

Summer 2009 Overview and Reports

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The summer 2009 reporting period resulted in an impressive tally of 240 species. Within this roster are some truly remarkable discoveries. This season was the fourth field season of Ohio's second Breeding Bird Atlas effort (OBBA2). Numerous volunteers (212, to be exact) took to their survey blocks and logged an incredible 128,716 individual breeding-bird observations, all of which came from 2,061 survey blocks (about 45% of all blocks). As a whole, these atlas data represented a total of 190 species. Many of these species denote remarkable chapters in Ohio's ornithological history.

Overall, the summer period was relatively mild. Temperatures in Ohio reached the 90s, but mean temperatures were below the norm. When summer days are mild, contributing to volunteer citizen science projects like OBBA2 can be much more enjoyable. However, it would be interesting to see how local conditions affect one's field results. Regardless, this reporting period presented many opportunities to cover new ground, to make new discoveries, and to follow up on previously formulated hunches.

Bird distribution is a topic that is, in many aspects, just as important as field identification skills. Analyzing habitat cover in association with larger ecoregion patterns and recent data trends, birders can sometimes predict future species distribution events. Reports of vagrancy were few and far

between (e.g., a late July record of White Ibis, Ohio's eighth accepted record) but resident breeding activity produced some exceptionally noteworthy records. The first that comes to mind is the stunning discovery of a breeding pair of Merlin that successfully reared offspring. Many birders had been predicting that this species might someday return to Ohio as a breeding species (see "Ohio's Newest Breeding Birds?" in the first issue of *The Ohio Atlaser* newsletter). John Pogacnik's stellar find is apparently the first nesting evidence of Merlin in Ohio since the mid-1850s. If a stable population did exist in northeastern Ohio, it apparently vanished by the 1930s (Peterjohn 2001).

When we look at this raptor species from a regional context, we see that Merlin has dramatically expanded its breeding range quite recently. To the east in Pennsylvania, Merlin has only recently been re-confirmed as a nesting species. During the 1980s, when the state collected data for its first breeding bird atlas, no data suggested that Merlin were nesting within the state (Brauning 1992). As of the completion of atlas data collection in 2009 for their follow-up survey effort, this amazing raptor was reported in 17 survey blocks, three of which were relatively close to Ohio's northeastern border. Confirmed nesting evidence existed in six of those blocks (*2nd Pennsylvania Breeding Bird Atlas*, unpublished data).

If we look even farther to the east, New York offers a particularly amazing story relating to the expanding distribution of breeding Merlin. Like Ohio and Pennsylvania, the state of New York conducted field-work for its first breeding bird atlas during the 1980s (Andrie and Carroll 1988). This period saw no official breeding Merlin records for the state; however, post-publication reports confirmed that

Merlin were nesting in the Adirondack mountains (Spahn 1998). Nesting in the Adirondacks was verified in 1992 and continues to the present (McGowan and Corwin 2008). New York's second atlas effort ultimately demonstrated that Merlin has recovered as a breeding species within its Adirondack region, in addition to showing that many urban areas outside of the Adirondacks are hosting this species among their local breeding avifauna. A couple of confirmed breeding records from western New York in the Erie–Ontario Plain, in conjunction with Pennsylvania's and Ohio's recent nesting confirmations, may represent a larger recolonization trend of this species' former regional distribution.

What does the future hold for nesting Merlin in Ohio? Birders should keep this species at the forefront of their minds, especially when summer birding efforts take place in northeastern Ohio. Learn the details of their breeding habits and habitat preferences. If you suspect that potential breeding habitat exists off-road, it might be rewarding to seek appropriate access.

Review species (those which are not on the state's Core List as designated by the Ohio Bird Records Committee [OBRC]) are underlined. There were reports of eight review species. Reports of sightings whose documentation has been accepted by the OBRC include the names of the observers; those for which no documentation was submitted or whose documentation was not considered sufficient are listed anonymously. The committee urges birders to report all sightings of Review List species, of Core List species found at unusual times, of nesting by birds previously not known to nest in the state, and, of course, sightings of birds never before found in Ohio. Information on how to document rarities is available

at <http://www.ohiobirds.org/records/documentation.php>.

