

The Ohio Cardinal is a quarterly publication devoted to the study and appreciation of Ohio's birdlife.

The Ohio Cardinal exists to provide a permanent and timely record of the abundance and distribution of birds in Ohio; to help document the occurrence of rare species in the state; to provide information on identification of birds; and to provide information on birding areas within Ohio.

The Ohio Cardinal invites readers to submit articles on unusual occurrences of birds, bird distribution within the state, birding areas in Ohio, identification tips, and other aspects of ornithology. Bird reports and photographs are welcome from any area of the state. Report forms are not a necessity but will be supplied upon request. Unusual species should be documented, and forms to do so are available upon request from the Editor, Publisher, and Records Committee Secretary.

Seasonal Report Due Dates Winter (Dec.-Feb.)-March 25 Spring (Mar.-May)-June 25 Summer (June-July)-August 25 Autumn (Aug.-Nov.)-December 25	Please send all reports to: Bill Whan 223 E. Tulane Road Columbus, OH 43202 billwhan@columbus.rr.com
--	---

Subscriptions

The subscription rate for one year (four issues) is \$25 including membership in the Ohio Ornithological Society. Please send all subscription requests to:

The Ohio Cardinal
c/o Edwin C. Pierce
2338 Harrington Road
Akron, OH 44319

Because it is sent as bulk mail, subscribers should remember that the Post Office will not forward this magazine to a new address. Please notify the Publisher promptly if you move.

Bill Whan, *Editor*

Edwin C. Pierce, *Publisher*

Troy Shively, *Design Manager*

The Ohio Bird Records Committee:

Tom Kemp, *Secretary*

1507 Napoleon Road
Bowling Green, Ohio 43402
andigena@aol.com



ISSN 1534-1666

On the Cover: An adult Mississippi kite fed an insect to a juvenal bird in Hocking County 31 August 2007, establishing Ohio's first breeding record in the historical period. Photo by Aaron Boone.

Summer 2007 Overview and Reports

by Bill Whan
223 E. Tulane Rd.
Columbus, OH 43202
billwhan@columbus.rr.com

June of 2007 in Ohio was warmer than usual, and July cooler, both by a couple of degrees; still, Dayton experienced its third-coolest July on record. More significantly, the summer's weather was considerably drier than normal, with the southwest and south-central counties experiencing pronounced drought. The apple crop was fine from Knox County north, but a disaster to the south. Spring's erratic weather will affect our birdlife well into next year. For example, two large sweetgum trees in the editorial front yard, which in a normal year produce a couple of pickup-loads of fruit, suffered enough from April's freeze that this year's crop of "monkey-balls" won't fill one's hat. Seeds from these and many other local plants will furnish no food for birds in the coming fall and winter.

At this time of year, birds are at their most conservative in choosing habitat, because reproduction is at stake. Outlying areas at airports, for example, continue as refugia for declining grassland nesters like meadowlarks, certain sparrows, and upland sandpipers. Apparently airport managers have found that taller grass, inviting to these species, discourages more bothersome starlings and Canada geese, thus airport margins are less often mowed than agricultural lands. Bird observers are less welcome than ever at such places, but the birds at least are tolerated. Upland sandpipers were abundant in Ohio not so long ago, when pastures were a part of farmlands; in the '30s Hicks found them nesting in 76 Ohio counties; now many 'pastures' are at airports; every Ohio county has an airport, and all are worthy of study for birds. Lark sparrows, birds of drier climes and denizens in Ohio of rare sand "blow-out" habitats—such as reliable areas in the Oak Openings near Toledo—also turned up as breeders in waste areas where native vegetation has not regained a foothold, such as abandoned quarries and gravel pits. Little backwaters or chinks of wild or semi-wild habitat out in the vast agricultural stretches of the state's west also were, when scrutinized by atlasers, found surprisingly productive of birdlife. We were also made aware of how human fragmentation of the landscape—shelterbelts of trees in the prairie, or even a golf course in forested country, can enable birds like the Mississippi kite to reclaim ancestral territory or even exploit new areas. Will highwalls in abandoned strip-mines give common ravens a foothold to return to Ohio?

Increased coverage and reporting accompanying the *Ohio Breeding Bird Atlas* project yielded a bounty of unusual nesting or at least summering records among more common species as well. The Atlas is advancing our knowledge of Ohio's birdlife extensively. Perhaps one cannot salute the sacrifices of Ohio birders who have helped in this effort—most say they're having too much fun—but their contributions will be significant and lasting. More discoveries will follow in years to come, and new help is always needed from the birding community to ensure coverage is adequate. *Cardinal* readers are encouraged to help all they can with this project.

Review species reported this summer included tricolored heron, Mississippi kite (two), Eurasian collared-dove (numerous), scissor-tailed flycatcher (two), and common raven (three), a list impressive less for its length

than for including two new breeding species for Ohio in the modern era, and the possible return of a species that last bred here over a century ago. Shorebird migration continued as usual through most of the summer, with both late and early reports of these prodigious migrants during June. Little habitat for most shorebirds, beyond the beleaguered beach at Conneaut and drawn-down upper ends of municipal and state park reservoirs, was available. Daylong censuses of birds at mighty Ottawa NWR, for example, produced only three spotted sandpipers and 19 killdeers on 3 June, then three spotties and 34 killdeers on 1 Jul. Still, 26 shorebird species were reported during the two months of the summer season elsewhere. Reports of interest from the NW marshes were sparse overall this season.

The July issue of the *Auk* announced revisions to the North American checklist by the American Ornithologists' Union's Committee on Classification and Nomenclature. This is where interested persons can find official changes in names of birds, additions to and subtractions from the standard checklist, various lumps and splits, and other taxonomical changes. As they affect Ohio directly, there were few important revisions in this round. On the basis of DNA evidence, the belted kingfisher's generic name is changed from *Ceryle* to *Megaceryle*. The vultures and condors (family Cathartidae) have returned to the Falconiformes after a few years among the herons, storks, etc. in Ciconiiformes; the Committee acknowledges this decision remains iffy.

The Reports follow the nomenclature and taxonomic order of the 7th edition of the AOU Check-list of North American Birds (1998), including the 48th Supplement (July 2007), except for the capitalization of English names of birds, where we follow standard English usage. Underlined names of species indicate those on the OBRC Review List; documentation is needed to add reports of these species to official state records, or to attributions (i.e., reporters' names) in the Reports. Where supplied, county names appear *italicized*. Unless numbers are specified, sightings refer to single birds. Abbreviations, conventions, locations, and symbols used in the Reports should be readily understood, with the possible exceptions of the following: ad=adult; alt=alternate (breeding) plumage; BCSP=Buck Ck SP in *Clark*; BIWA=Big Isl WA in *Marion*; BSBO=Black Swamp Bird Observatory; CCE=Crane Ck estuary in ONWR; CPNWR=Cedar Point NWR in *Lucas*; CVNP=Cuyahoga Valley Natl Pk in *Cuyahoga* and *Summit*; Deer Ck WA is in *Pickaway/Fayette*; Dike 14=the Gordon Park impoundment in Cleveland; EFSP=East Fork SP in *Clermont*; eop=end of the period, in this case 31 July 2007; EHSP=East Hbr SP in *Ottawa*; fide="in trust of," said of data conveyed on behalf of another person; Funk WA is in *Wayne*; Gilmore Ponds is in *Butler*; GLSM=Grand Lk St Marys in *Mercer/Auglaize*, HBSP=Headlands Beach SP in *Lake*; HBSNP=Headlands Beach SNP in *Lake*; Hoover=Hoover Res in *Franklin/Delaware*; HWSH=Hueston Wds SP (*Butler/Preble*); imm=immature; Killbuck=Killbuck Marsh WA in *Wayne/Holmes*; KPWA=Killdeer Plains WA in *Wyandot*; LSR=Lakeshore Reservation (MP) in *Lake*; Magee=Magee Marsh WA in *Ottawa/Lucas*; MBSP=Maumee Bay SP in *Lucas*; MCWS=Mill Creek Wildlife Sanctuary in *Mahoning*; Metzger=Metzger Marsh WA in *Lucas*; MP=Metropark; m obs=many observers; MWW=Miami-Whitewater Wetlands in *Hamilton*; NWR=National Wildlife Refuge; OBBA=Ohio Breeding Bird Atlas, second edition; OBRC=Ohio Bird Records Committee; ODOV=Ohio Division of Wildlife; ONWR=Ottawa NWR in *Ottawa/Lucas*; ONWRC=monthly bird census at ONWR; PCWA=Pickerel Ck WA in *Sandusky*; ph=photograph, Res=Reservoir; Res'n=Reservation; SCBC=Greater Akron Audubon Society Summit County Bird Census of 15-24 June; SF=State Forest; SNP=State Nature Preserve; SP=State Park; Springville Marsh SNP is in *Seneca*; SVWA=Spring Valley WA in *Greene/Warren*; VOA=Voice of America Park in *Butler*; WA=Wildlife Area.

The Reports: Summer 2007

Mute swan: Present in accustomed spots, as with 24 on the SCBC in *Summit* 15-24 Jun. Elsewhere, a pair with seven young was reported from *Warren* 5 Jun (J. Van Coney), where infrequent in summer.

Wood duck: Fifty-plus deserters from parental duties were found at **Killbuck** as early as 6 Jun (S. Snyder).

