF). Red-shouldered Hawk: 6 active nests in the CHA area (KHD, LHD, RAR, JDR). Red-tailed Hawk: 2 active nests TRG (KHD, LHD), CAT (JDR). Merlin: 9, 10 Mar (1 ad) Soddy (Bobby J. Thompson, JTP). Sora: 21 Apr (1) CHA (PCH, AMJ *et al.*); 26 Apr - 9 May (1) AUS (RLK); 12 May (1) KNX (MLD *et al.*). Purple Gallinule: 22 Apr (1 found dead) Maryville (Jim Post, *fide* JBO); 11 May (1) KNX (Jamie Cloyd, *fide* JBO). Common Moorhen: 28 May (1) Knox Co. (John Benzinger, *fide* JBO). Sandhill Crane: from the migration reported last period, an additional 352 birds in 4 groups were sighted in CHA and Catoosa Co., Georgia (RAR, Katherine K. Boyles). Black-bellied Plover: 8 May (1) KNX (MWA). Greater Yellowlegs: 21 Apr (5) CHA (AMJ, PCH *et al.*); 28 Mar - 7 May (1+) AUS (RLK). Lesser Yellowlegs: 21 Apr (20) CHA (AMJ, PCH *et al.*); 13 Apr - 14 May (1+) AUS (RLK, RH). Solitary Sandpiper: 21 Apr (12) CHA (AMJ, PCH *et al.*). Willet: 7 May (1) Louisville, Blount Co. (MLD). Upland Sandpiper: 21 Apr (1) CHA (AMJ, PCH *et al.*). Ruddy Turnstone: 8 May (4) KNX (MWA). Least Sandpiper: 4 Mar (4), 15 May (22) DOL (JAK). White-rumped Sandpiper: 12 May (5) KNX (KTOS). Pectoral Sandpiper: 26 Mar (80) SAB (KHD, LHD); 28 Mar - 9 May (1+) AUS (RLK, MD); 30 Mar (46) EBF (LJF); 21 Apr (35) CHA (AMJ, PCH *et al.*). Dunlin: 1-27 Mar (20-50 sporadic) SAB (KHD, LHD); 4 Mar (6) DOL (JAK); 13 Apr (1), 7 May (2), 8 May (1) AUS (RLK, MD); 8 May (75) KNX (MWA). **SHORT-BILLED DOWITCHER**: 12 May (62) CHA (PCH, JTP); 12 May (52) NIL (ACD, LHD), largest numbers ever published for spring (but most spring Dowitchers not identified to species - Editor). Dowitcher sp.: 8 May (2) AUS (RLK). Common Snipe: 11 Mar (60) SAB (KHD, LHD); 21 Apr (6) CHA (AMJ, PCH *et al.*). Bonaparte's Gull: 4 Apr (4) SAB (LHD); 6 Apr (1) BOL (HHD); 7 Apr (20) FLL (JAK); 8 Apr (60) DOL (RLK); 16 Apr (7) CHL (KHD, LHD). Ring-billed Gull: 24 Apr (1) NIL (KHD, LHD); 12 May (20) DOL (JAK). Common Tern: 9 May (4) SAB (KHD, LHD). Forster's Tern: 1 May (1) AUS (RLK, MD).

Barn-Owl Wren: Common Barn-Owl: individuals reported from 2-3 locations JNC (LHTOS). Great Horned Owl: one active nest CAT (JDR). Red-headed Woodpecker: 28 Apr, 14 May (1) JNB (RLK); single territorial birds reported from Norris Lake and in KNX (JCH). Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: 15 May (1) JNC (RLK). Alder Flycatcher: 1 in Cumberland Co. on 14 May by BRC, JMC; not present 15 May. Willow Flycatcher: first 7 May AUS, then several additional sightings there (RLK). Eastern Kingbird: flock on 50 on 8 May at KNX (MWA); 15 May (flock of 18) HRA (KHD, LHD); very few spring reports of migrating birds in region. Horned Lark: 20+ regular White Pine (JAK). Tree Swallow: first

16 Mar (3) EBF (LJF); 12 May (pair carrying nesting material to cavity; third year this site has been used) DOL (JAK). 30 Mar - 10 May (1+) AUS (LHTOS); 16 Apr (250) CHL (KHD, LHD); 16 Apr (100) NIL (KHD, LHD). Bank Swallow: 8 May (2) SAB (KHD, LHD); large, late flock of 115 reported on 15 May near FLL (MLD). Red-breasted Nuthatch: 11 Apr (1) Signal point (KHD); present in small numbers KNX, last report 11 May (1) (JCH). Sedge Wren: 28 Apr (1) AUS (RLK, CFW); 29 Apr (1) KNX (PDH). Marsh Wren: 9 May (1) AUS (RLK).

