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FIRST ROANE COUNTY RECORD OF PURPLE GALLINULE IS CAPTURED ON TRAIL CAMERA

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While collaborating on detection methodologies for secretive marsh birds, researchers from Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) and Charles Sturt University (Albury, New South Wales, Australia) captured a photograph of a Purple Gallinule (*Porphyrio martinicus*) on a trail camera at the Heritage Center Greenway Powerhouse Trail (HCGPT). This public greenway trail, located in the eastern portion of Roane County, Tennessee was designated an eBird (Sullivan et al. 2009) “birding hotspot” in May 2015. Prior to that date this area was commonly referred to as the “ETTP Beaver Ponds,” ETTP being the abbreviation for East Tennessee Technology Park, the main campus of which lies approximately 2 km north of this greenway trail.

On 8 May 2017 the researchers deployed 11 trail cameras (four Stealth Cam STC-G42NG cameras and seven Reconyx HC600 cameras) at HCGPT. At approximately 0954 on 11 May 2017 one of the trail cameras was triggered, capturing three consecutive partial images of an adult Purple Gallinule. The camera-indicated temperature at the time was 28°C; GPS

coordinates for this camera were 35.91446, -84.40294; and the previous day, 10 May 2017, was a full moon date. All 11 cameras were retrieved on 17 May 2017.

A black and white version of the second photograph of the three-shot sequence appears in Figure 1. The original color version of this picture clearly shows a rather large bird with a purplish gloss to its neck and a heavy bright red bill, distally colored yellow and proximally bordered by a pale bluish-white frontal shield. Bill color clearly distinguishes this bird from American Coot (*Fulica americana*) and forehead shield color distinguishes it from Common Gallinule (*Gallinula galeata*). There are no other North American bird species likely to be confused with Purple Gallinule.

Purple Gallinule is the 232nd bird species to be recorded on the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Oak Ridge Reservation (ORR) since 1950. Two hundred twenty-eight species were documented on the ORR by Roy et al. (2014). Since that time, Cackling Goose (*Branta hutchinsii*, 25 November 2014), Wood Stork (*Mycteria americana*, 13 August 2016), American Bittern (*Botaurus lentiginosus*, 19 April 2017) and Purple Gallinule (11 May 2017) have all been photographed on the ORR.



Figure 1. Trail camera photograph of adult Purple Gallinule captured at the Heritage Center Greenway Powerhouse Trail, Roane County, 11 May 2017.

According to eBird (a citizen-based online bird database) Purple Gallinule was not among the 253 bird species recorded in Roane County prior to the date of our trail camera photograph. Though somewhat more common in West Tennessee, there are three counties in the eastern half of the state (to date) with eBird reports for Purple Gallinule: Knox (9 May 2010, 14 May 2010), Putnam (18 May 1990), and Hamilton (10 April 2005, 4 May 2011).

Alsop (1971) reported Purple Gallinule sightings from five East Tennessee counties: Blount (26 May 1970); Knox (12 October 1958, mid-April to 5 May 1962, 1 May 1962, a probable sighting on 6 May 1965, 18 May 1970); Sevier (2 April to 5 May 1967); Greene (7 July 1968); and Anderson (22-24 April 1968). Purple Gallinules have also been reported from Hamblen County (7 July 1968) by Campbell (1968) and Washington County (13 June 1973) by Nicholson (1973).

Fall records of Purple Gallinule in Tennessee are very rare (Somershoe and Sloan

2015). East Tennessee Fall records include Knox County – 12 October 1958 (Alsop 1971; Somershoe and Sloan 2015) and an immature bird at Chickamauga Lake – 8-10 September 1982 (Dubke and Dubke 1982).

Breeding has been reported in the Brewer's Bar area of Reelfoot Lake – 17 June 1923 (Ganier 1933) and 21-24 June 1984 (Pitts 1985); in Grundy County – 26 May 1935 (Ganier 1952) and 1 June 1964 (Dubke 1974); and an empty nest was found in Warren County – 30 July 1952 (Ganier 1952). These records, as well as additional reports (without confirmed breeding) from late May – late June in Hamblen, Hamilton, Haywood, Maury, Stewart, and Washington counties are all reported by Nicholson (1997). The Reelfoot Lake records are believed to be from Obion County, though county is not specified, and Brewer's Bar is near the Obion/Lake county line. Pitts (1985) also reports Ganier found nests in this area subsequent to his 1923 record.

Interestingly, the 1968 Anderson County record, reported by J. M. Campbell, occurred “on the grounds of Union Carbide Corp's purchasing and employment office on Oak Ridge Turnpike, Oak Ridge” (Alsop 1971). At the time, Union Carbide was the prime contractor for DOE operations on the ORR, though that Purple Gallinule observation actually occurred outside the boundaries of the reservation.

Vegetation (species: % cover, approx.: height, approx.) within a 50 m radius of the camera location was characterized on 2 June 2017 and consisted of silky dogwood (*Cornus amomum*; 30%: 2-4 m), cattail (*Typha latifolia*: 25%: 2-3 m), common rush (*Juncus effusus*: 20%: <1 m), prairie rose (*Rosa setigera*: 10%: 1-2 m), and sedges (*Carex* sp., including *C. vulpinoidea*, and *C. lurida*: 10%: 1 m). An additional five percent of cover was dominated by indigo bush (*Amorpha furticosa*), rice cutgrass (*Leersia oryzoides*), grassleaf rush (*Juncus marginatus*), duckweed (*Lemna minor*), and other species, and the remaining five percent was open water. Most of the site is wet year-round, with few locations >0.3 m deep. This characterization is consistent with some known breeding habitat for Purple Gallinule (e.g., West and Hess 2002).

Based on extensive literature search, eBird database search, and personal communications with Dean Edwards, Ron Hoff, and Rick Knight, we are confident this is not only the first ORR record of Purple Gallinule but also the first record in Roane County, Tennessee.

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We thank Neil Giffen for comments on an earlier version of this manuscript. We also thank the Community Reuse Organization of East Tennessee for development and maintenance of HCGPT, as well as other public greenways on the ORR. This research was supported by UT-Battelle, LLC, DOE Oak Ridge Office - Reservation Management Branch, and DOE ORNL Site Office.

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2017 TENNESSEE FALL BIRD COUNTS

Ron Hoff
Loudon, TN 37774

There were nine Fall Bird Counts conducted this year. Participants logged just over 384 party hours in the field to find 177 species. The weather was mild during the count season with no major rain or wind events having an effect on the counts. Temperatures ranged from a chilly 39° F in Elizabethton to a balmy 90° F in Shelby Co.

Red-necked Grebe, Dunlin, White-rumped Sandpiper, and Connecticut Warbler were all new species bringing the species total for the Fall Bird count compilation to 250. Count highlights also included Ruffed Grouse, Mississippi Kite, Sora, Forster's Tern, Northern Saw-whet Owl, Mourning Warbler, and Pine Siskin. Only one Loggerhead Shrike was recorded for the entire compilation. Least Flycatcher was missed for the first time in 10 years.

COUNTY SUMMERIES

(F/Y = feeder/yard watcher)

Anderson County -17 September; 0609-1737. Weather: foggy becoming sunny; wind 0-5 mph; 59-84° F. Red-headed Woodpecker and Golden-winged Warbler are noteworthy. Observers: Doug Bruce, Melinda Fawver (compiler), Carole Gobert, Kirk Huffstater, Morton Massey, Stephen J. Stedman, and Jimmy Tucker.

Blount County – 16 September; 0600-2000. Weather: fog early, cloudy to sunny; wind 0-5 mph; 59-85° F. Olive-sided Flycatcher and Fish Crow are notable. Observers: Jean J. Alexander (compiler), Doug Bruce, Fae Burkhart, Marcia Davis, Lola Estes, Melinda Fawver, Marian D. Fitzgerald, Tom E. Fitzgerald, Kim J. Henry, Stephen P. Henry, Thomas D. Howe, Susan Hoyle, Kirk Huffstater, James R. Human, David M. Johnson, Evan Kidd, Karen J. Petrey, Logan Rosenberg, Martha Rudolph, Doug Schneeberger, Paula Schneeberger, Mary Tankersley, Harumi Tsuruoka, Jimmy Tucker, and June D. Welch.