Gadwall: Males lingered at **Metzger** (K. Kaufman) and **Dorset WA** in *Ashtabula* (J. Heflich) 3 Jun; a female was found at the latter location 10 Jun, but nesting was unconfirmed (Heflich).

American wigeon: Lingered into early Jun at several spots in the NW marshes, and reported as a probable nester in a **Sandusky Bay** marsh 24 Jun (M. Shieldcastle).

American black duck: J. Heflich reported a hen with brood of 6-8 in *Ashtabula* 3 Jun. T. Kemp saw an unaccompanied one in *Wood* 10 Jun.

Northern shoveler: Tardy individuals were in *Union* 3 Jun (R. Thorn) and in *Wood* 10 Jun (T. Kemp). A territorial drake was reported from *Union* 28 May (C. Morrow).

Green-winged teal: A pair remained at **Metzger** 3 Jun (K. Kaufman), and a drake at an *Ashtabula* marsh 5 Jun (C. Holt). A drake at **Deer Ck SP** 4 Jul may have been a non-breeder (B. Royse). D. Sanders saw a drake 9 Jul at a **Hardin** site that had hosted nests last year.

Redhead: K. Miller observed an apparently healthy drake in *Portage* through 1 Jun. M. Shieldcastle confirmed nesting at **Willow Point WA** on 24 Jun, with ducklings present.

Ring-necked duck: An alternate-plumaged male in *Paulding* 1 Jun-1 Jul may well have been injured (M&D Dunakin).

Lesser scaup: R. Counts found a hen at the **Hardin** wetlands 2 Jun, and G. Stauffer a drake at **Pickerington Ponds** near **Columbus** 6 Jun.

Hooded merganser: Broods found away from the NW marshes included three in *Delaware* during the period (*fide* C. Bombaci), a hen with young 3 Jun in *Ashtabula* (J. Heflich) and eleven young elsewhere in the county 5 Jun (C. Holt), a possible nesting at **Deer Ck SP** 9 Jun (B. Royse), young at **Dillon SP** 26 Jun (V. Smith), and a hen with chicks at **GLSM** 13 Jun (G. Dietz).

Common merganser: J. Dolan reported hens with young seen in the **Beaver Creek** drainage at both **Fredericktown** and upstream, and near **Negley**; he also observed a hen leaving a cavity at **Beaver Ck SP**, as well as four other hens displaying territorial behavior. J. Hendrickson observed a family with five young in that creek 10 Jun.

Red-breasted merganser: Odd reports came from a **Findlay** res 6 Jun (J. Taber), **Kelleys Isl** 16 Jun (T. Bartlett), and **Conneaut** on 10 Jul (C. Holt).

Ruddy duck: As usual, apparently nonbreeding summering birds showed up. The **Paulding** sewage lagoons hosted five drakes 1-14 Jun (D&M Dunakin). The **Hardin** wetlands had three males and two females 2 Jun (R. Counts) and three males 4 Jul, then four on 9 Jul (D. Sanders). Similarly inconclusive reports came from **Trumbull** 3 Jun (E. Kistler) and another **Hardin** site 7 Jul (C. Hoagstrom).

Common loon: A few imm. stayed put as always, reported in **Portage** 2 Jun (G. Bennett), at **Nimisila Res** in **Summit** 4 Jun (R&S Harlan), and in **Hamilton** on 7 Jul (N. Keller).

Pied-billed grebe: Summer reports away from the NW marshes seem to be increasing, with five 2 Jun at the **Hardin** wetland, with four breeding pairs by 4 Jul (R. Counts), two pairs with young in **Ashtabula** 3 Jun (J. Heflich), one in **Wilmington** 11 Jun (B. Thobaben *vide* B. Powell), one at **MWW** 4 Jul (E. Burkholder), and one at **GRWA** on 24 Jul (C. Holt). The 3 Jun census tallied eight at **ONWR**.

Double-crested cormorant: Breeding pairs estimated ($\pm 10\%$) at **West Sister Island** numbered 1967, down 27.4% from last year; no wonder, since at this spot 1932 birds were shot off nests this spring as part of a control program (USF&WS). The **ONWRC** tallied 40 for its 3 Jun census nearby, then 17 on 1 Jul. In Ohio overall, the culling totaled 3500+ (USDA). Cormorants nesting at the **Columbus** heron rookery had at least two nestlings on 10 Jun, with four on 14 Jun (M. Brehmer). D. Kramer confirmed continued breeding at **West Res** near **Akron**, with eight nests 8 Jun.

American bittern: Few reports, the earliest 6 Jun at **Hoover Res** (C. Bombaci), and one each from **Ottawa** and **Lucas** during the period (M. Shieldcastle).

Least bittern: Away from traditional spots were single birds seen in **Wood** 9 Jun (C. Anderson), at **Lake Logan** in **Hocking** 14 Jun (J. Alexander), at **MCWS** 2 Jul (B. Jones), at **MWW** 10 Jul (J. Kappa), at **Mentor Lagoons** 22-25 Jul (J. Talkington *vide* R. Hannikman), and confirmed as breeding during the period at **Arcola Ck** (J. Pogacnik).

Great blue heron: Breeding pair estimates ($\pm 10\%$) on **West Sister Island** numbered 953, down 24.8% from last year. On 8 Jul, almost 100 stalked **Medusa Marsh** (C. Caldwell). C. Babyak reported reduced numbers on 25 Jun of 283 nests (after 385 seen on 22 Mar, w/many downed nests) at the **Lordstown** colony, likely a result of storm damage.

Great egret: Breeding pair estimates ($\pm 10\%$) on **West Sister Island** numbered 760, down 28.8% from last year; managers thought storms were to blame. L. Warren found three great egret nests in a **Youngstown** heron rookery, with three young in two of the nests and 2 young in the third nest around July 20. M. Brehmer reported the first of two nests at the **Columbus** heronry on May 18, with two egrets on two nests 22 May; later, a third nest was suspected but not confirmed; two young were first seen June 15. At least one nest was detected 10 Jun in a heronry at **Indian Lake** in **Logan** 14 Jun (T. Shively). The **ONWRC** found 58 on 3 Jun, when an oddball was seen in **Ashtabula** (J. Heflich), two elsewhere were seen in that county on 5 Jun (C. Holt), and one in **GRWA** in **Trumbull** three days later (C. Babyak). J. Stenger reported one in **Cincinnati** 30 Jun, and concentrations as large as 260+ at **Medusa Marsh** and 45 at **Pipe Creek WA** were reported on 8 Jul (C. Caldwell). By 18 Jul, 24 could be found at **MCWS** (B&D Lane), and on the 23rd 30 at a **Columbus** site.

Snowy egret: Breeding pairs estimated at **West Sister Island** were 12, down from 15 from last year. Three were found on the **ONWRC** of 3 Jun. **Pipe Creek WA** welcomed some with six there 15 Jul (J. Petruzzi) and eight on the 22nd (B. Whan). One visited **Columbus** 2 Jul at **Whittier Park** (J. Watts).

Tricolored heron: **Pipe Creek WA** reportedly hosted one 8 Jul; details are with the **OBRC**.

Cattle egret: Breeding pairs estimated at **West Sister Island** numbered 16, well up from 4 last year; 10 were found in 2005. One at the **Indian Lake** heronry in **Logan** on 14 Jun could not be verified as a nester (T. Shively). No reports from or near colonies at **GLSM** or **Turning Pt Isl** in **Sandusky** this summer.

Green heron: Especially well reported because of the **OBBA**. Double-digit reports included 10 for the 3 Jun **ONWRC**, 56 for the **SCBC** of 15-24 Jun, 40+ in a morning flyover at **Guilford Marsh** in **Columbiana** (B&D Lane), and 15 probable nest sites in the **Lake** MPs during the season (J. Pogacnik).

Black-crowned night-heron: Breeding pairs estimated ($\pm 10\%$) at **West Sister Island** were 460, down a less than significant 4.2% from last year; it is puzzling how few of these birds are encountered nearby on the mainland during the season, with this summer's high count only 5, for the 3 Jun **ONWRC**. The **Spring Grove Cem** colony topped out at 11 adults, with eight tending nests, on 4 Jul (F. Renfrow). Four were at **Deer Ck SP** 4 Jul (B. Royse), one at the **Shaker Lks** 22 Jul (L. Deininger), and an adult at **Berlin Res** 24 Jul (C. Holt). Small breeding colonies are suspected but not yet confirmed at several other inland locations.

Yellow-crowned night-heron: Four adults were found at a fish pond in **Gallia** on 10 Jun (M. Bowman, L. Clingman); the property owner reported two had frequented the area last year at the time. Two nests at the **Columbus** colony produced a robust ten young by 26 Jun (B. Whan); they remained 3 Jul (L. Dorman), but all but three had vacated the site by 14 Jul (R. Epstein). D. Marsh photographed a young bird along **Darby Creek** in **Franklin** on 23 Jul. The census team reported three at **Ottawa NWR** on 1 Jul in a very interesting appearance. Twenty-three in one year is likely a recent record.

Black vulture: A sighting over **Calamus Swamp** in **Pickaway** 28 Jul was a veteran observer's first in eight years there (D. Horn).