Kinglet-Grosbeak: Ruby-crowned Kinglet: present in high numbers KNX during late April and early May, last report there 11 May (JCH). Veery: present in much higher than normal numbers KNX with last report 13 May (JCH), a bit later than normal; high count on 14 on 9 May at KNX (JCH, JBO). Swainson's Thrush: 25 May (1) Norris (CPN), last report. Hermit Thrush: 1 May (1) JNC (RLK). Water Pipit: 18 Mar (15) AUS (RLK). Orange-crowned Warbler: 28 Apr (2) JNC (RLK, CFW, SG); 1-5 May (1) KNX (MLD, JCH *et al.*). Blackburnian Warbler: 23 May (1) KNX (JCH, JBO); 29 May (1) KNX (Barbara Finney) — both are late reports. Dickcissel: 27, 29 Apr (1) KNX (JAK, Jim & Betty Mason); 14 May (1) JCN (RLK, RH). Lincoln's Sparrow: 1 May (1) KNX (MLD, Lou Fuller, Barbara Finney); 10 May (1) KNX (JCH, JBO). Bobolink: 9 May (50+) JNB (RLK). Purple Finch: last report 9 May (1) JNC (RH). House Finch: the large flocks left JNC in mid-April, with only a few local residents remaining behind (LHTOS); out of several hundred present at one location in KNX on 10 Mar 185 were banded (SJS *et al.*). Pine Siskin: large concentrations reported in JNC until mid-April, then tapered off with last 2 birds on 8 May (RH); at one location in KNX 200 were present on 19 Mar with 109 banded (SJS *et al.*); at Collegedale, last bird banded on 13 May (REL); last sighting in CHA on 23 May (Janet A. Phillips). Evening Grosbeak: several flocks of 4-12 reported in JNC until 5 May, with last report on 14 May (RH); at KNX, numerous through mid-April with last report 10 May (2) Norris (CPN); last bird banded at Collegedale on 2 May (REL), and last sighting there on 8 May (3) (Gertrude L. Fleming).

Locations: AUS — Austin Springs; BOL — Boone Lake; CAT — Catoosa Co., Georgia; CHA — Chattanooga; CHL — Chickamauga Lake; DOL — Douglas Lake; EBF — Eagle Bend Fish Hatchery, Anderson Co.; FLL — Fort Loudon Lake; HRA — Hiwassee River Area; JNC — Johnson City; JNB — Jonesboro; KSP — Kingston Steam Plant, Roane Co.; KNS — Knoxville; NIL — Nickajack Lake; SAB — Savannah Bay, Hamilton Co.; TRG — Tennessee River Gorge.

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EASTERN MOUNTAIN REGION — Several species were present in lower than average numbers this spring, while other species were found in the highest numbers noted in some time. Waterfowl numbers were low, while shorebird numbers were above average. For the first time in several years, the Purple Martin population seemed to show an increase. Several of the normally hard to find warblers were seen in good numbers, including the Blue-winged, Blackpoll, and Northern Waterthrush.

Temperatures were cool through mid-April, and rainfall during this period was below average. Early May was warm and wet, with local flooding following very heavy rains on 7 and 8 May. The rest of May was about average in temperature and rainfall.

Loon-Falcon: Common Loon: 28 Apr (1) WatL (CFW), last report. Double-crested Cormorant: 9 Apr (3) WatL (RLK). Green-backed Heron: 15 Apr (1) ELI (HLF), first report. Yellow-crowned Night-Heron: 28 Apr (1) HS (GDE), first report, and 2 birds seen on nest there on 3 May (RLK). Mallard: 7 Apr (1 nest with 9 eggs) SHL (RL). Blue-winged Teal: 22 Apr - 8 May in ELI area (LHTOS). Northern Shoveler: 13 Apr (3) WagIs (CFW). Ring-necked Duck, Lesser Scaup: very few sightings. Red-breasted Merganser: 28 Apr (4) WatL (GDE, HLF, RC). Osprey: present 7 Apr - 13 May in ELI area (LHTOS). Sharp-shinned Hawk: 6 reports from ELI area, about average. Cooper's Hawk: 2 reports from ELI area, below average (LHTOS). Red-shouldered Hawk: 19 May (1) Ripshin Lake (BBC, LCC). Broad-winged Hawk: 11 Apr (1) WatL (CFW), first report. Peregrine Falcon: 28 Apr (1) RM, Carver's Gap (GDE, HLF, RC).