Elizabethton – 30 September; 0500-1930. Weather: clear; wind N 5-10 mph; 39-76° F. Highlights include Fish Crow and Lincoln's Sparrow. Observers: Fred Alsop, Jim Anderson, Ron Armistead, Betty Bailey, Gary Bailey, Jerry Bevins, Kent Blazier, Dallas Brooks, Kevin Brooks, Debbie Campbell, J. G. Campbell, Ken Caster, Sandy Caster, Rack Cross, Gil Derouen, Diane Draper, Harry Lee Farthing, Bambi Fincher, Dave Gardner, Bill Grigsby, Carl Hacker, Jean Henson, Neal Henson, Don Holt, Mike Hubley, Susan Hubley, Connie Irick, David Irick, Kristy Kendall, Jennifer Kennedy, Jack Kincade, Nancy Kincade, David Kirschke, Rick Knight (compiler), Roy Knispel, Richard Lewis, Priscilla Little, Cathy McNeil, Tom McNeil, Charles Moore, Harry Norman, Brookie Potter, Jean Potter, Sherrie Quillen, Brenda Richards, Amber Stanley, Bryan Stevens, Peggy Stevens, Kim Stroud, Scott Turner, Charles Warden, Mary Anna Wheat, and Wendy Williams.

Knoxville – 24 September; 0600-1900. Weather: clear with light fog in the morning; wind NW 0-10 mph; 65-87° F. Count highlights include Sora, Olive-sided Flycatcher, and Golden-winged and Mourning warblers. Observers: Jean Alexander, Mark Armstrong, Frank Bills, Sharon Bostick, Doug Bruce, Howard Chitwood, Gail Clendenen, Steve Clendenen, K. Dean Edwards (compiler), Melinda Fawver, Paul Hartigan, Susan Hoyle, Kirk Huffstater, James Human, Angie Jenkins, David Johnson, Kristine Johnson, Evan Kidd, Tony King, Morton Massey, Stephany McNew, Denise Nauman, Charles P. Nicholson, Truett Patterson, Talissa Ralph, Martha Rudolph, Michael Ryon, Beth Schilling, Kurt Sickafus, June Welch, and Chris Welsh.

Loudon County - 1 October; 0720-2030. Weather: sunny; 50-75° F. Philadelphia Vireo, Orange-crowned Warbler, and Lincoln's Sparrow are notable. Observers: Frank Bills, Sharon Bostick, Gail Clendenen, Steve Clendenen, Barbara Colaw, Stan Colburn, Chuck Cruickshank, Tommie Gail Hardy, Ron Hoff, Charlotte Jackson, Harry Jackson, Beth Johnson, Jane Kamperman, Tony King (compiler), Matt Mathews, Claire Manzo, Janet McKnight, Pat Metsala, Dollyann Myers, Denise Nauman, Lyn Neilans, Elton Pierson, Luke Poff, Talissa Ralph, Mike Ryon, Linda Schuessler, Sharon Sheliga, Kurt Sickafus, Lois Spyker, Mike Sullivan, Zse Zse Sullivan, Jett Trent, Vickie Triplet, Jim Tucker, and Bill Wolff.

Montgomery County – 16 September; 0550-1150. Weather: clear; wind ESE 0-2 mph; 62-83° F. Daniel Moss (compiler) and Rick Shipkowski.

Nashville – 29 - 30 September; 0530-1700. Weather: sunny to overcast; 52-79° F. Notable finds include Red-necked Grebe, Olive-sided Flycatcher, and Connecticut Warbler. Observers: Chris Agee, Kristy Baker, Susan Bradfield, Trae Bradfield, Jean Buchanan, Ed Byrne, Phillip Casteel, Richard Connors, Jerry Drewry, Pandy English, John Kell, Tony Lance, Amy Potter, Polly Rooker, Jan K. Shaw, Shelia Shay, Danny Shelton, Chris Sloan, Michael Smith, Joe Stone, LinnAnn Welch, and Mary Zimmerman. Non-participating compiler: Cyndi Routledge.

Perry County - 14 October; No time given. Weather: clear to partly cloudy; 61-89° F. American Wigeon, Barn Owl, and Pine Siskin are all new in 2011. Observers: Adam Beachy, David Kinsinger, Ruben Stoll (compiler), Victor Stoll, Alan Troyer, and Leona Troyer.

Shelby County – 16 September; 0530-1800. Weather: partly cloudy; wind N 3-10 mph; 67-90° F. Mississippi Kite, Olive-sided Flycatcher, and Blue-winged Warbler are notable. Observers: David Blaylock, Thomas Blevins, Chad Brown, Becky Campbell, Judy Dorsey, Bob Foehring, Theresa Graham, Margaret Jefferson, Kimberly John, Wayne Kirk, Kay Lait, Georges McNeil, Kathryn Miller, Dick Preston (compiler), Ed Thomas, Jim Varner, Martha Waldron, Jay Walko, and John Whirley.

| 2017 Fall Bird Counts Count Dates | Anderson 17-Sept | Blount 16-Sep | Elizabethton 30-Sep | Knox 24-Sep | Loudon 1-Oct | Montgomery 16-Sep | Nashville 29-30-Sep | Perry 14-Oct | Shelby 16-Sep | Totals |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|------------------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------------|------------------------|-----------------|------------------|--------|
| Species | | | | | | | | | | |
| Black-bellied Whistling-Duck | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 18 | 18 |
| Canada Goose | 24 | 90 | 957 | 262 | 239 | 9 | 231 | 56 | 314 | 2182 |
| Wood Duck | - | 9 | 24 | 38 | - | 1 | 22 | 32 | 15 | 141 |
| Blue-winged Teal | - | - | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | 4 | 6 |
| Northern Shoveler | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | 6 | 7 |
| American Wigeon | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | - | 2 |
| Mallard | 44 | 23 | 378 | 61 | 34 | - | 133 | - | 56 | 729 |
| Green-winged Teal | - | 6 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 6 |
| Hooded Merganser | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| Northern Bobwhite | - | - | - | 9 | - | - | - | - | - | 9 |
| Ruffed Grouse | - | - | 5 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 5 |
| Wild Turkey | 2 | 25 | 79 | 4 | 5 | 21 | 41 | 16 | 15 | 208 |
| Pied-billed Grebe | - | - | 11 | 5 | 5 | 2 | 1 | - | - | 24 |
| Red-necked Grebe | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | 1 |
| Rock Pigeon | 128 | 117 | 404 | 308 | 82 | - | 79 | 18 | 39 | 1175 |
| Eurasian Collared-Dove | - | 1 | 2 | - | 1 | - | 4 | 6 | 4 | 18 |
| Mourning Dove | 62 | 182 | 356 | 261 | 296 | 39 | 69 | 35 | 94 | 1394 |
| Yellow-billed Cuckoo | - | 1 | 1 | - | - | 1 | - | 1 | 5 | 9 |
| Common Nighthawk | - | 30 | 1 | - | - | 59 | - | - | 12 | 102 |
| Chimney Swift | 2 | 103 | 254 | 122 | 278 | 1 | 106 | 4 | 34 | 904 |
| Ruby-throated Hummingbird | 29 | 51 | 8 | 28 | 18 | 10 | 9 | - | 58 | 211 |
| Sora | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| American Coot | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | 3 | - | - | 4 |
| Black-necked Stilt | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 5 | 5 |
| Killdeer | 24 | 23 | 50 | 59 | 43 | 3 | 33 | 45 | 43 | 323 |