Taxonomic order and nomenclature are those of the *Check-List of North American Birds*, 7th Edition (1998), as updated through the 50th Supplement (2009). This document is published by the North American Classification Committee of the American Ornithologists' Union and is available at <http://www.aou.org/checklist/north/print.php>.

The following abbreviations are used in these accounts:

fide = “on the authority of”; typically a record submitted by a third party

NWR = National Wildlife Refuge

OBBA2 = Ohio Breeding Bird Atlas II, 2006-2011

ODNR = Ohio Department of Natural Resources

ODOW = Ohio Division of Wildlife

WA = Wildlife Area

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Canada Goose: Reported to the OBBA2 from 278 blocks from throughout the state.

Mute Swan: Reported to the OBBA2 from 13 survey blocks, mainly from the northern two-thirds of the state.

Trumpeter Swan: A pair of swans was confirmed nesting in **Guernsey** on 29 Jun (Doug LeVasseur). The ODOW reports that 2009 saw an all-time high record for reproduction, with 73 birds fledging from 10 counties.

Wood Duck: Reported to the OBBA2 from 168 blocks throughout the state

Gadwall: A lone bird was in **Harrison** 03 Jun (Scott Albaugh) and in **Lorain** 06 Jul (Black River Audubon Society).

American Black Duck: A likely mated pair stayed for a couple of weeks at the **Hardin** wetlands (08 to 20 Jun, Rick Counts). A pair of ducks was also seen 01 Jun in **Fulton** County (Tom Kemp). On 13 Jun, multiple adult birds were seen in both **Trumbull** and **Summit** (Dave and Judy Hochadel; *vide* Dwight and Ann Chasar).

Mallard: Reported to the OBBA2 from 259 blocks from throughout the state

Blue-winged Teal: Reported to the OBBA2 from 11 survey blocks.

Northern Shoveler: The **Hardin** wetlands produced the site's first nesting record; 10 birds were seen 04 Jul (Rick Counts). Shovelers were also

detected in **Lorain** on 09 Jun (Sue Yost, Jan Auburn).

Northern Pintail: A pair was suspected of nesting in **Ottawa** 18 Jun (Mark Shieldcastle).

Green-winged Teal: Two drakes were found at Ottawa NWR, **Ottawa**, on 07 Jun (*vide* Douglas Vogus), but more intriguing was a pair of birds at Tri-Valley WA, **Muskingum**, on 14 Jun (Chris Pierce). It is unclear whether the **Muskingum** birds were a mated pair. A single bird was seen in **Fulton** (a male in suitable habitat 29 Jun, Tom Kemp). Breeding was confirmed at the **Hardin** wetlands (as many as eight birds on 04 Jul, Richard Counts).

Redhead: Confirmed as nesting in **Ottawa** on 18 Jun (Mark Shieldcastle), when a hen with a brood was observed. A lone Redhead was on the Ohio River on 23 and 25 Jun (Jonathan Frodge).

Ring-necked Duck: Single midsummer Ring-necked Ducks were found in **Franklin** (two individuals on 05 Jun, Steve Jones; 08 Jun, James Thurston), **Auglaize** (3 Jul; Darlene Snuffer), and **Montgomery** (03 Jul; Rick Asamoto).

Lesser Scaup: A lone drake Lesser Scaup was seen in **Guernsey** on 20 and 21 Jun (Dan Sanders, Doreene Linzell). An unidentified scaup was observed 29 Jun in **Summit** (Darlene Snuffer).

Hooded Merganser: Unusual in southeastern counties, a mated pair of Hooded Mergansers was in southeastern Ohio (**Morgan**)

on 12 Jun (Betty Lowe). Hooded Mergansers were reported from an additional 24 atlas survey blocks from the species typical breeding distribution within the state.

Common Merganser: Continues along the Little Beaver Creek (*Columbiana*) in good numbers. Breeding is possible in *Ashtabula* along Conneaut Creek; an observation of a female on 04 Jun continues to suggest that this might be another breeding location for the state (Craig Holt).