Turkey vulture: Unusual was a single large scattered group of 375 birds seen in **Tuscarawas** 12 Jul (E. Schlabach).



Low water and lots of atlasers out in the field combined to produce copious reports of green herons this summer. This one was at Beaver Pond in the CVNP on 13 July. Photo courtesy of Bob Roach.

Osprey: The ODOW estimated at least 43 nests in the state, and ~75 young hatched. Decidedly unusual was four fledglings at a **Salt Fork Res** nest in late Jul (J. Larson).

Mississippi kite: First reported 7 Jun at a golf course near **Logan** in **Hocking** (A. Elberfeld). Photos were obtained of two birds there on 21 Jun (T. Shively). Testimony subsequently emerged that kites had been seen copulating at the site on 4 Jun. On 31 Aug, this was confirmed as Ohio's first modern nesting record (A. Boone, ph) with discovery of a juvenile. Kite bones found in a prehistoric village site not far away in **Jackson** and active several hundred years ago suggest this species nested in Ohio formerly. One was spotted at **Point Pelee** headed south on 5 Jun (A. Wormington); this **Ontario** location just a few miles to our north has 32 accepted Mississippi kite records, more than twice the whole state of Ohio's. **Indiana** recorded a nest in a new county in its SW corner this year (*vide* D. Gorney); these are the closest nests to Ohio's, and while Ohio's nest record is among the northernmost of this century, the species is suspected of nesting in Iowa north of the latitude of Chicago in the past. Overall, it seems the kite is less likely expanding its range lately than reclaiming ground lost since the 19th century.

Bald eagle: The number of its **Ohio** nests increased for the twentieth straight year, with 164, 115 of which produced 186 eaglets in 45 counties (ODOW). In June, this species was elevated out of Federal "Endangered" status.

Northern harrier: Reports came of a female at **The Wilds** 1 and 3 Jun (A. Parker), one in **Ashtabula** 3 Jun (J. Heflich), one in **Lucas** 13 Jun (C. Anderson), one near **Bowling Green** 14 Jun (B. Cullen), a female in **Gallia** 7 Jul (B. Sparks), and a female at **Mosquito Lk WA** 24 Jul (C. Holt).

Merlin: A flyby on Jul 20th at the **VOA** (L. Brumbaugh) was of note, far too early for a normal fall migrant.



Photographer Debra Marsh was ready for the appearance of a young yellow-crowned night-heron at Darby Creek along the Madison/Franklin county line on 23 July.



A challenging subject, this soaring Hocking Co. Mississippi kite shows the pale head, fanned dark tail, and short outer primaries diagnostic for the species. Photo by Robert Epstein 14 July.

King rail: Almost went unreported, had it not been for intrepid kayaker S. Brown's foray into backwaters at **Turkeyfoot Lk** in **Summit** 18-29 Jun, and T. Bartlett, who had one at **Springville Marsh** through the period.

Virginia rail: Under-reported, one hopes. B&D Lane found four at **Guilford Marsh** in **Columbiana** 18 Jun, and three young with an adult were at the **CVNP's Ira Rd.** site 14 Jul (D. Chasar). Other reports came from **Ashtabula, Wood, Sandusky, Erie, Lorain, Hardin, and Morrow.**

Sora: Also sparsely reported, with three from the 3 Jun **OWNRC** and one at **GRWA** on 8 Jul (J. Heflich), and probable breeding in ten other northern counties.

Common moorhen: Reported from **KPWA** (one 28 Jul, P. Gardner), **Clermont** (5 Jun, B. Foppe), at **GRWA** (w/ four young 14 Jul, J. Heflich), at **SVWA** (w/ eight young 26 Jun, T. Uhlman), and at **MCWS** (C. Holt 9 Jul). **OBBA** reports of probable nesting and better came from seven other localities.

American coot: Under-reported or perhaps diminished in the NW marshes, with a grand total of three from the Jun and Jul **ONWR** censuses. Elsewhere, 41 were in the **Hardin** wetland 2 Jun, and many, including young, there 4 Jul (R. Counts). an ad with young was at **Glacier Ridge MP** in **Union** 5 Jul (J. Watts), while G. Stauffer spotted one at **Pickerington Ponds MP** in **Fairfield** 6 Jun and J. Alexander another at **Lake Logan** in **Hocking** the following day. C. Bombaci observed copulating birds in **Delaware** 31 May. B. Royse reported a possible nest at **Deer Ck SP** 9 Jun. Breeding was confirmed in **Wood** 9 Jun (C. Anderson). One was found in **Jefferson** 20 Jul (A. Boone). May have bred in **Erie** (P. Chaon) and **Seneca** (M. Shieldcastle).

Sandhill crane: Following a 30 May report from s. **Franklin** (R. Thorn), D. Horn reported one in **Pickaway** 2 Jun. J. Heflich saw a pair in **Ashtabula's** Dorset Twp 10 Jun, and heard several calling 21 Jul in **Troy Twp** in **Geauga** (*vide* D. Best, probably from 1-2 locally nesting pairs); a pair with two colts seen in a familiar locale near **Burton** may have been the same (B. Faber). C. Caldwell noted the **Sandy Ridge** pair on 11 Jul. A **Morrow** record was established by a pair with a colt seen there 5 Jul (G. Denny *vide* J. Watts).

Black-bellied plover: Usually scarce in summer. Probably sitting out the breeding season were three in basic plumage on 13 Jun at **Metzger** (K. Kaufman). The only returnees reported were two at **Conneaut** on 19 Jul (C. Holt).



A Virginia rail at Guilford Lk Marsh in Columbiana Co. accommodated photographer Bob Lane on 14 June.

American golden-plover: Unreported to us during the summer period.

Semipalmated plover: Lingering were 16 at **Metzger** 3 Jun (K. Kaufman). Two returned to **Conneaut** 17 Jul (C. Holt), and 16 were found in **Morgan** 27 Jul (G. Crippen).

Killdeer: Deceptively common in Ohio, as its populations are declining overall. Three-figure reports came in July, and included ~100 on the 1st at **Wright Marsh** in **Wayne** (K. Ostermiller), 118 at one spot in **Deer Ck SP** 4 July (B. Royse), ~220 at **Hoover Res** 21 Jul (J. Kuenzli), and 100+ at **Berlin Res** 26 Jul (C. Holt).

American avocet: At **Conneaut**, C. Holt observed two on 17 Jul and two more 26 Jul. J. Taber found three at a **Findlay Res** on 12 Jul, and two on 31 Jul (*vide* B. Hardesty). A. Wolfe spotted one at **PCWA** on 22 Jul.

Spotted sandpiper: R. Counts spotted a remarkable 16 at the **Hardin** wetlands on 2 Jun. The largest gathering of southbound migrants, of 29 birds, was at **Hoover Res** 21 Jul (J. Kuenzli).

Greater yellowlegs: Down in reported numbers across the state, with a high of only five, at **Conneaut** on 24 Jul (C. Holt). One remained at the **Hardin** wetland 2 Jun (R. Counts), and on 30 Jun E. Tramer noted this species at **CPNWR**, no doubt as a southbound migrant.

Willet: A single report, of two birds at **Conneaut**, came 17 Jul (C. Holt).

Lesser yellowlegs: The first apparently southbound appeared at **Conneaut** on 17 Jun (C. Holt). At **Farnsworth Pk** in **Lucas**, 25 was a good number on 7 Jul (E. Tramer), and by 14 Jul 40 were at **PCWA** for C. Pierce, along with only two greater yellowlegs. High count 75+ on the river south of **Huron** 22 Jul (B. Whan).

Solitary sandpiper: The first fall returnees were two reported 9 Jul at **Caesar Ck SP** (L. Gara). At **MCWS**, 11 were present 16 Jul (B. Jones), then 30+ 18 Jul (B&D Lane). The high count was 35 at **Berlin Res** 26 Jul (C. Holt).

Upland sandpiper: G. Cowell observed five at the **Mansfield** airport 10 Jun, and P. Rodewald three at Don Scott Field near **Columbus** 19 Jun. One was in **Dorset Twp** in **Ashtabula** 3 Jun (J. Heflich) and a likely breeding pair in **Hardin** (R. Counts) 21 Jun-10 Jul.

Whimbrel: Adults appeared on schedule with two at **Conneaut** 15 Jul (*vide* C. Holt), and on 24 Jul two there and one at **West Branch SP** in **Portage** (both Holt).

Marbled godwit: Researcher A. Lindsay photographed a rare summer visitor 24 and 29 Jun at the **ONWR** end of **Metzger**.

Ruddy turnstone: On 3 Jun were ~20 and a straggler 13 Jun at **Metzger** (K. Kaufman), and equally ahead of schedule were two at the **Findlay Res** 10 Jul (B. Hardesty).

Red knot: Last reported were two at **Metzger** 3 Jun (K. Kaufman), with the first returnee 24 Jul at **Hoover Res** (C. Bombaci).

Sanderling: Returned in the form of one at **Conneaut** 17 Jul, six there the 19th, and the high count of seven the 24th (all C. Holt). **Hoover Res** hosted three on 28 Jul (P. Gardner).

Semipalmated sandpiper: Numerous reports from Jun, the latest of two at **Metzger** the 13th (K. Kaufman). On schedule were returnees at **Hoover** (12 on 6 Jul, C. Bombaci), three at **Camp Dennison** the 11th (B. Foppe), with 100+ at **PCWA** by the 22nd (B. Whan).

