

Christmas Bird Count Summary - Additions and Corrections

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Results from the Natchez Christmas Count were received too late to be included in the Christmas Count summary in the May issue (Mississippi Kite 7:24-27). A correction also must be made for the Jackson count.

Natchez (Ralph Shields, compiler) - Dec. 18, 1976; hours? Weather clear, temp. 38° to 63° (wind?). 20 observers in ? parties. Total party-hours, 51 (19 on foot, 32 by car); total party-miles, 250 (13 on foot, 237 by car). Total species, 94; total individuals, 5601.

Like most other groups in the state, Natchez observers had an excellent count, with a near-record 20 observers and a total of 94 species, highest since 1969, which also produced 94 species. Unusual species reported this year included 6 Eared Grebes (a record for the state?), 6 Anhingas, 7 Common Mergansers, a Vermilion Flycatcher (2nd year in a row!), 2 Sprague's Pipits, 2 Northern Orioles, a Painted Bunting, and a Henslow's Sparrow. Other birds considered unusual in the Natchez area were Snowy Egret (2) and American Woodcock (4). Northern Orioles have now been seen 4 years in a row on the Natchez count or in count period - what kind of goodies do you people put out to attract them to your feeders??

Jackson (William Turcotte, compiler) - The Bald Eagle total on this count should be one (adult), not 12! This number should also be corrected in the "Birds Around the State" section (Mississippi Kite 7(1):28).