Red-breasted Merganser: Appeared in *Ashtabula* (Mark Vass) and *Lorain* (Black River Audubon Society), each with single birds on 07 Jul.

Ruddy Ducks: Reported from five atlas survey blocks in northern Ohio counties. The only confirmed breeding for the species was reported from *Ottawa* (18 Jun; Mark Shieldcastle).

Northern Bobwhite: Away from the species' stronghold in southwestern Ohio, isolated observations of Northern Bobwhite came from *Columbiana* (25 Jul, Jim Dolan), *Mahoning* (16 Jun, Bill Jones), *Trumbull* (01 Jun, Dave and Judy Hochadel), *Wood* (05 Jul, Tom Kemp); a brood was seen in *Mahoning* on 21 Jun (Jim Dolan). Bobwhite were reported to the OBBA2 from 53 survey blocks. According to the ODOW, midsummer weather conditions may have been favorable for successful brood rearing but overall impacts on this year's population are not currently clear.

Ring-necked Pheasant: Reported to the OBBA2 from 74 survey blocks. The most southerly record was of a possible breeding individual in *Ross* just northeast of Chillicothe, right at the edge of the glaciation line (12 Jun, Eric Hall).

Ruffed Grouse: Encouraging was a pair of Ruffed Grouse observed in the northeast (*Geauga*) on 16 Jun and again from the same area on 23 Jun (Carol Skinner). The ODOW reports a decline in the drumming index for 2009 with few observations of hens with broods (25 observations reported).

Wild Turkey: Reported to the OBBA2 from 162 survey blocks. Current atlas data show a strong statewide distribution for this species, with noticeable gaps in the counties directly to the south and west of Columbus (*Franklin*) and up along Lake Erie in *Ottawa* and *Lucas*.

Common Loon: Reported throughout the period in the state (*Hamilton* on 27 Jun, Kirk Westendorf; *Lorain* on 10 Jun, Black River Audubon Society; *Mahoning* on 08 Jun, William Jones; *Pike* on 04 Jun, Carl Ball; *Portage* on 26 Jun, Gabe Leidy; *Richland* on 15 Jun, Gary Cowell; *Ashtabula* on 08 Jul, Craig Holt) with as many as four birds seen 24 Jul in *Warren* (Rick Asamoto).

Pied-billed Grebe: Reported to the OBBA2 from 16 survey blocks scattered throughout the glaciated region of the state (69% of these block records representing "confirmed" breeding).



Non-breeding adult American White Pelicans are sometimes noted in summer in Ohio, and 2009 produced multiple reports. The largest group reported was this set of 28 birds at Clays Resort Park, Stark, on 26 Jun.

American White Pelican:

Representatives of this majestic species dropped in to a local **Stark** park on 25 Jun (*fide* Dan Kramer), with numbers quickly escalating to 28 birds on 26 Jun (Gabe Leidy). Dane Adams photographed two pelicans at Magee Marsh WA (**Ottawa**) 21 Jun and Rick Counts added the species to the **Hardin** wetlands site list with one bird on 13 Jul.

Brown Pelican: Three reports of this species came from **Portage** 18, 21, and 25 Jun. These reports were never confirmed and no documentation was provided to the OBRC. A single bird was photographed in **Lake** on 07 Jul (John Pogacnik). Frank Renfrow confirmed another individual 13 Jul in



More Brown Pelican sightings were logged this year than normal, including this one on 02 Jul in Fairport Harbor, Lake, by John Pogacnik.

Hamilton as he nabbed it flying in from the Kentucky side of the Ohio River. The documentation of these two sightings was accepted by the OBRC.

Double-crested Cormorant:

Scattered reports from across the state included one from southeastern Ohio (**Washington**) at the Willow Island Lock and Dam on 18 Jul (James Sipiora). Several block records were submitted to the OBBA2, but the only confirmed breeding record was from **Hancock** on 11 Jul, with young birds reported at Lake Mosier (Robert Sams).