Western sandpiper: Not often seen in Ohio, an alt adult lingered at **Metzger** as late as 13 Jun (K. Kaufman), and another returned at **BCSP** 15 Jul (D. Overacker). The first **Conneaut** report came from 19 Jul (C. Holt), with one at **Hoover** on the 27th (C. Bombaci).

Least sandpiper: Not absent for long, three were late at **Metzger** 13 Jun (K. Kaufman), and a pair touched down at **Conneaut** 27 Jun (C. Holt), with five inland in **Hardin** 4 Jul (R. Counts). Higher counts included 30-50 at **PCWA** 14 Jul (C. Pierce) and 40 at **Hoover** 21 Jul (J. Kuenzli).

White-rumped sandpiper: Lingered as usual, with three in **Lucas** 9 Jun (M. Anderson), one in **Wood** the 10th, and two at **Metzger** the 13th (K. Kaufman). The first returnee was at **Pipe Ck WA** 22 Jul (B. Whan), with inland birds the 31st in **Findlay** (J. Taber) and **Fostoria** (B. Hardesty).

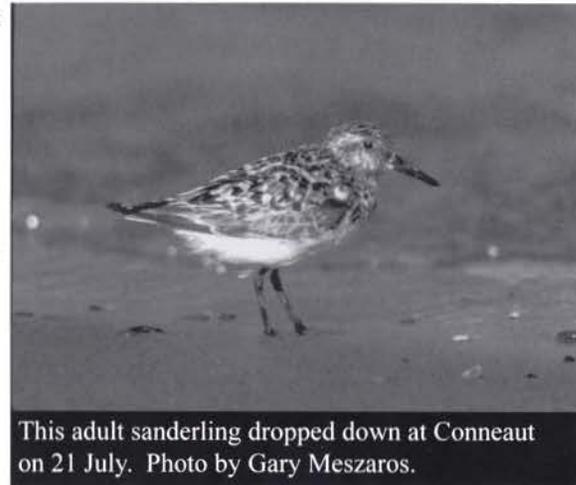
Pectoral sandpiper: Unreported until 6 Jul, with six at **Hoover** (C. Bombaci); by the 14th, as many as 30 were at **PCWA** (C. Pierce).

Dunlin: Fourteen at **Metzger** 13 Jun were decidedly late (K. Kaufman). Unlike recent years, no summering dunlins were reported, but habitat was hard to find in the NW.

Stilt sandpiper: First noted were three in **Hardin** on 9 Jul (R. Counts). The high count was ~30 adults at **PCWA** 22 Jul (B. Whan). One at the **VOA** in **Butler** on 20 Jul was unusual (L. Brumbaugh).

Buff-breasted sandpiper: Quite early was one at **Hoover** 28 Jul (P. Gardner).

Short-billed dowitcher: The vanguard was one at **Camp Dennison** of all places, on 7 Jul (J. Brown), with ~20 the following day at **PCWA** (C. Caldwell), where by the 14th 100+ were present (C. Pierce) and ~150 on the 22nd (B. Whan). Two appeared down at **Burr Oak SP** in **Morgan** 27 Jul (G. Crippen).



This adult sanderling dropped down at **Conneaut** on 21 July. Photo by Gary Meszaros.

Wilson's snipe: Late enough to be a breeder was one at the *Hardin* wetland 2 Jun (R. Counts). M. Shieldcastle had one in *Erie* 7 Jun and another in *Sandusky* 6 Jun. G. Cottier reported a female with two chicks crossing a *Lucas* road 11 Jun. On schedule as a migrant was one at **KPWA** 28 Jul (P. Gardner).

Wilson's phalarope: A pair returned to the *Hardin* wetland 4 Jul (R. Counts), but limited access may have prevented full confirmation of repeated breeding. V. Smith reported a pair in the **Dillon SP** area 8 Jul.

Laughing gull: Alt adults were seen on a dock in *Erie* 3 Jun (R. Bobel), on **Kelleys Isl** 15 Jun (T. Bartlett), and at **Hoover Res** 28 Jul (P. Gardner).

Bonaparte's gull: June reports included some inland ones, such as two at **BCSP** the 5th (D. Overacker) and two at **GLSM** the 9th (T. Shively). C. Holt reported up to 10 summered at **Conneaut**, where the first adult showed up on 17 Jul. L. Gara had two at **Caesar Ck SP** 20 Jul.

Ring-billed gull: C. Holt reported the first juv at **Conneaut** on 27 Jun, with a noticeable influx of adults 17 Jul.

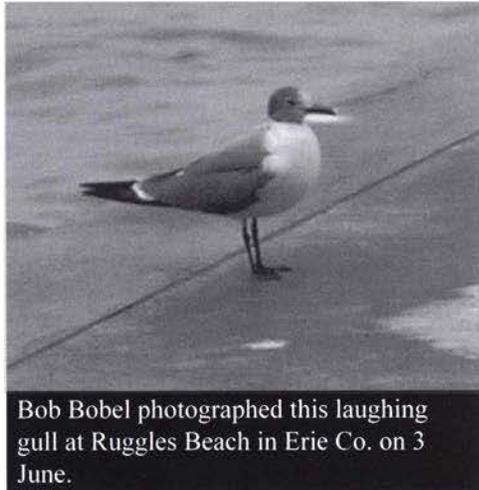
Herring gull: Inland summering birds were documented via 14 at **Caesar Ck SP** 18 Jun (L. Gara) and two in *Butler* 10 Jun (M. Busam); S. Albaugh had a pair in *Fairfield* 26 Jun. C. Holt reported the first juv at **Conneaut** on 26 Jul.

Lesser black-backed gull: D. Overacker reported an ad and a younger individual at **BCSP** on 15 Jul. The first North American nest of this species, resulting from coupling with a herring gull, was documented in **Maine** this year.

Caspian tern: Apparent non-breeders were one at **Conneaut** 27 Jun (C. Holt), and a surprising 8-10 at **Hoover** on 6 July (C. Bombaci). The first juv was at **Conneaut** 26 Jul (Holt).

Common tern: No doubt via the local assisted colony came counts of 70 on 3 Jun and 29 on 1 Jul at **Ottawa NWR** for the census team. One showed up at **Conneaut** 24 Jul (C. Holt). Holt commented that many summer reports of this species away from the NW breeding grounds may be worn Forster's, whose worn wingtips may appear dark.

Forster's tern: Not known as an Ohio breeder, Jun reports came on the 3rd (20 at **Metzger**, K. Kaufman), the 9th (two at **GLSM**, T. Shively), the 15th (two at **Kelleys Isl**, T. Bartlett), and the 27th (two at **Conneaut**, C. Holt), with small numbers there through July. Other July records inland included three alt birds at **Alum Ck SP** 1 Jul (R. Thorn) one at **Mosquito WA** the 10th (Holt), one at **Dillon SP** in *Muskingum* the 12th (Holt), two at **EFSP** the 14th (D. Morse), and one at **BCSP** the 15th (D. Overacker).



Bob Bobel photographed this laughing gull at Ruggles Beach in Erie Co. on 3 June.

Sanderling: Returned in the form of one at **Conneaut** 17 Jul, six there the 19th, and the high count of seven the 24th (all C. Holt). **Hoover Res** hosted three on 28 Jul (P. Gardner).

Semipalmated sandpiper: Numerous reports from Jun, the latest of two at **Metzger** the 13th (K. Kaufman). On schedule were returnees at **Hoover** (12 on 6 Jul, C. Bombaci), three at **Camp Dennison** the 11th (B. Foppe), with 100+ at **PCWA** by the 22nd (B. Whan).

Western sandpiper: Not often seen in Ohio, an alt adult lingered at **Metzger** as late as 13 Jun (K. Kaufman), and another returned at **BCSP** 15 Jul (D. Overacker). The first **Conneaut** report came from 19 Jul (C. Holt), with one at **Hoover** on the 27th (C. Bombaci).

Least sandpiper: Not absent for long, three were late at **Metzger** 13 Jun (K. Kaufman), and a pair touched down at **Conneaut** 27 Jun (C. Holt), with five inland in *Hardin* 4 Jul (R. Counts). Higher counts included 30-50 at **PCWA** 14 Jul (C. Pierce) and 40 at **Hoover** 21 Jul (J. Kuenzli).

White-rumped sandpiper: Lingered as usual, with three in *Lucas* 9 Jun (M. Anderson), one in *Wood* the 10th, and two at **Metzger** the 13th (K. Kaufman). The first returnee was at **Pipe Ck WA** 22 Jul (B. Whan), with inland birds the 31st in **Findlay** (J. Taber) and **Fostoria** (B. Hardesty).

Pectoral sandpiper: Unreported until 6 Jul, with six at **Hoover** (C. Bombaci); by the 14th, as many as 30 were at **PCWA** (C. Pierce).

Dunlin: Fourteen at **Metzger** 13 Jun were decidedly late (K. Kaufman). Unlike recent years, no summering dunlins were reported, but habitat was hard to find in the NW.

Stilt sandpiper: First noted were three in *Hardin* on 9 Jul (R. Counts). The high count was ~30 adults at **PCWA** 22 Jul (B. Whan). One at the **VOA** in *Butler* on 20 Jul was unusual (L. Brumbaugh).