Turkey-Sapsucker: Wild Turkey: 9 broods reported on HM *fide* TWRA personnel. Greater Yellowlegs: 4 May (75), 5 May (45) WagIs (RH), high numbers for area. Lesser Yellowlegs: 28 Apr - 14 May (2-12) SmV (RH, CFW). Western Sandpiper: 9 May (3) St. John's Pond (RH). Pectoral Sandpiper: 9 Apr (2) WatL (RLK). Bonaparte's Gull: 9 Apr (6) WatL (RLK). Forster's Tern: 9 Apr (1) WatL (RLK). Black-billed Cuckoo: 17 May (1) RM (HHD), first report. Yellow-billed Cuckoo: 28 Apr (1) IMG (SG), first report, late. Common Barn-Owl: 2 pairs through period at SHL (*fide* GDE); 1 in ELI 10 - 28 Apr (GDE). Great Horned Owl: 15 Apr (1) SHL (RL). Banded Owl: 18, 19 May (5) RMS (RLK). Red-headed Woodpecker: 18 May (1) near RMS (Charlie Smith, KHD). Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: 6 Mar (1) ELI (HLF), last report.

Flycatcher-Vireo: Willow Flycatcher: 19 May (1) RM, (RLK), first report; then found in 5 locations in ELI area. Alder Flycatcher: 19 May (1) RM, Jane Bald (RLK), first report; then 7 present on RM. Least Flycatcher: 28 Apr (1) RM (GDE, HLF, RC), first report. Horned Lark: 20 May (2) RM, Jane Bald (GRM). Purple Martin: 15 Mar (1) ELI (GDE), first report, later than usual; then population higher than in recent years. Tree Swallow: 30 Mar - 10 May in ELI area (LHTOS). Bank Swallow: 30 Apr (2) WagIs, 7 May (5) St. John's Pond (RLK *et al.*). Cliff Swallow: present in ELI area 30 Apr - 16 May (RLK). Common Raven: 3-6 regular on RM, IM (LHTOS). House Wren: 16 Apr (1) SHL (RL), first report. Veery: 3 May (1) RM (RLK), first report. Hermit Thrush: 15 Apr (1) SHL (RL); 24 Apr (1) ERW (GS, RLK). Water Pipit: 16 Mar (4) St. John's (RH); 28 Apr (2) near ELI (RC); 20 May (1) RM, Grassy Ridge (RLK, CFW). Loggerhead Shrike: no reports. Solitary Vireo: 25 Mar (1) Laurels (RLK), first report. Warbling Vireo: 23 Apr (1) SHL (RL), first report.

Warbler-Grosbeak: Blue-winged Warbler: 28 Apr (1) ELI (HLF), first report. Golden-winged Warbler: 5 May (1) RMS (RLK), first report. Orange-crowned Warbler: winter feeder resident stayed through 4 Apr near ELI (Barbara Walsh); 28 Apr (1) SmV (RLK). Nashville Warbler: 18 May (1) RM, Carver's Gap (KHD, Charlie Smith). Yellow-throated Warbler: 15 Apr (1) SHL (RL), first report. Blackpoll: 28 Apr (1) ELI (GDE, HLF), first report. Cerulean Warbler: 28 Apr (1), 8 May (1) near ELI (RLK). Northern Waterthrush: present in ELI area 24 Apr - 19 May (LHTOS). Louisiana Waterthrush: 25 Mar (1) Laurels (RLK), first report. Connecticut Warbler: 25 May (1) near ELI (RC). Wilsons Warbler: 11 May (1) SV (HHD). Canada Warbler: 28 Apr (1) ELI (RLK), first report. Blue Grosbeak: 28 Apr (1) near ELI (GDE, HLF, RC), first report. Vesper Sparrow: 13 Apr (4) SmV (HLF); 20 May (2) RM, Grassy Ridge (RLK, CFW). Grasshopper Sparrow: 24 Apr (1) near ELI (RC), first report; above average number of sightings rest of spring. Fox Sparrow: 9 Mar (1) ELI (HLF), last report. White-throated Sparrow: 14 May (1) ELI (HLF), last report. White-crowned Sparrow: 28 Apr (1) SHL

(RL), last report. Bobolink: 13 May (35) near ELI (*vide* GDE). Rusty Blackbird: 25 Mar (3) SmV (RH), only report. Purple Finch: 9 May (1) ELI (HLF), last report. House Finch: winter flocks dispersed by early May, 3-5 individuals rest of period in ELI area (*vide* GDE). Pine Siskin: 18 May (1) RM (RLK), last report. Evening Grosbeak: 17 May (1) ERW (GWS), last report.

Locations: ELI — Elizabethton; ERW — Erwin; HM — Holston Mountain; HS — Hunter Swamp near Elizabethton; IMG — Iron Mountain Gap; RM — Roan Mountain; RMSP — Roan Mountain State Park; SHL — South Holston Lake; SmV — Siam Valley; St. John's — St. John's pond near Elizabethton; Wags — Wagners Island, Watauga River; WatL — Watauga Lake.

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