American Bittern: Encouraging was a bird observed at Big Island WA, **Marion** (Wilma Bird) on 05 and 15 Jun. Unexpected was the individual that flew into a small wetland in **Morgan** on 10 Jun (Dan Sanders, Dorene Linzell)—follow-up efforts could not establish this individual as a resident. Also of note was another **Morgan** bittern heard calling on 03 Jul (Betty Lowe). Focal marsh bird research (Ohio State University) failed to detect any American Bitterns at wetlands randomly surveyed across the state (*fide* Karen Willard).

Least Bittern: Focal marsh bird research through Ohio State University (*vide* Karen Willard) turned up Least Bittern records in **Erie**, **Lucas**, **Ottawa**, **Sandusky**, and **Union** (a calling bird at a restored wetland 15 Jun in **Union** is especially noteworthy). Robert Sams found a bird at a **Hancock** wetland on 12 Jul. Fledglings were found in Summit on 13 Jul (Mary Anne Romito).

Great Blue Heron: Thirteen rookeries were reported to the OBBA2 during the summer reporting period.

Great Egret: Twenty-five birds was a nice concentration in **Trumbull** on 01 Jun (*vide* Dave Hochadel); an individual was observed collecting nesting material on 10 Jun (Laura Gooch).

Snowy Egret: The West Sister Island population remained stable (*vide* ODOV).

Little Blue Heron: Away from Lake Erie, a single bird was found in **Montgomery** on 26 Jul (Rick Asamoto) and was not suspected of local nesting.

Cattle Egret: A single bird showed up in Ohio on 05 Jun (**Franklin**, Gary Moon).

Green Heron: Reported to the OBBA2 from 139 survey blocks scattered across the state.

Black-crowned Night-Heron: Away from the Lake Erie marshes, this species was reported from **Erie** (27 Jun, Craig Caldwell), **Clermont** (1 Jun, Tyler Ficker), **Hamilton** (28 Jul, John Marvin), **Montgomery** (1 Jul, Paul Krusling), **Franklin** (22 and 31 Jul, Dave Slager), **Guernsey** (14 and 15 Jul, Dave Slager and Ben Warner), and **Mahoning** (15 Jul, William Jones). Subsequently, no confirmed nesting records were submitted to the OBBA2 during the 2009 breeding period.

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron: Rob Thorn observed a single adult bird feeding in a **Franklin** spillway on 14 Jun, possibly representing a re-colonization of an area where the species has been absent for a decade.

White Ibis: This individual arrived in **Guernsey** on 14 Jul (Eric Hall, Renee Tressler) and was seen by



*Late summer is a time of post-breeding dispersal for many waterbirds, and common southern species often disperse north for a few weeks before returning south in fall migration. This White Ibis fit that dispersal pattern, appearing in **Guernsey** where Renee Tressler photographed it on 14 Jul.*



As with the White Ibis, post-breeding dispersal likely explains the presence of this White-faced Ibis outside its breeding range. Gabe Leidy photographed this bird at Ottawa NWR, Ottawa, on 30 Jun.

many through 19 Jul. It was well documented and was accepted as Ohio's eighth record of the species.

White-faced Ibis: One was reported at Ottawa NWR by Rebecca Hinkle on 29 Jun; it was seen at least until 04 Jul. It was well photographed by several observers and the documentation was accepted by the OBRC.

Black Vulture: Two Black Vultures were seen 03 Jul in **Ashland** (Gary Cowell). Breeding confirmation for this species was not submitted to the OBBA2, but records for Black Vulture were recorded in 27 survey blocks in southern counties.

Turkey Vulture: Reported to the OBBA2 from 446 survey blocks from all Ohio survey regions. Owing to the difficulty of finding nests for this species, only four of these survey block detections consisted of confirmed breeding. Increasing the confirmed breeding status for Turkey Vulture may involve a simple correspondence

with your local farmer to see if any birds are currently using any farm structures for nesting.

Osprey: Several new nests cropped up in the state with new locations in **Cuyahoga, Franklin, Geauga, Marion, Meigs, Portage, Summit,** and **Warren** (*vide* Dave Sherman, ODOW). Linda Kurth observed a single Osprey 08 Jun in **Henry**, where no breeding is currently known. The 2009 ODOW production report indicates that there were 75 known nests during the period and that chick production increased to 175 (up from 102 in 2008).