Buff-breasted sandpiper: Quite early was one at **Hoover** 28 Jul (P. Gardner).

Short-billed dowitcher: The vanguard was one at **Camp Dennison** of all places, on 7 Jul (J. Brown), with ~20 the following day at **PCWA** (C. Caldwell), where by the 14th 100+ were present (C. Pierce) and ~150 on the 22nd (B. Whan). Two appeared down at **Burr Oak SP** in *Morgan* 27 Jul (G. Crippen).



This adult sanderling dropped down at Conneaut on 21 July. Photo by Gary Meszaros.

Wilson's snipe: Late enough to be a breeder was one at the *Hardin* wetland 2 Jun (R. Counts). M. Shieldcastle had one in *Erie* 7 Jun and another in *Sandusky* 6 Jun. G. Cottier reported a female with two chicks crossing a *Lucas* road 11 Jun. On schedule as a migrant was one at *KPWA* 28 Jul (P. Gardner).

Wilson's phalarope: A pair returned to the *Hardin* wetland 4 Jul (R. Counts), but limited access may have prevented full confirmation of repeated breeding. V. Smith reported a pair in the *Dillon SP* area 8 Jul.

Laughing gull: Alt adults were seen on a dock in *Erie* 3 Jun (R. Bobel), on *Kelleys Isl* 15 Jun (T. Bartlett), and at *Hoover Res* 28 Jul (P. Gardner).

Bonaparte's gull: June reports included some inland ones, such as two at *BCSP* the 5th (D. Overacker) and two at *GLSM* the 9th (T. Shively). C. Holt reported up to 10 summered at *Conneaut*, where the first adult showed up on 17 Jul. L. Gara had two at *Caesar Ck SP* 20 Jul.

Ring-billed gull: C. Holt reported the first juv at *Conneaut* on 27 Jun, with a noticeable influx of adults 17 Jul.

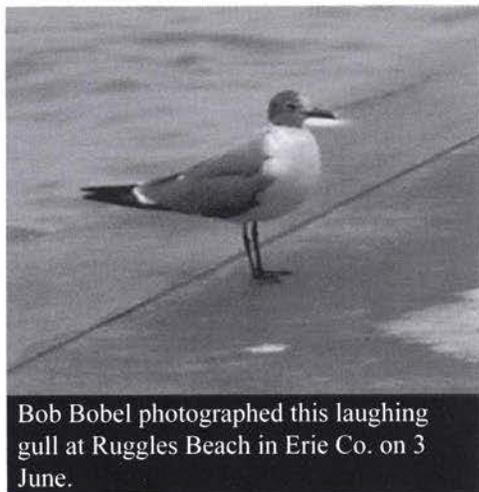
Herring gull: Inland summering birds were documented via 14 at *Caesar Ck SP* 18 Jun (L. Gara) and two in *Butler* 10 Jun (M. Busam); S. Albaugh had a pair in *Fairfield* 26 Jun. C. Holt reported the first juv at *Conneaut* on 26 Jul.

Lesser black-backed gull: D. Overacker reported an ad and a younger individual at *BCSP* on 15 Jul. The first North American nest of this species, resulting from coupling with a herring gull, was documented in *Maine* this year.

Caspian tern: Apparent non-breeders were one at *Conneaut* 27 Jun (C. Holt), and a surprising 8-10 at *Hoover* on 6 July (C. Bombaci). The first juv was at *Conneaut* 26 Jul (Holt).

Common tern: No doubt via the local assisted colony came counts of 70 on 3 Jun and 29 on 1 Jul at *Ottawa NWR* for the census team. One showed up at *Conneaut* 24 Jul (C. Holt). Holt commented that many summer reports of this species away from the NW breeding grounds may be worn Forster's, whose worn wingtips may appear dark.

Forster's tern: Not known as an Ohio breeder, Jun reports came on the 3rd (20 at *Metzger*, K. Kaufman), the 9th (two at *GLSM*, T. Shively), the 15th (two at *Kelleys Isl*, T. Bartlett), and the 27th (two at *Conneaut*, C. Holt), with small numbers there through July. Other July records inland included three alt birds at *Alum Ck SP* 1 Jul (R. Thorn) one at *Mosquito WA* the 10th (Holt), one at *Dillon SP* in *Muskingum* the 12th (Holt), two at *EFSP* the 14th (D. Morse), and one at *BCSP* the 15th (D. Overacker).



Bob Bobel photographed this laughing gull at Ruggles Beach in Erie Co. on 3 June.

Black tern: May have bred in the NW marshes, suggested by six seen 1 Jul by the ONWRC. Interesting were one in *Hancock* 5 Jun (*fide* B. Hardesty) and another over the *Muskingum River* in *Zanesville* 9 Jun (C. Holt). An imm was photographed 27 Jul on the beach at *BCSP* (R. Asamoto).

Eurasian collared-dove: This year finally marked the arrival in Ohio en masse of this invasive species from the other side of the globe. A pair was photographed in *Williams* this spring (R. Wolinski), then on 19 June C. Ploch discovered one in *Ft. Jefferson* in *Darke*, where a pair was soon found and photographed the following day (R. Schieltz, T. Shively); *fide* B. Glick, local observers said these birds had been noticed for the previous month or more. A pair was observed copulating in *W. Manchester* in *Preble* 26 Jun (T. Bartlett) farther south, remaining through at least 9 Jul (J. Fry). Shively reported one in *Bellefontaine*, *Logan* on 2 Jul. On 11 Jul B. Barchus reported a pair in *Celina* (*Mercer*), where 4-5 were found 17 Jul (Shively). Successful nesting has yet to be documented. Such a sudden appearance, involving multiple areas and copulating pairs, seems typical of this species; their appearance in force in Ohio is much delayed (they appeared in numbers in Alaska this spring), and may represent a backflow from the Indiana population.

Yellow-billed cuckoo: An excellent year by all accounts. G. Links said the species was unusually widespread and vocal in the *Oak Openings*, and D. Chasar that it had the best showing in the *CVNP* since the gypsy moth invasion of the late '90s. Reported in good numbers statewide.

Black-billed cuckoo: As always, with fewer reports than those for its cousin: for example the 15-24 Jun SCBC found eight black-billed cuckoos versus 61 yellow-billeds in *Summit*.



This Eurasian collared-dove was photographed 20 Jun in Darke Co. by Troy Shively.

Northern saw-whet owl: T. Bartlett (m obs) reported an adult on **Kelleys Isl** on 15 Jun, and 1-2 calling elsewhere on the island the following day, one possibly a young bird of the year. See article in this issue.

Common nighthawk: Many summer reports were disappointing as to numbers. In the NE, for example, the 15-24 Jun SCBC reported only 10 in **Summit**. D. Chasar found no nesting evidence in n. **Summit** and s. **Cuyahoga**. C. Holt found only one this summer, in **Mahoning** on 28 Jun.

Chuck-will's-widow: Under-reported as always. T. Bartlett reported 14+ heard 25-26 Jun in **Adams**. A bird sang in **Hocking** from 5 May through at least 30 Jun (P. Knoop *fide* J. Watts).

Red-headed woodpecker: An enigma. Many reporters judged their numbers down, but many others were finding them, admittedly in small numbers, in new areas.

Yellow-bellied sapsucker: Under-reported. A male and a juv were at **Holden Arboretum** in **Lake** 28 Jun (R. Thompson), and J. Pogacnik confirmed seven pairs, and had another nesting possible, in the **Lake** MPs during the season. G. Bennett found a singing male in **Ashtabula** 9 Jun, where A. Boone had possible local breeders 11 and 29 Jun, and P. Rodewald a drumming bird 22 Jun. J. Ross heard and saw one in **Lucas** 11 Jun.

Pileated woodpecker: Of local interest were two in the **Oak Openings** near Toledo 2 Jun (G. Links), one at **Loramie SP** in **Shelby** 9 Jun, and a pair at **Zane Caverns** in **Logan** 14 Jun (both T. Shively).

Olive-sided flycatcher: Typically late migrants were in **Paulding** 1 Jun (M&D Dunakin), at **Kelleys Isl** 2 Jun (T. Bartlett) and **LSR** 5 Jun (J. Pogacnik).

Acadian flycatcher: Well-represented in woods statewide; e.g., J. Watts tallied 13 at **Cantwell Cliffs** 18 Jun. One was in song as late as 15 Jul in **Delaware** (R. Thorn).

Alder flycatcher: Jun-Jul reports came from northern areas—from **Williams** in the west to **Ashtabula** in the east, and the tier of counties below, where in **Summit** however they were still outnumbered 90 to three by willows (SCBC). Further south, territorial birds were noticed in **Tuscarawas** (E. Schlabach, B. Glick), in **Logan** (T. Shively), in **Stark** (C. Holt), and in **Hocking** (C. Morrow, J. Watts).

Willow flycatcher: The ONWRC tallied 22 on the **Ottawa Refuge** 3 Jun for the high count.



Singing persistently on territory, but apparently without attracting a mate, was this male alder flycatcher near Ragersville in Tuscarawas Co. on 23 June. Photo courtesy of Bruce Glick.