| Count Dates | Anderson 17-Sept | Blount 16-Sep | Elizabethton 30-Sep | Knox 24-Sep | Loudon 1-Oct | Montgomery 16-Sep | Nashville 29-30-Sep | Perry 14-Oct | Shelby 16-Sep | Totals |
|----------------------------|---------------------|------------------|------------------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------------|------------------------|-----------------|------------------|--------|
| Stilt Sandpiper | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 6 | 6 |
| Dunlin | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 |
| Least Sandpiper | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 5980 | 5980 |
| White-rumped Sandpiper | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 5 | 5 |
| Pectoral Sandpiper | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 16 | 18 |
| Semipalmated Sandpiper | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 220 | 220 |
| Western Sandpiper | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 3 | 3 |
| Short-billed Dowitcher | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 |
| Wilson's Snipe | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | 3 |
| Spotted Sandpiper | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | 1 | 4 |
| Solitary Sandpiper | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | 3 | 4 |
| Lesser Yellowlegs | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 248 | 248 |
| Greater Yellowlegs | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | 18 | 20 |
| Ring-billed Gull | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | 2 |
| Herring Gull | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | 1 |
| Forster's Tern | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| Double-crested Cormorant | 19 | 33 | 70 | 20 | 64 | - | 47 | 313 | 2 | 568 |
| Great Blue Heron | 15 | 26 | 66 | 28 | 25 | 1 | 34 | 30 | 9 | 234 |
| Great Egret | 1 | 2 | 1 | 3 | - | - | 13 | 84 | 4 | 108 |
| Green Heron | 5 | 6 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 1 | - | - | 2 | 24 |
| Black-crowned Night-Heron | - | - | 2 | - | 6 | - | 2 | - | - | 10 |
| Yellow-crowned Night-Heron | - | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2 |
| Black Vulture | 9 | 22 | 330 | 136 | 165 | 2 | 139 | 99 | 1 | 903 |
| Turkey Vulture | 4 | 30 | 215 | 51 | 17 | 30 | 40 | 251 | 16 | 654 |
| Osprey | 1 | - | 12 | 2 | 1 | - | 2 | 2 | - | 20 |

| Count Dates | Anderson 17-Sept | Blount 16-Sep | Elizabethhton 30-Sep | Knox 24-Sep | Loudon 1-Oct | Montgomery 16-Sep | Nashville 29-30-Sep | Perry 14-Oct | Shelby 16-Sep | Totals |
|--------------------------|---------------------|------------------|-------------------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------------|------------------------|-----------------|------------------|--------|
| Mississippi Kite | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 |
| Bald Eagle | 1 | 3 | 6 | 3 | 3 | - | 2 | 7 | - | 25 |
| Northern Harrier | - | - | 2 | - | - | - | - | 2 | - | 4 |
| Sharp-shinned Hawk | - | 1 | 7 | 1 | - | - | 1 | 7 | - | 17 |
| Cooper's Hawk | 1 | 2 | 7 | 7 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 1 | 29 |
| Accipiter sp. | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | 1 |
| Red-shouldered Hawk | 4 | 7 | 7 | 16 | 7 | 1 | 6 | 6 | 7 | 61 |
| Broad-winged Hawk | - | 126 | - | 3 | 1 | - | 1 | 4 | 2 | 137 |
| Red-tailed Hawk | 2 | 5 | 27 | 12 | 10 | 2 | 17 | 12 | 4 | 91 |
| Barn Owl | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | 1 |
| Eastern Screech Owl | 2 | 2 | 12 | 4 | - | - | 4 | 5 | - | 29 |
| Great Horned Owl | 4 | 4 | 10 | 3 | 1 | - | 3 | 2 | 2 | 29 |
| Barred Owl | 1 | - | 4 | 1 | - | 1 | 6 | 6 | 7 | 26 |
| Northern Saw-whet Owl | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| Belted Kingfisher | 5 | 12 | 40 | 17 | 11 | 2 | 16 | 15 | 6 | 124 |
| Red-headed Woodpecker | 1 | - | 7 | 7 | 9 | - | - | 22 | 9 | 55 |
| Red-bellied Woodpecker | 27 | 53 | 90 | 111 | 77 | 4 | 55 | 42 | 46 | 505 |
| Yellow-bellied Sapsucker | - | - | 16 | 1 | 1 | - | 3 | 7 | - | 28 |
| Downy Woodpecker | 13 | 38 | 46 | 57 | 26 | 3 | 53 | 29 | 29 | 294 |
| Hairy Woodpecker | 3 | 2 | 8 | 8 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 12 | - | 42 |
| Northern Flicker | 2 | 7 | 63 | 26 | 30 | - | 39 | 72 | 4 | 243 |
| Pileated Woodpecker | 16 | 22 | 37 | 10 | 7 | 4 | 16 | 17 | 14 | 143 |
| American Kestrel | 3 | - | 16 | 6 | 12 | 1 | 15 | 11 | 2 | 66 |
| Merlin | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | 3 | - | 4 |
| Peregrine Falcon | - | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | 2 | - | 4 |
| Olive-sided Flycatcher | - | 1 | - | 1 | - | - | 2 | - | 1 | 5 |

| Count Dates | Anderson 17-Sept | Blount 16-Sep | Elizabethton 30-Sep | Knox 24-Sep | Loudon 1-Oct | Montgomery 16-Sep | Nashville 29-30-Sep | Perry 14-Oct | Shelby 16-Sep | Totals |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|------------------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------------|------------------------|-----------------|------------------|--------|
| Eastern Wood-Pewee | 6 | 13 | 6 | 23 | 13 | 7 | 11 | 5 | 46 | 130 |
| Acadian Flycatcher | 1 | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | 18 | 21 |
| Empidonax sp. | - | 1 | - | 3 | - | - | - | - | - | 4 |
| Eastern Phoebe | 13 | 25 | 76 | 62 | 39 | 6 | 48 | 50 | 5 | 324 |
| Great Crested Flycatcher | - | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | 3 | 6 |
| Eastern Kingbird | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | - | 3 | 5 |
| Loggerhead Shrike | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| White-eyed Vireo | 9 | 8 | 2 | 12 | 4 | 17 | 17 | 4 | 84 | 157 |
| Yellow-throated Vireo | 11 | 3 | 1 | 4 | - | 4 | - | - | 3 | 26 |
| Blue-headed Vireo | - | 2 | 14 | 1 | - | - | 1 | 2 | - | 20 |
| Philadelphia Vireo | - | 1 | - | 2 | 1 | - | 6 | - | 1 | 11 |
| Warbling Vireo | - | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2 |
| Red-eyed Vireo | 3 | 32 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 18 | 71 |
| Blue Jay | 51 | 120 | 447 | 379 | 221 | 14 | 177 | 582 | 77 | 2068 |
| American Crow | 39 | 224 | 424 | 169 | 227 | 14 | 253 | 302 | 21 | 1673 |
| Fish Crow | - | 6 | 2 | 2 | 1 | - | - | - | - | 11 |
| Common Raven | - | - | 19 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 19 |
| Purple Martin | - | - | - | - | - | 10 | - | - | - | 10 |
| Tree Swallow | - | 6 | 68 | 18 | 883 | - | - | 11 | - | 986 |
| Northern Rough-winged Swallow | - | 6 | 3 | 126 | - | 2 | 29 | 11 | 14 | 191 |
| Cliff Swallow | - | - | - | - | - | 6 | - | - | - | 6 |
| Barn Swallow | 1 | 2 | - | - | 9 | 1 | 2 | 14 | 2 | 31 |
| Swallow sp. | - | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2 |
| Carolina Chickadee | 41 | 105 | 174 | 152 | 111 | 7 | 144 | 117 | 49 | 900 |
| Tufted Titmouse | 49 | 57 | 93 | 94 | 68 | 8 | 109 | 110 | 59 | 647 |