Mississippi Kite: Could this elegant raptor be nesting in multiple Ohio locations? According to a course employee, kites returned once again to a golf club in **Hocking**, with sightings on 12 and 17 Jun. Unfortunately, other birders reported no sightings, so the return remains undocumented. What appeared to be a Mississippi Kite was photographed in silhouette flying over the Cincinnati Zoo, **Hamilton**, on

30 Jun; the photos are under OBRC review. Another adult kite was well documented in suburban Columbus, **Franklin**, on 15 and 16 Jun (Bernie Master) and was accepted by the OBRC. Any reports of this species in Ohio during the breeding season could mean that nesting is potentially taking place in the vicinity of the site of original observation.

Bald Eagle: The Ohio population experienced an increase for the 22nd consecutive year in Ohio; 33 new eagle nests were found in **Butler, Franklin, Hamilton, Logan, Medina, Montgomery, Paulding, Pike,** and **Scioto** (*vide* ODNR). In 10 years' time, the Ohio Bald Eagle nest count has increased approximately four-fold.

Northern Harrier: Birds were recorded in 13 OBBA2 survey blocks during the summer period. A bird in **Stark** on 12 Jun was a good find (Chuck McClaugherty). Nesting harriers in southeastern counties are particularly rare during the breeding season (only two confirmed breeding records in the Unglaciated Plateau during Ohio's first breeding bird atlas), so a bird seen on 27 Jun

in **Washington** was particularly noteworthy (Brad Bond).

Sharp-shinned Hawk: This state species of concern is not typically reported in northwestern Ohio during summer, except in the Oak Openings region, but two Sharp-shinned Hawks were tallied during the Jun census at Ottawa NWR, **Ottawa** (07 Jun, *vide* Douglas Vogus). OBBA2 survey data involve records from only nine survey blocks, the vast majority representing only "possible" breeding evidence.

Cooper's Hawk: Reported to the OBBA2 from 172 survey blocks.

Red-shouldered Hawk: A probable breeding record was reported from the Oak Openings region in **Fulton** on 27 Jun (Mark Shieldcastle).

Broad-winged Hawk: A flyover adult (unknown local breeding status) in **Clark** on 05 Jun was unusual (Larry Jeanblanc, Brian Menker, and Julie Karlson).

Red-tailed Hawk: Reported to the OBBA2 from 451 survey blocks.



Mississippi Kites are being spotted more regularly in central Ohio, and Bernie Master documented this one landing by his home in Worthington, Franklin, 15 Jun.

American Kestrel: Reported to the OBBA2 from 263 survey blocks.

Merlin: A rare summer Merlin observation was first made on 16 Jun in **Lake** (John Pogacnik) and continued from the same location throughout the remainder of Jun and into Jul. On 16 Jul, an adult female was observed bringing food to at least two birds in fresh juvenile plumage. It had been predicted that Merlin would show up during the field work period for Ohio's second atlas period, and this nesting record mirrors an apparent westward expansion of the species' range within the Great Lakes basin. This represents Ohio's first nesting record in many decades, probably since the 1930s.

Peregrine Falcon: Two new pairs of Peregrine Falcons were observed (one each in **Franklin** and **Trumbull**; *fide* ODOW) but apparently did not nest. The ODOW considered 19 nests, which resulted in 63 chicks, to be successful.

King Rail: Birds were observed at Pickerel Creek WA, **Sandusky** (a pair 13 Jun, Karen Willard) and at Killbuck Marsh WA, **Wayne** (27 Jun, Gabe Leidy).

Virginia Rail: Reported to the OBBA2 from seven survey blocks, including one from the south in **Ross** on 07 Jun (David Hess).

Sora: Reported to the OBBA2 from only four survey blocks, including one from the south in **Ross** on 07 Jun (David Hess).

Common Moorhen: This species was at a restored **Union** wetland on

04 Jun, with a pair evident 15 Jun (*fide* Karen Willard). Eric Hall found a Moorhen on a nest in **Belmont** 22 Jun.

American Coot: Lone adult birds were seen in **Clermont** on 01 Jun (Tyler Ficker) and Defiance on 09 Jun (Tom Kemp). Confirmed nesting records were reported from **Hardin** (Richard Counts) and **Ottawa** (Mark Shieldcastle).