Least flycatcher: Reckoned as doing well in the northern counties. J. Heflich found it "numerous" in **Ashtabula**, D. Chasar as having its "best...ever" year in the **CVNP**, and J. Pogacnik reported 11 probable or confirmed pairs in the **Lake** Metroparks. Three reports came from **Lucas**, and farther south, one from **Coshocton** 6 Jun-4 Jul (L. Deininger), and one at **Malabar Farms** in **Richland** on 9-13 Jun may have persisted for all we know (S. Snyder, G. Cowell). Most intriguing were two persistently singing males apparently on territory way down in **Meigs** 2 and 3 Jun (J. Duerr).

Great crested flycatcher: Seemingly doing well, with 12+ vocalizing at **John Bryan SP** in **Greene** on 25 Jun (G. Spahr), and 103 tallied in **Summit** for the 15-24 Jun SCBC.

Scissor-tailed flycatcher: An adult male was reported 8 Jun at **Lawrence Wds** in **Hardin**, and a young bird photographed in the **Oak Openings** on 15 Jul; documentations are with the OBRC.

White-eyed vireo: Generally less abundant in the north, they put on their best showing in the **CVNP** in years (D. Chasar).

Bell's vireo: Within recent memory, their population centered on **BCSP**, but succession made the habitat less welcoming there; then, **Hamilton** and **Butler** nestings dominated the news; last year Bell's were found in **Franklin**, **Darke**, **Hamilton**, **Greene**, and **Pickaway**, and this year B. Royse discovered 2007's second pair in **Pickaway** on 9 Jun, as many as three males were seen and heard in **Hilliard**, **Franklin** (B. McNulty, G. Stauffer) at a spot occupied by a pair in 2003, and R. Thorn found another in the county in **Grove City** on 19 Jun, while the OSU campus pair persisted into the summer.

Yellow-throated vireo: Another more southern vireo that D. Chasar reported as having had perhaps its best-ever numbers in the **CVNP** this season.

Blue-headed vireo: In its southernmost strongholds in **Hocking**, the first nest was verified at **CCMP** 14 May (J. Watts), and three singing males near **Cedar Falls** 9 Jun (S. Albaugh). R. Nirschl detected birds at **Kitty Todd NP** on 4 Jun and on 20 Jun in the **Oak Openings**, both in **Lucas**. D. Chasar proclaimed their numbers in the **CVNP** "very good," and J. Pogacnik reported 32 probable or confirmed nestings in the **Lake** MPs.

Red-eyed vireo: Almost 20 at **Magee** as late as 4 Jun surely were mostly migrants (K. Kaufman).



R. Nirschl alertly photographed this scissor-tailed flycatcher at the western end of the Toledo airport on 15 July.

Common raven: Thorough follow-up has yet to be done for brief sightings on 12 Jun of extremely wary ravens in an east-central county, indicating the possibility of breeding there (S. Albaugh).

Purple martin: Southbound migrants were passing 11 Jul at **Camp Dennison** in **Hamilton** (B. Foppe).

Bank swallow: Large aggregations included 300 at **BCSP** 8 Jul (D. Overacker) and 450 at **Conneaut** 24 Jul (C. Holt).

Cliff swallow: Interesting were four nests on a **Trumbull** storefront discovered by J. Hochadel on 30 Jun. This species nested far more commonly on occupied buildings long ago.

Red-breasted nuthatch: Summer birds included a pair through the period at a **Findlay** feeder (O. Line), one at **Mogadore Res** 1 Jun (K. Miller), a pair 9 Jun since spring at a **Fairfield** feeder (E. Reiner), one calling W of **Toledo** 14 Jun (J. Sawvel) and another on **Kelleys Isl** 15 Jun (T. Bartlett), one at **Beaver Ck WA** 18 Jun (A. Boone), one at **Mohican SP** 22 Jun (P. Rodewald), one in **Cuyahoga** 24 Jun (C. Caldwell), four or five in the **CVNP** 23&25 Jun, and one in **Sagamore Hills** 28 Jun (D. Chasar), a pair in the **Oak Openings** 2 Jul (M. Anderson), one SW of **Toledo** 14 Jul (C. Nilsson), and a female carrying food in **Trumbull** 15 Jul (C. Babyak). Premonitions of an invasion year perhaps.

Brown creeper: One in the **Oak Openings** 2 Jun (G. Links) was still singing 2 Jul (M. Anderson); another was in song in **Columbus** 13 Jun (R. Thorn), with yet another in **Greene** the 14th (T. Spahr) and two there on 25 Jun. One was in **Cuyahoga** 24 Jun (T. Martincic), one in **Richland** 20&29 Jun (G. Cowell), another in **Ashland** 22 Jun (P. Rodewald), and one in **Wayne** 20 May into June (J. Larson). A male in **Williams** 1 Jul may have been unmated (J. Grabmeier). D. Chasar declared them "doing well" in the **CVNP** as nesters, and J. Pogacnik had three probable nests in the **Lake** MPs during the summer.

Winter wren: Breeding was confirmed at one of two probable nesting sites in the **CVNP** (D&A Chasar), and territorial males found at sites in **Franklin** (C. Morrow) and **Hocking** (Morrow, J. Watts, S. Albaugh). J. Pogacnik reported 21 probable or confirmed nesters in the **Lake** MPs during the season.

Sedge wren: C. Hoagstrom reported numerous sedge wrens in SW **Hardin** fields through the period. Near **Killbuck** was one 1-6 Jun (S. Snyder). D. Hess found two territories in **Ross** 13 Jun. R. Asamoto had one in **Warren** 24 Jul, R. Kolde another at **Winton Wds** in **Hamilton** 27 Jul, and P. Gardner three at **KPWA** the following day. J. Pogacnik reported a pair in **Lake** during the period.



One of several Bell's vireos photographed by Bob Royse in Pickaway Co., this one on 9 June.

Marsh wren: As many as 16 males found **ONWR** to their liking 3 Jun (ONWRC) for the high count, with smaller numbers at healthier marshlands throughout.

Golden-crowned kinglet: In the **CVNP**, C. Caldwell found one in a spruce grove 2 Jun, while D&A Chasar found three territories at different locations there 23 Jun (ph). One in the **Oak Openings** 2 Jun (G. Links) grew to two the next day (M. Anderson). J. Pogacnik reported a probable pair in the **Lake** MPs for the period.

Veery: Well-represented in northern strongholds in **Lucas, Ashtabula, Williams, Geauga, Cuyahoga, Seneca, Summit**, and **Lake**, as well as **Hancock** and the southernmost populations in **Hocking**; a novelty was one singing in **Zane Caverns** in **Logan** 14 Jun (T. Shively).

Swainson's thrush: Tardy migrants were on the **ONWRC** 3 Jun, single birds at **LSR** 2 and 5 Jun (J. Pogacnik), and four at **Magee** 4 Jun (K. Kaufman).

Hermit thrush: In **Hocking**, four-five pairs at **CCMP**, seven heard singing at **Cantwell Cliffs** (J. Watts) and numerous pairs (S. Albaugh) near **Cedar Falls**, along with seven pairs in the **Lake** MPs (J. Pogacnik) were probable nesters. With the same status were pairs in **Richland** (G. Cowell, 2 Jun), the **CVNP** (6 Jun, D. Chasar), the **Oak Openings** (21 Jul, C. Anderson), and **Mohican SF** (22 Jun, P. Rodewald).

Northern mockingbird: E. Tramer reported their numbers down in the **NW**, most likely due to inclement weather in Feb and Apr.

Brown thrasher: J. Heflich reported the species is no longer common in **Ashtabula/Trumbull**.

Blue-winged warbler: E. Tramer reported a pair in the **Oak Openings** 17 Jul, where they are scarce.

Golden-winged warbler: Tantalizing, but not subsequently found, were a singer near **Ira Rd** in the **CVNP** 2 Jun (C. Caldwell) and one at **Dillon SP** on 26 May (V. Smith).

Tennessee warbler: A straggler passed through **Wadsworth** in **Medina** 1 Jun (R&S Harlan).

Nashville warbler: J. Heflich, P. Kellner, and J. Evans witnessed one at close range in **GRWA** on 15 Jul.



A nice find, but a shy photographic subject, was this golden-crowned kinglet near Horseshoe Pond in the **CVNP** 25 June. Photo by Dwight Chasar.

Northern parula: Well-reported, with finds in the northern counties: one singing in *Seneca* 1 Jun (N. Fensler), one or two in *Coshocton* 6 Jun-4 Jul (L. Deininger), four at **Lk Loramie SP** in *Shelby* 8 Jun (T. Shively), a singer in *Knox* 13 Jun (G. Cowell), another in *Fulton* 25 Jun (R. Schroeder), and one perhaps unmated in *Williams* 1 Jul (J. Grabmeier).

Yellow warbler: T. Bartlett reported capturing a male at **Kelleys Island** on 19 May that he had banded as an AHY bird on 17 May 1997, making this bird at least 11 years old. E. Schlabach called one in *Holmes* on 3 Jul his "earliest migrant ever" of the species.

Chestnut-sided warbler: Two nesting sites way down in *Scioto* this spring (B. Sparks), but other probable nests south of the range included one in *Knox* 8 Jun and another in *Jefferson* 12 Jun (S. Albaugh), in *Coshocton* 16 Jun-16 Jul (L. Deininger), in *Hocking* 12 Jun (C. Morrow), and a possible nester in *Vinton* (where confirmed in previous years) 23 Jul (B. Simpson).