| Count Dates | Anderson 17-Sept | Blount 16-Sep | Elizabethton 30-Sep | Knox 24-Sep | Loudon 1-Oct | Montgomery 16-Sep | Nashville 29-30-Sep | Perry 14-Oct | Shelby 16-Sep | Totals |
|-------------------------|---------------------|------------------|------------------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------------|------------------------|-----------------|------------------|--------|
| Red-breasted Nuthatch | - | 2 | 6 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 8 |
| White-breasted Nuthatch | 21 | 18 | 44 | 30 | 28 | 2 | 41 | 8 | 37 | 229 |
| Brown-headed Nuthatch | - | 5 | - | 14 | 7 | - | - | - | - | 26 |
| Brown Creeper | - | - | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2 |
| House Wren | - | 1 | 2 | 5 | - | - | 8 | 10 | - | 26 |
| Winter Wren | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 5 | - | 6 |
| Marsh Wren | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 3 | - | 3 |
| Carolina Wren | 63 | 121 | 180 | 200 | 138 | 9 | 120 | 79 | 70 | 980 |
| Blue-gray Gnatcatcher | - | 3 | - | 3 | - | 2 | - | - | 10 | 18 |
| Golden-crowned Kinglet | - | - | 4 | - | - | - | 1 | 2 | - | 7 |
| Ruby-crowned Kinglet | - | - | 14 | - | 2 | - | 5 | 10 | 1 | 32 |
| Eastern Bluebird | 25 | 61 | 163 | 140 | 171 | 1 | 96 | 85 | 36 | 778 |
| Veery | - | 1 | 7 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 8 |
| Gray-cheeked Thrush | 7 | - | 26 | 3 | 2 | - | 4 | 1 | - | 43 |
| Swainson's Thrush | 8 | 3 | 70 | 38 | 1 | - | 21 | 1 | 3 | 145 |
| Hermit Thrush | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | 3 |
| Wood Thrush | 7 | 1 | 19 | 13 | 3 | - | 2 | 1 | 6 | 52 |
| American Robin | 4 | 105 | 301 | 161 | 134 | 6 | 74 | 46 | 71 | 902 |
| Gray Catbird | 6 | 14 | 34 | 34 | 7 | 1 | 39 | 9 | 16 | 160 |
| Brown Thrasher | 10 | 15 | 11 | 54 | 15 | - | 22 | 35 | 7 | 169 |
| Northern Mockingbird | 14 | 75 | 100 | 164 | 171 | - | 62 | 70 | 35 | 691 |
| European Starling | 522 | 119 | 2106 | 1110 | 344 | 2 | 242 | 63 | 414 | 4922 |
| Cedar Waxwing | 15 | 3 | 205 | 76 | 17 | - | 120 | 22 | - | 458 |
| House Sparrow | 1 | 19 | 33 | 54 | 4 | - | 10 | 16 | 38 | 175 |
| House Finch | 2 | 22 | 44 | 71 | 78 | 11 | 40 | 10 | 11 | 289 |

| Count Dates | Anderson 17-Sept | Blount 16-Sep | Elizabethton 30-Sep | Knox 24-Sep | Loudon 1-Oct | Montgomery 16-Sep | Nashville 29-30-Sep | Perry 14-Oct | Shelby 16-Sep | Totals |
|-------------------------|---------------------|------------------|------------------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------------|------------------------|-----------------|------------------|--------|
| Pine Siskin | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | 7 | - | 8 |
| American Goldfinch | 14 | 54 | 138 | 199 | 55 | 15 | 30 | 43 | 23 | 571 |
| Eastern Towhee | 5 | 18 | 50 | 28 | 26 | 1 | 39 | 12 | 20 | 199 |
| Chipping Sparrow | 7 | 16 | 57 | 5 | 81 | - | 12 | 51 | 24 | 253 |
| Field Sparrow | 1 | 18 | 14 | 36 | 16 | - | 37 | 84 | 3 | 209 |
| Savannah Sparrow | - | - | - | 2 | 1 | - | - | - | - | 3 |
| Song Sparrow | 4 | 10 | 144 | 46 | 22 | - | 9 | 9 | 1 | 245 |
| Lincoln's Sparrow | - | - | 1 | - | 2 | - | - | 7 | - | 10 |
| Swamp Sparrow | - | - | 13 | - | - | - | 3 | 108 | - | 124 |
| White-throated Sparrow | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| Dark-eyed Junco | - | - | 75 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 75 |
| Yellow-breasted Chat | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 3 | 4 |
| Bobolink | - | - | - | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | 2 |
| Eastern Meadowlark | 15 | 2 | 17 | 12 | 106 | - | 7 | 11 | 6 | 176 |
| Baltimore Oriole | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | - | - | 3 | 5 |
| Red-winged Blackbird | - | 3 | 41 | 265 | 112 | - | 36 | 47 | 18 | 522 |
| Brown-headed Cowbird | - | 1 | 78 | 10 | 96 | - | 18 | 16 | 19 | 238 |
| Common Grackle | - | 9 | 859 | 238 | 6 | - | 50 | 13 | 246 | 1421 |
| Ovenbird | - | 1 | 2 | - | 4 | - | 1 | 3 | - | 11 |
| Worm-eating Warbler | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | 2 |
| Northern Waterthrush | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| Golden-winged Warbler | 1 | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | 2 |
| Blue-winged Warbler | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | 1 | 2 |
| Black-and-white Warbler | - | 1 | 6 | 3 | - | 1 | 9 | - | 7 | 27 |
| Prothonotary Warbler | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | 1 |

| Count Dates | Anderson 17-Sept | Blount 16-Sep | Elizabethton 30-Sep | Knox 24-Sep | Loudon 1-Oct | Montgomery 16-Sep | Nashville 29-30-Sep | Perry 14-Oct | Shelby 16-Sep | Totals |
|------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|------------------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------------|------------------------|-----------------|------------------|--------|
| Tennessee Warbler | 5 | 6 | 32 | 17 | 25 | 1 | 30 | 35 | 3 | 154 |
| Orange-crowned Warbler | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | - | 3 | - | 5 |
| Nashville Warbler | - | - | - | 2 | - | - | 1 | - | 1 | 4 |
| Connecticut Warbler | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | 1 |
| Mourning Warbler | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| Common Yellowthroat | - | 8 | 9 | 51 | 6 | 2 | 11 | 14 | 2 | 103 |
| Hooded Warbler | 6 | 4 | 2 | 2 | - | - | 2 | - | 6 | 22 |
| American Redstart | 3 | 6 | 5 | 13 | 6 | - | 25 | 1 | 5 | 64 |
| Cape May Warbler | - | 3 | 8 | 16 | 2 | - | 1 | - | - | 30 |
| Northern Parula | 1 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 17 | 32 |
| Magnolia Warbler | 4 | 18 | 29 | 61 | 14 | - | 79 | 9 | 10 | 224 |
| Bay-breasted Warbler | - | - | 10 | 3 | - | - | 1 | 4 | - | 18 |
| Blackburnian Warbler | - | 3 | 2 | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | 7 |
| Yellow Warbler | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 4 | 4 |
| Chestnut-sided Warbler | 6 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 6 | 2 | 5 | 28 |
| Black-throated Blue Warbler | - | 3 | 5 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 8 |
| Palm Warbler | - | 3 | 21 | 19 | 40 | - | - | 7 | - | 90 |
| Pine Warbler | 5 | 8 | 11 | 10 | 11 | 2 | 5 | 5 | - | 57 |
| Yellow-rumped Warbler | - | - | 5 | 1 | 1 | - | 15 | 28 | - | 50 |
| Yellow-throated Warbler | 2 | 1 | 4 | 3 | - | 1 | 3 | - | 5 | 19 |
| Prairie Warbler | - | 2 | 1 | 2 | - | - | - | 1 | - | 6 |
| Black-throated Green Warbler | - | 1 | 8 | 1 | 1 | - | 28 | 8 | 1 | 48 |
| Canada Warbler | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | 2 |
| Warbler sp. | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| Summer Tanager | - | 1 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 9 | 12 | 7 | 33 | 68 |
| Scarlet Tanager | 4 | 2 | 11 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 35 |