Sandhill Crane: A pair of cranes at Slate Run Metro Park, **Pickaway**, continued into Jun and may have attempted to nest, but ultimately no conclusive evidence was found (*fide* John Watts). Also remarkable was a new nest in **Madison** that produced at least one young (*fide* Dave Sherman); ODNr survey efforts yielded evidence of 22 young produced in the state during the period. A reliable second-hand report of a pair with one fledgling in **Knox** is also intriguing (*fide* Margaret Bowman). Sandhill Cranes are currently known to nest in nine Ohio counties.

Black-bellied Plover: Single plovers were in **Ottawa** (Craig Caldwell) and **Ashtabula** (Craig Holt) on 18 Jul.

Semipalmated Plover: One in **Hardin** on 04 Jul (Rick Counts) could have been a spring or fall migrant. The highest single count was three birds on 21 Jul at Conneaut (**Ashtabula**, Craig Caldwell). The species was also detected in **Ottawa**, **Franklin**, and **Montgomery**.

Piping Plover: A banded adult was found at Conneaut, **Ashtabula**, on 26 Jul (Robert Krajewski *fide* John Pogacnik) and stayed through the end of the period, allowing multiple

observations. The documentation was accepted by the OBRC.

Killdeer: Reported to the OBBA2 from 455 survey blocks.

American Avocet: Four were in **Franklin** 26 and 27 Jul (Brad Sparks, Dave Slager). A single bird was at Conneaut, **Ashtabula**, on 28 Jul (Craig Caldwell); two showed up in **Montgomery** on 31 Jul (Rick Asamoto).

Spotted Sandpiper: Reported to the OBBA2 from 55 survey blocks throughout the state, except for the southeastern-most counties.

Solitary Sandpiper: Fifty birds in **Montgomery** (31 Jul, Rick Asamoto) was an excellent count for the species. Solitary Sandpipers showed up across the state during the period, the vast majority of which came from Jul. Other good counts were 16 in **Ashland** (29 Jul, Gary Cowell) and 10 in **Montgomery** (27 Jul, Laura Keene).

Greater Yellowlegs: Reported from several counties during Jul (no Jun records).

Willet: A great count of 15 was at

Conneaut, **Ashtabula**, on 22 Jul (Craig Holt). Single Willets were in **Ottawa** (23 Jul, Tom Bartlett *vide* Bill Whan), **Erie** (26 Jul, Gabe Leidy), and **Wayne** (24 to 28 Jul, James F. Yoder, Willis Brubaker).

Lesser Yellowlegs: A straggling spring migrant was in **Clermont** (1 Jun, Tyler Ficker) but, as is to be expected, the majority of records from across the state represented the beginnings of fall migration beginning in mid-Jul. The Pipe Creek WA (**Erie**) had the highest period count with 40 birds present on 26 Jul (Andy Sewell).

Upland Sandpiper: Surprisingly not from habitat near airport properties, atlas efforts in Ohio turned up territorial Upland Sandpipers in **Champaign** (15 and 16 Jun, Troy Shively, Aaron Boone), **Madison** (21 Jun, Doug Overacker), and **Mercer** (24 Jun, Tom Kemp) bean fields. Encouraging counts of Upland Sandpiper came from **Richland** (as many as eight reported through Jun, m. obs.) and **Harrison** (up to four birds reported during Jun, m. obs.). William Jones reports a bird from **Jefferson** (19 Jun).

Whimbrel: An early bird was in **Ashtabula** on 13 Jul (Craig Holt).



Whimbrel often make brief appearances in Ohio during their southbound migration; late July is a prime time to look for this species even though July is technically considered part of the nesting season by publications such as this one. Lana Hayes photographed this Whimbrel at Conneaut, Ashtabula, 26 Jul.

Other late period Whimbrel records came from **Ashtabula** (31 Jul, Mark Vass), **Lorain** (26 Jul, Chris Pierce), and **Ottawa** (24 Jul, Craig Caldwell).