Magnolia warbler: Latest passing north was one at **LSR** 5 Jun (J. Pogacnik). Probable breeders were three pairs in *Hocking* 16 Jun (J. Watts), one in *Lucas* 9 Jun (M. Anderson), and another at **Mohican SF** 22 Jun (P. Rodewald). Pogacnik reported 17 pairs probably nesting in the *Lake* MPs during the season. E. Schlabach found a puzzling singing male in *Tuscarawas* on 30 Jun that was not acting territorial otherwise.

Black-throated blue warbler: A first Jun record for *Paulding* was one in **Antwerp** on the 7th (M&D Dunakin).

Black-throated green warbler: Well-represented in traditional areas. Interesting were a singing male in the **Oak Openings** 6 Jun, then elsewhere in the area a female carrying food on the 27th (E. Tramer), a territorial male in *Fairfield* 7 Jul (D. McCoy), one in *Belmont* 12 Jun (B. Bond), and one 1-23 Jul in *Vinton* (B. Simpson). J. Pogacnik reported 31 pairs probable or confirmed as breeders in the *Lake* MPs during the period.

Blackburnian warbler: Confirmed as a breeder in **Mohican** 22 Jun (P. Rodewald). No reports came of the *Hocking* population this season.

Yellow-throated warbler: Farther north, this southern species was reported from *Lucas* on 29 Jun (M. Anderson), from *Shelby* on 8 Jun (T. Shively), from the **CVNP** on 2 Jul (ad and two fledglings, D. Chasar), and at least nine probable nesting pairs in the *Lake* MPs during the period (J. Pogacnik). Five males noted singing from pine stands on hills as far north as **Logan** 21 Jun (B. Whan).

Pine warbler: Another southern species. R&S Harlan reported six males from the **Nimisila Res** area in **Summit** on 4 Jun, and J. Pogacnik two probable nestings in the *Lake* MPs during the period. Reported from **Pymatuning SP** 9 Jun and *Portage* 20 Jun (G. Bennett) and the **CVNP** (D&A Chasar) on 25 Jun. Continues in the **Oak Openings**, but clearing of pine stands will reduce already small numbers (G. Links).

Bay-breasted warbler: K. Williams-Sieg observed a second-year female at **Tar**

Hollow SP in **Ross** on 26 Jun for a quite late inland record.

Blackpoll warbler: These fairly late warblers were widely reported during the first five days of Jun, but one singing on the 15th on **Kelleys Isl** was remarkable (T. Bartlett).

Cerulean warbler: Readily found in suitable habitat elsewhere, it is spottiest in the NW. J. Grabmeier found them "not uncommon around **Lake La Su An**" in *Williams*, and G. Links "rare but not unexpected" in the **Oak Openings** in *Lucas*, where T. Kemp found a nesting pair 3 Jun. A pair was near the **Zane Caverns** in *Logan* 14 Jun (T. Shively). J. Pogacnik reported 45 pairs probable or confirmed as nesters in the *Lake* MPs.

Black-and-white warbler: A commoner nester in the south, breeding was confirmed in *Erie* 7 Jul (G. Fowler), in *Columbiana* 23 Jun (J. Dolan), and probable (two) near **Blackhand Gorge** in *Licking* 7 Jun (S. Albaugh). Out-of-the-way reports came from **Lk Loramie** in *Shelby* (T. Shively, 9 Jun) and **Kelleys Isl**, where two males were singing 15 Jun (T. Bartlett). Nesters are rare in *Hamilton*, but a pair was monitored there throughout July (K. Westendorf, E. Burkholder).

American redstart: Last probable migrants were six at **Magee** on 4 Jun (K. Kaufman). A widespread breeder, but lesser-known locations were **Lk Loramie** in *Shelby* (two birds on 8 Jun) and 10 at **Zane Caverns** in *Logan* (T. Shively), and at **Kelleys Isl** a robust 12 on 16 Jun (T. Bartlett). Scarce in *Hamilton*, but one was present 24 Jun (N. Keller).

Prothonotary warbler: C. Bombaci reported 176 territories at **Hoover Res.** where fledglings were present as late as 24 Jul. In (relatively) outlying areas, T. Kemp reported one in *Wood* 10 Jun, and E. Schlabach three fledglings in *Tuscarawas* on 7 Jul. J. Grabmeier reported several from *Williams* in Jun, and G. Bennett another from the far corner of the state in *Ashtabula* 9 Jun. Jay Stenger reported confirmed nesting in *Hamilton* 3 Jun, and its recorded distribution as a breeding species seems to be expanding.

Worm-eating warbler: Largely a breeder in the SE, and so largely reported, though P. Rodewald reported one in **Mohican** 22 Jun, B. Osborne located one for the SCBC on 24 Jun in **Summit**, in *Hamilton* P. Wharton had one at **MWW** on 3 Jun, and *fide* M. Busam one was at **Gilmore Ponds** in *Butler* 14 Jul.

Northern waterthrush: Unusual was one netted in a banding operation in *Vinton* 26 Jul (B. Placier), as was one banded at **Springville Marsh** 16 Jul and another on **Kelleys Isl** a few days later (T. Bartlett). J. Pogacnik had one



Confirmed as nesting by carrying food, this prairie warbler was unfortunately feeding a cowbird. Photographed 28 July at Caesar Creek SP by Rick Asamoto.

confirmed and one probable nester in the *Lake* MPs during the period.

Louisiana waterthrush: Discoveries in the west included two in *Logan* 11 Jun (T. Shively), one in *Delaware* 15 Jun (J. Davis) and several elsewhere in the county through the month by C. Bombaci. In the SW, reports came from *Hamilton, Clermont, Brown, and Adams*.

Kentucky warbler: Beyond its general range were one in the *CVNP* 2 Jun (D. Chasar) and another in *Wood* 10 Jun (T. Kemp), and 16 Jun in *Champaign* and 17 Jun in *Shelby* (T. Shively). B. Lund reported a possible Kentucky X hooded warbler hybrid in *Adams*; a description and audio tape were provided to the Borror Laboratory of Bioacoustics at OSU.

Mourning warbler: Lagging migrants persisted as late as 2 Jun in *Fairfield* (J. Watts) and 4 Jun in *Lucas* (E. Tramer). J. Pogacnik reported three probable nesting pairs in the *Lake* MPs during the period. B. Townsend confirmed nesting in NE *Geauga* 23 Jun.

Common yellowthroat: Two observers reported a “broken-wing” distraction display by this common species during the period.

Hooded warbler: In the western counties where the species is sparse, a male was in *Logan* 14 Jun (T. Shively), and a possible nest was in *Hancock* during the period (S. Baxter *vide* B. Hardesty).

Wilson’s warbler: The latest straggler was at *MWW* on 6 Jun (F. Frick).

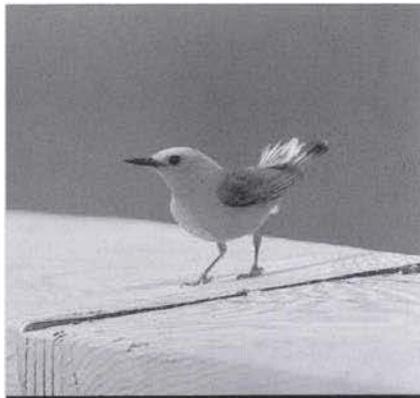
Canada warbler: Several pairs nested at *CCMP* in *Hocking* (J. Watts). J. Pogacnik reported 10 pairs probable or confirmed as breeders in the *Lake* MPs during the period.

Yellow-breasted chat: Its numbers and distribution seemed little changed statewide, and seemed healthy in its strongholds. Its taxonomic future remains under scrutiny.

Summer tanager: Scantly reported as always. One at *Lake Loramie* in *Shelby* 9 Jun was of interest (T. Shively). Observers of the Mississippi kite in *Hocking* reported one nearby, such as B. Glick on 29 Jun. Inexplicably scarce in the *CCMP*, one found this season there 4 Jun (A. Boone) was news.

Scarlet tanager: D. Brinkman reported a bird in *Cincinnati* on 23 Jun with a pale yellow head, and white breast and belly, an odd pattern for a molting bird.

Field sparrow: Twenty-two showed up for the 1 Jul ONWRC.



This male from C. Bombaci’s prothonotary warbler project regarded the new Hoover Reservoir boardwalk as within his territory. Photo by Virginia Vandermeer on 28 June.

Vesper sparrow: This species seems findable with persistence in otherwise unpromising habitat of agricultural fields, and it may be more numerous than many believe.

Lark sparrow: Nested in customary numbers at the usual **Oak Openings** sites. On 27 Jun, F. Frick found a pair with one young in a disturbed weedy area just NW of *Cincinnati*; other observers were later able to confirm two breeding pairs. On 23 Jul, P. North detected a pair in a waste area frequented by off-road vehicles south of *Columbus*, with a likely juvenal bird seen later by several. E. Schlabach reported the following in w. *Tuscarawas* in the area where blue grosbeaks were reported: an ad 14 Jul, then on 17 Jul two ad with three juveniles. The breeding pair in an old quarry site in *Greene* for the second straight year in late May was apparently not reported during the summer period.