| Count Dates | Anderson 17-Sept | Blount 16-Sep | Elizabethton 30-Sep | Knox 24-Sep | Loudon 1-Oct | Montgomery 16-Sep | Nashville 29-30-Sep | Perry 14-Oct | Shelby 16-Sep | Totals |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|------------------|------------------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------------|------------------------|-----------------|------------------|--------|
| Northern Cardinal | 44 | 124 | 173 | 198 | 170 | 19 | 157 | 114 | 69 | 1068 |
| Rose-breasted Grosbeak | 4 | 2 | 19 | 3 | 2 | - | 28 | 112 | 1 | 171 |
| Blue Grosbeak | 2 | 3 | - | 3 | 1 | 2 | - | - | 1 | 12 |
| Indigo Bunting | 5 | 16 | 15 | 73 | 12 | 10 | 89 | 159 | 75 | 454 |
| Total individuals | 1528 | 2625 | 10225 | 6263 | 5006 | 407 | 3725 | 3894 | 9169 | 42842 |
| Total species | 79 | 107 | 122 | 111 | 90 | 64 | 106 | 105 | 109 | 177 |
| Observers | 7 | 23 | 54 | 31 | 35 | 2 | 22 | 6 | 19 | 199 |
| Parties | 5 | 9 | 12 | 18 | 12 | 1 | 9 | 5 | 10 | 81 |
| Party hours | 15.55 | 56.44 | 96 | 57.83 | 36 | 6 | 47.18 | 38 | 31.5 | 384.5 |
| Hours by car | 3.3 | 8.58 | - | 20.83 | 27.25 | 4 | 17.08 | 10 | 9 | 100.04 |
| Hours by foot | 12.25 | 46.38 | - | 57 | 8.75 | 2 | 30.1 | 28 | 22.5 | 206.98 |
| Hours by boat or other | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Miles by car | 13.6 | 174 | - | 238.5 | 208.5 | 41 | 189 | 48 | 48.5 | 961.1 |
| Miles by foot | 6.95 | 26.84 | - | 34.6 | 7.3 | 0.25 | 24.49 | 16 | 11.75 | 128.18 |
| Miles by canoe or other | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Hours owling | 0.85 | 1.33 | 5 | 1.25 | - | - | 3.25 | 1 | 0.5 | 13.18 |
| Miles owling | 6 | 7.5 | - | 10 | - | - | 7.45 | 1 | 0.5 | 32.45 |
| Feeder/yard watch observers | 2 | 8 | - | - | 18 | - | - | - | - | 28 |
| Feeder/yard watch hours | 1.6 | 7.5 | - | 8.25 | 28 | - | - | - | - | 45.35 |

MINUTES OF THE FALL TOS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

7 October, 2017
Kingsport, Tennessee

The Fall Meeting was held Saturday, 7 October 2017 at the Meadowview Inn in Kingsport, Tennessee and was hosted by the Fred J. Alsop/Kingsport Chapter. Field trips were offered to Roan Mountain, Meadowview Golf Course, Shady Valley, Phipps Bend, South Holston Weir Dam and the Riverfront to Holston Confluence, and Ft. Patrick Henry Dam.

President Steve Routledge called the meeting to order at 3:15 pm. Secretary Cyndi Routledge determined there was a quorum. The minutes of the Spring 2017 meeting were approved as corrected.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS, DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE AND PUBLICATIONS

PRESIDENT: Steve Routledge expressed the Society's sincere sympathies to the family of Bill Pulliam for his untimely death. Bill was a past member of the Tennessee Bird Records Committee and State-wide eBird coordinator.

TREASURER: Mac McWhirter sent a report that all accounts are status quo, remain healthy, and continue to grow.

THE MIGRANT: Editor Bob Ford sent a report that the March 2017 issue has been mailed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

TENNESSEE BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE: Secretary Ruben Stoll gave a report of the committee's last round of voting and the additions to the state list of birds. For details of this report see Volume 87, No. 3, (September 2016) of *The Migrant*.

CONSERVATION POLICY COMMITTEE: Committee member Ashley Heeney (NTOS) reported that the committee has signed on to the following:

Federal Bird-Safe Building Act of 2015

Saving Pollinators Act

A request to the Senate Judiciary Committee by Friends of the Earth to properly evaluate the Bayer-Monsanto Merger

The National Park Service Legacy Act (S. 571)

A request by the Tennessee Wildlife Federation to support Dedicated Funding to Recover America's Wildlife.

OLD BUSINESS

President Routledge reminded members of the inaugural Wings of Winter Birding Festival to be held in Paris, TN 19-21 January, 2018, which will serve as the Winter Meeting.

Tony King gave an update on the status of the population of the Eastern Migratory Population of the Whooping Crane.

NEW BUSINESS

Danny Gaddy announced the Spring Meeting will be held in Chattanooga 20-22 April, 2018. The guest speaker will be Chris Haney, an expert on seabirds with the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

Motion to adjourn was made by Rack Cross at 4:21 pm; passed unanimously.

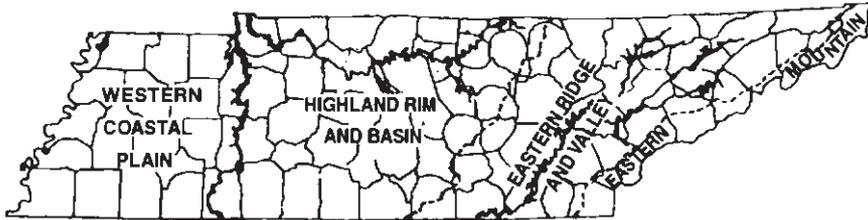
Respectfully submitted,

Cyndi Routledge, Secretary



THE SUMMER SEASON

Richard L. Knight, Editor



1 June - 31 July 2017

Both temperature and precipitation were near normal this summer across all regions. A Common Merganser hen accompanied by a brood of half-grown ducklings provided a rare breeding record following several recent spring and summer sightings that have suggested nesting after an absence of more than a century. Most amazing this season was a male Broad-billed Hummingbird in Shelby County providing a first state record; unfortunately, it did not linger. An Arctic Tern in Lincoln County represented a third state record and the first to be photographed. Two Brown Pelicans appeared in East Tennessee. Wood Storks appeared in three regions, while Glossy Ibises and Roseate Spoonbills occurred in two regions. The early flight of southbound shorebirds was good, mainly in the two western regions.

Tennessee hosts a broad array of breeding species, from Western Kingbird and Painted Bunting in Shelby County to Northern Saw-whet Owl and Yellow-bellied Sapsucker in the eastern mountains. The state's birders sought out these and many other nesting species, providing valuable data on our avifauna, such as Anhinga nesting at the Duck River Unit this summer.

An American Pipit on 29 July in Shelby County and a Palm Warbler on 30 July in Sullivan County were remarkably early, establishing new early "fall" arrival dates in the state. Were these failed breeders migrating early?

STANDARD ABBREVIATIONS

| | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| ad - adult | max - maximum count |
| Co - County | m.ob. - many observers |
| Cr - Creek | Mtn - Mountain |
| ers - earliest reported sighting | NWR - National Wildlife Refuge |
| et al. - and others | R - River |
| fide - reported by | Rd - Road |
| im - immature | SP - State Park |
| L - Lake | yg - young |
| lrs - latest reported sighting | |

WESTERN COASTAL PLAIN REGION - - Unlike the warming trend of the last two years, both June and July were slightly cooler than normal. June was a full degree below usual, while July was half a degree off. Rainfall was near normal, with June just over an inch above and July almost an inch below.

The birding highlight of the season was an adult male Broad-billed Hummingbird that briefly visited a Shelby County feeder. Unfortunately, while excellent photos were obtained by the homeowner, local birders didn't find out about the sighting until after the bird departed. Pending acceptance by the state Bird Records Committee, this will be a first state record for the species.

Unusual in summer was an American Pipit at Ensley Bottoms in Shelby County, where a Fulvous Whistling-Duck was also seen. A Piping Plover in Lake County was a nice find, as was a Wood Stork.

Thanks to all those who reported their sightings and especially to those who submitted photographs or written details.

Waterfowl - Grebe: **Black-bellied Whistling-Duck:** 1 Jun (2 ad, 8 yg) Neboville, Gibson Co (Eugene and Sean Stephens fide MAG), 1st record of breeding in Co; 29 Jul (153, including 7 broods totaling 67 yg) Ensley (DDP, RH). **Fulvous Whistling-Duck:** 21-24 Jul (1) Ensley (MCT, m.ob.). **Northern Shoveler:** 19 Jul (2) Ensley (DDP). **Ruddy Duck:** 21 Jun (1) Big Sandy R, Henry Co (JH). **Northern Bobwhite:** 11 Jul (1 heard) Mid-South Raptor Center, Memphis (Knox Martin, Michael Collins); 18/25 Jul (2 heard) Mid-South Raptor Center, Memphis (MGW) **Pied-billed Grebe:** 29 Jul (1) Ensley (RH, DDP), ers.