Savannah sparrow: In the *Hardin* wetland, R. Counts had 21 on both 2 Jun and 4 Jul, on the latter date including many young. The old Coliseum site in the *CVNP* in *Summit* produced 10 on 24 Jun (C. Caldwell).

Grasshopper sparrow: The high count was ~100 in a field near *Deer Ck WA* 18 Jun; the field was mowed 4 Jul by public land managers (R. Royse). In the *Hardin* wetland, R. Counts had 29 on 2 Jun and 18 on 4 Jul. Scarce in the far NE, where J. Pogacnik reported probable nesting near *Painesville*.

Henslow’s sparrow: Atlas work has demonstrated this species is more widespread than formerly thought. Its narrow but not particularly scarce habitat requirements and inconspicuous vocalizations may in part explain this. Numerous spots have been located in northern and western areas where it was once thought rare or even absent.

Swamp sparrow: Well reported in strongholds the northern half of the state. Farther south, reported as a probable breeder in *Fairfield* 20 May (*vide* M. Shieldcastle), with a report of possible nesting in *Gallia* 10 Jun (B. Sparks).

White-throated sparrow: The latest reported migrant was at *Maghee* on 4 Jun (K. Kaufman). Strangely, a couple of local reports of birds heard during the second half of June were followed by a closely-observed individual in Embshoff Wds in *Cincinnati* on 7 Jul (B. Zimmerman) for an extraordinary record from a southern location.

White-crowned sparrow: Last seen was a migrant in *Toledo* 3 Jun (S. Nirschl).

Dark-eyed junco: Breeding was confirmed in *Summit* and *Cuyahoga* (D&A Chasar), likely in *Trumbull* (E. Kistler) and *Geauga* (T. Martincic). In the undisputed stronghold of the state, the *Lake* MPs, J. Pogacnik reported 103 nesting pairs either probable or confirmed during the period, all in hemlock bluff habitat.

Rose-breasted grosbeak: Echoing spring abundances—or perhaps more accurately necessary changes in food sources—summer reports at feeders abounded. J. Heflich called them “especially common” in *Ashtabula/Trumbull*, and observers reported them during the nesting season from the south in *Clermont, Hamilton, and Montgomery*.

Blue grosbeak: Reports of this species exploded this summer. They are too numerous to expound in detail, and readers are advised to revise the range map for the first Ohio Breeding Bird Atlas to include the following counties with records from this summer alone: *Lucas, Richland, Jefferson, Fayette, Clark, Monroe, Meigs, Gallia, Lawrence, Ross, Coshocton, Montgomery, Shelby, Champaign, Logan, Adams, Pickaway, Franklin, Athens, Clermont, Hamilton, Tuscarawas, Scioto, and Butler*. Despite increased numbers due to the OBBA's improved coverage, and increasing knowledge of its habitats, this species still seems to be on the increase in Ohio.

Dickcissel: Not a major invasion year, but better coverage by the Atlasing project made their incursions into the western counties evident. Counties with records included *Putnam, Wood, Hancock, Sandusky, Hardin, Wyandot, Marion, Richland, Ashland, Darke, Auglaize, Shelby, Miami, Logan, Champaign, Franklin, Morrow, Clark, Fayette, Pickaway, Butler, Hamilton, Highland, Adams, Ross, and Lawrence*.

Bobolink: Multiple reports came from *Hardin, Summit, Butler, Wood, Ashtabula, Williams, Lucas, Lake, Hancock, Seneca, Lorain, Medina, Cuyahoga, Portage, Trumbull, Richland, Ashland, Licking, Guernsey, Jefferson, Warren, Clark, Fayette, Noble, Pickaway, Knox, Holmes, Mahoning, Carroll, Logan, Champaign, Union, Delaware, Morrow, and Franklin*.

Eastern meadowlark: Down, but persists at grasslands. The old Coliseum site in the CVNP held 20+ 24 Jun (C. Caldwell). The VOA site in *Butler* held as many 2 Jun (M. Busam). Less pruned than usual, the west end of the **Toledo airport** had at least seven territories this summer (E. Tramer).

Western meadowlark: The lovelorn bird seen since March in *Wood* was not observed to have attracted a female by 1 Jul (R. Nirschl). Nirschl found another in *Williams* on 1 Jul. Perhaps the OBBA will produce a clearer picture of its summer abundance in the state.

Yellow-headed blackbird: J. Moore documented one at a feeder in *Highland* on 1 May. Outside of the NW marshes, this species may appear as a rarity anywhere in the state, usually noticed at feeders.

Purple finch: During June, reported were possible or probable breeders in *Medina, Ashtabula, Summit, Portage, Trumbull, Richland, Ashland, Mahoning, Columbiana, Tuscarawas, Lake, and Jefferson*.

Contributors: We are indebted to the following individuals and organizations who contributed sightings data to the Reports: Scott Albaugh, Chuck Anderson, Matt Anderson, Rick Asamoto, Carole Babyak, Bob Baran, Brian Barchus, Mary Ann Barnett, Tom Bartlett, Erich Baumgardner, Sue Baxter, Greg Bennett, Joe Bens, Rob Bobel, Charlie Bombaci, Brad Bond, Aaron Boone, Steve Borgis, Margaret Bowman, Marcia Brehmer, David Brinkman, Jeff Brown, Lori Brumbaugh, Jen Brumfield, Eric Burkholder, Mike Busam, Neill Cade, Craig Caldwell, Chris Caprette, Paul Chad, Phil Chaon, Allen Chartier, Ann Chasar, Dwight Chasar, Liz Clingman, Ben Coulter, Rick Counts, Gary Cowell, Ann Cramer, Glen Crippen, Ben Crow, Greg Cudworth, Becky Cullen, Jeff Cullen,

Leo Deininger, Guy Denny, Gary Dietz, Dave Dister, Laura Dorman, Janet Duerr, Doug Dunakin, Micki Dunakin, Eddie Ehrman, Allan Elberfeld, Jason Estep, Bob Evans, Bob Faber, Bob Foppe, Gary Fowler, Frank Frick, Darlene Friedman, Jim Fry, Ross Gallardy, Larry Gara, Lou Gardella, Paul Gardner, Bruce Glick, Mike Gordon, Don Gorney, Jeff Grabmeier, Darlena Graham, John Habig, Scott Hannan, Ray Hannikman, Betty Hardesty, Rob Harlan, Sandy Harlan, Bill Heck, Jim Heflich, Dave Hess, Carl Hoagstrom, Judy Hochadel, Craig Holt, Dave Horn, Ron Huffman, John Hull, William Hull, Bill Jones, Kenn Kaufman, Laura Keene, Ned Keller, Patty Kellner, Tom Kemp, Francine Kidd, Ethan Kistler, Paul Knoop, Ron Kolde, Dan Kramer, John Kuenzli, Bob Lacker, Bob & Denise Lane, Jason Larson, Jay Lehman, Gabe Leidy, Annie Lindsay, Greg Links, Fred Losi, Rob Lowry, Paula Lozano, Bernard Master, Pat McCarthy, Jim McCormac, Dawn McCoy, Kathy McDonald, Joe McMahon, Bob McNulty, Debra Marsh, Gary Meszaros, Kent Miller, Kathy Mock, Jim Moore, Ben Morrison, Carrie Morrow, Donald Morse, Craig Nilsson, Rick Nirschl, Susan Nirschl, Phillip North, Nat Nye, Bill Osborne, Helen Ostermiller, Ken Ostermiller, Doug Overacker, Michael Packer, Al Parker, Rick Perkins, John Petrucci, Chris Pierce, Ed Pierce, Bob Placier, Cindy Ploch, John Pogacnik, Bob Powell, Frank Renfrow, Craig Rieker, Keith Robinson, Paul Rodewald, Linda Romine, Mary Anne Romito, Tom Romito, Bob Royse, Dave Russell, Bob Sams, Dan Sanders, John Sawvel, Regina Schieltz, Ed Schlabach, Marc Schroeder, Ron Sempier, Andy Sewell, Walt Shaffer, Paul Sherwood, Mark Shieldcastle, Troy Shively, Bruce Simpson, Doug Snapp, Darlene Snuffer, Su Snyder, Greg Spahr, Tim Spahr, Chris Spagnoli, Brad Sparks, Terry Sponseller, Bill Stanley, Gene Stauffer, Jack Stenger, Jay Stenger, Jill Taber, Keith Tarvin, Bob Thobaben, Rebecca Thompson, Rob Thorn, Britt Townsend, Elliot Tramer, Tom Uhlman, Jane Van Coney, Virginia Vandermeer, Mark Vass, Doug Vogus, Ben Warner, Leslie Warren, John Watts, Kirk Westendorf, Bill Whan, Pete Whan, Paul Wharton, Kelly Williams-Sieg, Andi Wolfe, Richard Wolinski, Alan Wormington, Scott Wright, Leroy Yoder, Sheryl Young, Scott Younger, Bill Zimmerman, and Brian Zwiebel. We also gratefully acknowledge information received from the editors of the *Bobolink* and the *Cleveland Bird Calendar*, Ann Chasar and Doug Vogus (for results of the Greater Akron Audubon Society Summit County Bird Census), staff and volunteers for the Ohio Breeding Bird Atlas II, the US Fish & Wildlife Service, and internet resources managed by Chuck Anderson, the Ohio Ornithological Society, and Ned Keller.