Stilt - Tern: **Black-necked Stilt:** 19 Jun (2) Wolf R, Fayette Co (RH). **Piping Plover:** 20 Jul (1) Fritz Landing on Mississippi R, Lake Co (MAG). **Ruddy Turnstone:** 28-29 Jul (1) TVA Lake (DDP, RH). **Stilt Sandpiper:** 19 Jul (1) Ensley (DDP), ers. **Sanderling:** 29 Jul (1) Ensley (DDP, RH), ers. **Baird's Sandpiper:** 21 Jul (1) Ensley (MAG), ers. **Least Sandpiper:** 29 Jul (4950+) Ensley (DDP, RH), max. **White-rumped Sandpiper:** 19 / 29 Jul (2 / 1) Ensley (DDP). **Western Sandpiper:** 21 Jul (2) Ensley (MAG), ers. **Short-billed Dowitcher:** 10-11 Jul (1) Ensley (BF), ers. **Long-billed Dowitcher:** 21 Jul (1) Ensley (MAG). **Willet:** 21 Jul (1) TVA Lake (BF). **Lesser Yellowlegs:** 24 Jun (4) Phillipy Pits, Lake Co (Glen Criswell), ers. **Wilson's Phalarope:** 28 Jul (1) Ensley (DDP, RH). **Black Tern:** 19 / 29 Jul (1 / 10) TVA Lake (DDP, RH).

Stork - Hummingbird: **Wood Stork:** 20 Jul (1) Tiptonville Slough, Lake Co (MAG). **Anhinga:** 17 Jun (1) Reelfoot L, Obion Co (MAG). **American White Pelican:** 16-19 Jul (1-6) Pickwick L, Hardin Co (Gaynell Perry / Emily Patterson). **Glossy Ibis:** 3 Jun (1) Hwy 88W, Lauderdale Co (MAG). **Osprey:** 16 Jun/29 Jul (1/2) TVA Lake (Virginia Reynolds). **Mississippi Kite:** 3 Jun (1) Big Cypress Tree SP, Weakley Co (Allan Trently); 3 Jul (3) Jackson, Madison Co (MCT); 21 Jul (90) Ensley (MCT), max. **BROAD-BILLED HUMMINGBIRD:** 13 Jun (1 ad male) Arlington, Shelby Co (fide CR, photo), 1st state record.

Passerines: **Western Kingbird:** 26 Jun (10, with 2 occupied nests) President's Island (DDP,

RH); 26 Jun (1, nest failed) Ensley (DDP, RH); 15 / 21 Jul (1 / 2) President's Island (MAG / MCT); 21 Jul (6) Ensley (MAG); 30 Jul (3) North Treatment Plant, Shelby Co (MCT). **Scissor-tailed Flycatcher**: 15 Jul (1) President's Island (MAG). **Fish Crow**: 3 Jun (1) Paris, Henry Co (Robert Wheat). **American Pipit**: 29 Jul (1) Ensley (DDP, RH), new early fall date in state. **Ovenbird**: 5 Jun (1) W.C. Johnson Park, Shelby Co (RH), lrs. **Lark Sparrow**: thru season (1-4) Gibson Co (MAG); 4 Jun (3) Haywood Co (RH); 13 Jun (1) Crockett Co (MAG). **Song Sparrow**: 21 Jul (2) Ensley (MCT). **Painted Bunting**: 19 Jun (1) President's Island (BF); 26 Jun / 19 Jul (2 males) Ensley (DDP, RH); 30 Jul (2, female-type) Ensley (MCT).

Locations: Ensley - Shelby Co; President's Island - Shelby Co; TVA Lake - Shelby Co.

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HIGHLAND RIM AND BASIN REGION - - Weather during June in Middle Tennessee were about normal, while July averaged 2 degrees above normal and precipitation was about a half inch above normal. Notable sightings included Arctic Tern, White-winged Dove, Common Gallinule, Neotropic Cormorant, Anhinga (breeding), Mississippi Kite, Wood Stork and Roseate Spoonbill. The spoonbills and storks were thought to be on the move because of drought in their breeding areas.

Duck - Gallinule: **Blue-winged Teal**: from late May thru 5 Jul (1-3) marsh on Walter S. Davis Blvd, Nashville (FF). **Hooded Merganser**: 17 Jun (hen with 5 large yg) Dickson Co (VS). **Red-breasted Merganser**: from May - 23 Jun (1 female) Old Hickory L (PDC, Graham Gerdeman, m.ob.); 22 Jun (1) Cross Cr NWR (SR, CR). **Pied-billed Grebe**: 17 Jun (1) Dickson Co (VS); 23 Jun (1) Old Hickory L (PDC, Graham Gerdeman); 15 Jul (1) Duck R Unit (AT); 18 Jul (1) marsh on Walter S. Davis Blvd, Nashville (FF). **White-winged Dove**: 4-23 Jul (1 im) Rockvale, Rutherford Co (Kristy Baker, photo), following spring sighting in same yard; local breeding? **Black-billed Cuckoo**: 14 Jun (1, singing) Putnam Co (Mark Taylor), continuation of May sightings. **Sora**: 13 Jul (1) Duck R Unit (refuge staff), ers. **Common Gallinule**: 15-16 Jun (1 ad) marsh on Walter S. Davis Blvd, Nashville (FF); 12 Jul (1) Duck R Unit (DJS).

Plover - Tern: **Black-bellied Plover**: 17 Jun (1) Fowler Rd (DSn). **Stilt Sandpiper**: 8 Jul (3) Duck R Unit (Sharon Arnold), ers. **Least Sandpiper**: 2 Jul (3) Duck R Unit (AT), ers. **White-rumped Sandpiper**: 9 / 19 Jun (12 / 2) Duck R Unit (AT), lrs. **Semipalmated Sandpiper**: 9 Jun (32) Duck R Unit (AT), lrs. **Short-billed Dowitcher**: 4 Jul (1) Duck R Unit (SR, CR), ers; 15 Jul (1) Cross Cr NWR (JH). **Wilson's Snipe**: 11 Jul (1) Fowler Rd (DSn), very early. **Spotted Sandpiper**: 17 Jun (1) Duck R Unit (JH); 1 Jul (1) Duck R Unit (CW). **Solitary Sandpiper**: 3 Jul (1) Duck R Unit (MCT, Greg Tomerlin, Stephen Zipperer), ers. **Greater Yellowlegs**: 11 Jul (1) Fowler Rd (DSn), ers. **Willet**: 1 Jul (2) Duck R Unit (Gary

Brunvoll, Jeffrey Schaarschmidt). **Lesser Yellowlegs**: 24 Jun (1) Duck R Unit (RS, VS), ers. **Ring-billed Gull**: 15 Jun / 22 Jul (1) Old Hickory L (Jerry Webb / Jim Arnett); 26 Jun / 4 Jul (1 / 8) Duck R Unit (Graham Gerdeman / SR, CR). **Caspian Tern**: 12 Jul (4) Duck R Unit (MCT), ers. **Black Tern**: 1 Jul (2) Duck R Unit (FF, CW), ers. **ARCTIC TERN**: 11 Jun (1 im) Fowler Rd (DSn, photos), 3rd record in state, 1st substantiated by photo.

Stork - Kite: **Wood Stork**: 1-30 Jul (1-7) Duck R Unit (AT, m.ob., photos). **Neotropic Cormorant**: 7 Jul (1) Duck R Unit (BF). **Anhinga**: from late May thru season (2) Duck R Unit (RS, m.ob.), female with 1 yg in nest 12 Jul (MCT) and 4 half-grown yg in nest 29 Jul (AT, RS, VS), 2nd ad male seen on 25 Jul (DJS), all at Duck R Unit; 23 Jun (1, flying over) I-40 in west Nashville (CA). **American White Pelican**: thru Jun (150-200) Duck R Unit (AT, RS, m.ob.), with lesser numbers thru Jul; 14 Jun (75) Tenn R, Perry Co (DJS). **Snowy Egret**: 5 Jun (pair, nest building) Duck R Unit (refuge staff), with up to 25 thru season (m.ob.); 16 Jun (5) Barkley WMA, Stewart Co (JH). **Little Blue Heron**: 11 Jul (8 im) Lincoln Co (DSn); 21 Jul (1 im) Gum Springs Mtn Rd, White Co (CA); 23-25 Jul (1 ad, 1 im) Clay L, Wilson Co (Justin Nation, Stephen Zipperer, Greg Tomerlin). **Yellow-crowned Night-Heron**: 12 Jul (1) marsh on Walter S. Davis Blvd, Nashville (FF). **White Ibis**: 5 Jun (2) Duck R Unit (refuge staff). **Glossy Ibis**: 2 Jun (1) Cross Cr NWR (Sharon Arnold, photo). **Roseate Spoonbill**: 23 Jun - 31 Jul (1-7) Duck R Unit (AT, m.ob., photo). **Mississippi Kite**: 2 Jun (1) Franklin Co (CA); 17 Jun (1) Stewart Co (Stefan Woltmann); 17 Jun / 29 Jul (3 / 2) Duck R Unit (AT, RS, VS); 12 Jul (1) Savannah Bottoms, Hardin Co (DJS).

Passerines: **Willow Flycatcher**: 12 Jun (1) Fort Campbell (DMo); 25 Jul (1) Duck R Unit (DJS); 28 Jul (1) Dover, Stewart Co (JH). **Scissor-tailed Flycatcher**: 23-27 Jun (2) Clifton, Wayne Co (RS, VS, AT); 1 / 30 Jul (2 / 6) Lytle Cr Rd (CW / SHu); 16 Jul (1) Gallatin, Sumner Co (Mike Smith). **Loggerhead Shrike**: 1 Jul (2 ad, 1 yg) Lytle Cr Rd (CW). **Bell's Vireo**: 1 Jun - 12 Jul (1-3) Fort Campbell, Stewart Co (DMo). **Horned Lark**: 11 Jun (4 ad, 1 yg) Fowler Rd (DSn). **Blue-winged Warbler**: 14 Jun (1) Fort Campbell, Stewart Co (DMo); 20 Jun (1) Fort Campbell (DMo). **Swainson's Warbler**: 30 Jul (1) Perry Co (RS). **Lark Sparrow**: 11-30 Jun (1) Fowler Rd (DSn, DJS); 1 Jul (1 ad, 1 yg) Lytle Cr Rd (CW). **Grasshopper Sparrow**: 10-12 Jul (3-10) Fort Campbell, Stewart Co (DMo). **Henslow's Sparrow**: 1 Jun - 12 Jul (2-9) Fort Campbell, Stewart Co (DMo); 14 Jun (2) Fort Campbell (DMo). **White-throated Sparrow**: from May thru 31 Jul (1, at feeder) Nashville (Jan Shaw).

Locations: Cross Cr NWR - Stewart Co; Duck R Unit - Tennessee NWR, Humphreys Co; Fort Campbell - Montgomery Co (unless specified otherwise); Fowler Rd - irrigation pond in Lincoln Co; Lytle Cr Rd - Rutherford Co; Old Hickory L - Davidson Co.

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CUMBERLAND PLATEAU / RIDGE and VALLEY REGION - - Temperatures and precipitation were slightly above average for the summer. After hitting the Gulf coast, remnants of Tropical Storm Cindy brought heavy rains and light to moderate winds to Tennessee on 23-24 June. This storm system may have accounted for the Laughing Gulls and Willets seen in the region in that time frame.

Two Brown Pelicans in the region continued the recent trend of increased inland sightings for this coastal species. A Roseate Spoonbill in Blount County represented the sixth for East Tennessee. A Common Merganser was at a site that has hosted late spring occurrences in recent years. Also of note were a Common Gallinule and an Upland Sandpiper. Two reports of juvenile Loggerhead Shrikes were welcome news for this declining bird. Bank Swallows and Savannah Sparrows apparently still breed locally within the region. A Palm Warbler and a Dark-eyed Junco were very early fall dates.

Duck - Coot: **Gadwall:** 4-25 Jun (2-4) Gupton Wetland (MF, m.ob.). **Blue-winged Teal:** 3 Jun (1 male) John Sevier L (SHu). **Northern Shoveler:** 13 Jul (1 male) Jefferson Co (BSc). **Ring-necked Duck:** 3 Jun (2) John Sevier L (SHu). **Common Merganser:** 10 Jun (1 female) Boone L, at mouth of Beaver Cr, Sullivan Co (Caitlyn King). **Red-breasted Merganser:** 24 Jun (1 male) Blythe Ferry landing, Rhea Co (Gary Lanham, Pixie Lanham, photo). **Common Gallinule:** 4 / 11 Jun (1) Gupton Wetland (MF / RDH, DMy). **American Coot:** 3 Jun / 23 Jul (3 / 1) John Sevier L (SHu); 4-15 Jun (1) Gupton Wetland (MF, m.ob.); 5 Jun (1) Washington Co (RLK); 4 Jul (1) Knoxville (Colin Sumrall).

Plover - Tern: **Semipalmated Plover:** 24 Jul (1) Eagle Bend (EBo), ers. **Upland Sandpiper:** 27 Jul (1) U.T. farm, Knox Co (Jacob Wessels, Clay Walters). **Willet:** 23 Jun (1) Blythe Ferry landing, Rhea Co (Charles Murray); 23 Jun (2) Eagle Bend (Janet Dowlen fide Dean Edwards). **Laughing Gull:** 22-26 Jun (3-1 im) Chickamauga L, Hamilton Co (BD, m.ob.). **Forster's Tern:** 10 Jun (1) Watts Bar L, Roane Co (Roi Shannon, Debbie Shannon); 18 Jul (1) Boone L, Sullivan Co (RLK); 28 Jul (2) John Sevier L (SHu).

Pelican - Spoonbill: **Brown Pelican:** 15 Jun (1 im) Watts Bar L, Roane Co (RDH, DMy); 15 Jul into fall (1 im) Fort Patrick Henry L, Sullivan Co (AnnMarie Torrance, Bambi Fincher, RLK, m.ob., photo), 2nd record in NE Tenn. **Least Bittern:** 19 Jun - 24 Jul (1) Standifer Gap Marsh (Gary Lanham, m.ob.); 20 Jun / 17 Jul (1) Kyker Bottoms, Blount Co (Randy Winstead). **Snowy Egret:** 14 Jun (1) Gupton Wetland (EBo). **Little Blue Heron:** 14 Jun - 3 Jul (1 ad) Gupton Wetland (EBo, m.ob.); 2 Jul (3 ad) Barker Island, Watts Bar L, Rhea Co (Chris Agee); 3-30 Jul (1 im) Brainerd Levee, Hamilton Co (BD); 6-8 Jul (1 im) Eagle Bend (RDH, DMy); 8 Jul (1 im) John Sevier L (SHu); 10 Jul (2 im) Phipps Bend, Hawkins Co (Gary Bailey); 28-29 Jul (1) Bradley Co (Rick Houlk); 31 Jul (1 im) Gupton Wetland (EBo). **Yellow-crowned Night-Heron:** 3 Jun (1) Johnson City (Jerry Nagel); 4 Jun into fall (1-4) Maryville Greenway, Blount Co (Evan Kidd, m.ob.); 25 Jul (1 im) Middlebrook L, Sullivan Co (RRK et al.). **Roseate Spoonbill:** 15-20 Jul (1) near Maryville, Blount Co (Steve Adain, Stacey Adair, m.ob., photo).

Passerines: **Least Flycatcher**: 3 Jun (1) Clinch Mtn along Hwy 70, Hawkins Co (RRK, Harry Lee Farthing). **Scissor-tailed Flycatcher**: 26 Jun (1, carrying nest material) South Pittsburg, Marion Co (BD), traditional nest site. **Loggerhead Shrike**: 7 Jun (1 ad, 1 yg) Washington Co (GDE, PGR); 13 Jul (2 ad, 1 yg) White Pine, Jefferson Co (BSc). **Fish Crow**: thru season (2) Johnson City (RLK, m.ob.); thru season (1-2) Kingsport (Rick Blanton, SHu, m.ob.). **Bank Swallow**: 15 Jun (5) New Market, Jefferson Co (Dean Edwards), near traditional nest site in mine tailings. **Blackburnian Warbler**: 10 Jun (1) Tower Rd, Campbell Co (Bates Estabrooks). **Chestnut-sided Warbler**: 8 Jun (2 each) Hinch Mtn / Brady Mtn, Cumberland Co (Ed LeGrand, Melinda Welton); 10 Jun (10) Tower Rd, Campbell Co (Bates Estabrooks). **Palm Warbler**: 30 Jul (1) Warrior's Path SP, Sullivan Co (Bambi Fincher, Sherrie Quillen), new early "fall" date. **Savannah Sparrow**: 9 May thru season (pair) Washington Co (RLK). **Dark-eyed Junco**: 14 Jul (1) Lookout Mtn, Hamilton Co (BD). **Dickcissel**: thru season (1-2 each at 4 sites) Washington Co (RLK, RRK, m.ob.); 2 Jun (1) Hawkins Co (SHu); 3 Jun (6) Bledsoe Co (Tommie Rogers); 5 Jun - 1 Jul (pair with nest) Brainerd Levee, Hamilton Co (John Landon, photo), field mowed apparently before young fledged; 5 Jun (5) Polk Co (Rick Houlk); 10 Jun (7) Blount Co (Tom Howe); 21 Jun / 16 Jul (2 / pair with 4 yg) Bible Refuge, Greene Co (EBo / Jeffrey Bailey); 9 Jul (1) Bradley Co (BSc); 13 Jul (2) Jefferson Co (BSc). **Brown-headed Cowbird**: 12 Jul (1 fledged yg fed by male Northern Parula) Norris Dam SP Songbird Trail, Anderson Co (EBo), first report of this host in Tennessee according to the Breeding Bird Atlas.

Locations: Eagle Bend - fish hatchery in Anderson Co; Gupton Wetlands - Roane Co; John Sevier L - Hawkins Co.

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EASTERN MOUNTAIN REGION - - Temperatures were slightly above average for the period, and precipitation was 2 inches below normal for the period.

Common Mergansers have been teasing us about the possibility of nesting in East Tennessee for the last few years. A pair of Common Mergansers have been seen during the breeding season since 2015 in the Greenbrier section of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. There is an undocumented report of an adult with young at this location in 2016. In June 2017 a female Common Merganser with eight ducklings on the Little River, northwest of the park, established the first documented nesting in Tennessee since 1899.

Duck - Loon: **Common Merganser**: 3-9 Jun (female with 8 yg) Little R, Walland, Blount Co (Jeremy Lloyd, m.ob., photo - Warren Bielenberg), apparently the same family group was seen about 3 miles upstream thru 20 Jul (Randy Winstead, m.ob.). **Northern Bobwhite**: 6 Jun (female with 4 yg) Spivey, Unicoi Co (Judy Beckman). **Mourning Dove**: thru season (1-2) Carver's Gap on Roan Mtn (RLK, m.ob.), unusual at high elevation. **Sora**: 5 Jul (1) Rooty Branch beaver pond, Sullivan Co (Harry Farthing, Sue Farthing), 1st Jul record in

NE Tenn. **Forster's Tern**: 20 Jul (2) South Holston L, Sullivan Co (Mike Sanders). **Common Loon**: 2-11 Jun / 19 Jul (1 / 2) South Holston L, Sullivan Co (Mike Sanders et al.), apparently summered.

Stork - Falcon: **Wood Stork**: 30 Jun - 3 Jul (1 im) jct Hwy 68 / Cedar Springs Rd, Polk Co (Linda Walker / Rick Houlk). **Little Blue Heron**: 23 Jul (1 ad) Pittman Center, Sevier Co (KW). **Yellow-crowned Night-Heron**: 14 Jun (4 yg ready to fledge) Elizabethton, Carter Co (RRK et al.). **Northern Saw-whet Owl**: 2 Jun (3, calling) Clingman's Dome Rd, GSMNP (AT); 5 Jun (1, calling) Roan Mtn (Debi Campbell). **Red-headed Woodpecker**: 10-21 Jun (pair feeding nestlings) Watauga Point Rec Area on Watauga L, Carter Co (Tom McNeil, Cathy McNeil, RLK). **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker**: 8 Jun (1 ad, 3-4 fledged yg) Roan Mtn, at about 4500 ft elevation (GDE, PGR); 10 Jun (pair) Ripshin L, Carter Co (Rob Biller, Ron Carrico); 17 Jun (pair feeding nestlings) Iron Mtn Gap, Unicoi Co (Brookie Potter, Jean Potter). **Peregrine Falcon**: 30 Jul (1) Mt LeConte, GSMNP (Samuel Merker).

Passerines: **Alder Flycatcher**: thru season (2+) Roan Mtn (RLK, m.ob.). **Hermit Thrush**: thru season (5+) Roan Mtn (RLK, m.ob.); 17 Jun (4) Unaka Mtn, Unicoi Co (Richard Lewis); 17 Jun (2) Charlie's Bunion trail, GSMNP (Chris Welsh). **Brown Thrasher**: 10 Jun (1) Round Bald on Roan Mtn (RLK, Jim Anderson), unusual at high elevation. **House Finch**: 10 Jun (1 male at feeder) Roan Mtn, at 4450 ft elevation (RLK), unusual at high elevation. **Red Crossbill**: 3 Jun / 30 Jul (1 / 10) Mt LeConte, GSMNP (AT / Samuel Merker); 7-10 Jun (1-5) Roan Mtn (RLK, m.ob.); 25 Jul (2) Newfound Gap, GSMNP (Ryan Sanderson). **Pine Siskin**: thru season (3-4) Roan Mtn in spruce-fir belt and (2, at feeders) Roan Mtn at 4450 ft elevation (RLK, m.ob.); 17 Jul (1, at feeder) Pittman Center, Sevier Co (KW). **"Brewster's" Warbler**: 8 Jun (1) Roan Mtn (GDE, PGR). **Magnolia Warbler**: 10 May thru season (3) Unaka Mtn, Unicoi Co (RRK, m.ob.); 7 Jun thru season (4-5) Roan Mtn (RLK). **Yellow-rumped Warbler**: 7-10 Jun (1 male) Roan Mtn (RLK); 9 Jun / 22 Jul (pair + 1 male / 1 male) Clingman's Dome, GSMNP (KW / Glen Davis, Christina Davis). **Vesper Sparrow**: 10 Jun thru season (1) Round Bald on Roan Mtn (RLK, Jim Anderson, m.ob.).

Locations: GSMNP - Great Smoky Mountains National Park; Roan Mtn - Carter Co.

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| CA - Chris Agee | DMy - Dollyann Myers |
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| BD - Bruce Dralle | PGR - Peter G. Range |
| GDE - Glen D. Eller | CR - Cyndi Routledge |
| MF - Melinda Fawver | SR - Steve Routledge |
| FF - Frank Fekel | BSc - Beth Schilling |
| BF - Bob Foehring | DJS - Damien J. Simbeck |
| MAG - Mark A. Greene | DSn - Dan Snell |
| JH - Joe Hall | RS - Ruben Stoll |
| RH - Rob Harbin | VS - Victor Stoll |
| RDH - Ron D. Hoff | MCT - Michael C. Todd |
| SHu - Susan Hubley | AT - Allan Troyer |
| RLK - Richard L. Knight | CW - Chloe Walker |
| RRK - Roy R. Knispel | KW - Keith Watson |
| DMo - Daniel Moss | |

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