Marbled Godwit: A single Marbled Godwit was at Conneaut, **Ashtabula**, briefly on 21 Jul (Craig Caldwell); another individual was at Ottawa NWR, **Ottawa**, on 26 Jul (*vide* Christopher Knoll).

Ruddy Turnstone: A late turnstone was in **Ottawa** on 15 Jun (*vide* Jim Witter). John Moore had three individuals at Englewood Reserve (Montgomery) on 29 Jul.

Sanderling: A late Sanderling was in **Ashtabula** on 05 Jun (Mark Vass); the species reappeared in **Ashtabula** on Jul 13 (Craig Holt).

Semipalmated Sandpiper: The highest count for the period was 66 birds on 02 Jun at the Mill Creek Wildlife Sanctuary, **Mahoning** (William Jones). The habitat restoration efforts at this site and subsequent monitoring efforts attest to the importance of managing and preserving shorebird stopover habitat.

Western Sandpiper: A good find for central Ohio was a single Western Sandpiper in **Franklin** on 23 Jul (Brad Sparks, Ben Warner, Dave Slager); the species first appeared during the period at Pickerel Creek Wildlife Area, **Sandusky**, on 21 Jul (Gabe Leidy).

Least Sandpiper: Reported from numerous counties across the state during the period. Forty birds seen on 15 Jul in **Mahoning** (William Jones) was the highest reported tally.

White-rumped Sandpiper: Brad Sparks tallied eight birds in **Franklin** on 02 Jun. Single Jul birds were in **Franklin** (26 Jul, Gene Stauffer) and **Wayne** (14 Jul, Ken Ostermiller).

Baird's Sandpiper: One bird seen at Conneaut (**Ashtabula**) on 28 Jul (Lana Hays).

Pectoral Sandpiper: This species did not represent a major component of the shorebirds moving through Ohio during the season, but it was represented by records from scattered counties across Ohio with no more than a handful of birds at each location. Five birds were reported at Willow Point WA (**Erie**) on 18 Jul (Craig Caldwell).

Dunlin: Robert and Sandy Harlan reported 10 birds from **Sandusky** and five birds from **Erie** on 01 Jun.

Stilt Sandpiper: The earliest report of southbound Stilt Sandpiper came from **Sandusky** with one bird on 06 Jul (Emil Bacik *vide* Gabe Leidy). Andy Sewell reported six birds at Ottawa NWR, **Ottawa**, on 26 Jul.

Short-billed Dowitcher: Sixty made an appearance in **Erie** on 18 Jul (Craig Caldwell).

Long-billed Dowitcher: Detected only along the lakefront (four birds in **Ottawa** on 24 Jul, Craig Caldwell; two birds in **Lorain** on 26 Jul, Chris Pierce).

Wilson's Snipe: Possibly breeding snipe were reported from the southwest in **Butler** but could have been early migrants (3 Jul, John Hull); also observed farther to the north in **Mahoning** (21 Jun, *vide* William Jones). The OBBA2



*Is that pale gull on the right an Iceland or maybe a Glaucous Gull? Not so fast! Sun-bleached Herring Gulls are often encountered in the summer, with the degraded feathers making these birds appear very pale. Paula Lozano photographed these birds 13 Jun at Conneaut, **Ashtabula**.*

did not report any conclusive breeding evidence for the period.

American Woodcock: The ODOW indicates continued decline of this upland shorebird species. This species has a low report rate to the OBBA2, but this is likely a result of inadequate survey efforts for the species. Possible breeding records in the southeast came from **Morgan** (20 Jun, Betty Lowe) and **Athens** (27 Jun, Gary Cowell).

Wilson's Phalarope: A migrant Wilson's Phalarope showed up at a farm pond in **Tuscarawas** on 06 Jun (Jennifer and Christina Schlabach). Two birds were in **Sandusky** on 21 Jul (Gabe Leidy) and one bird was in **Erie** on 26 Jul (Andy Sewell).

Red-necked Phalarope: A single female Red-necked Phalarope was a surprise in **Sandusky** on 01 Jun (Rob and Sandy Harlan).

Bonaparte's Gull: The only reports this period were from Magee Marsh WA, **Lucas**, on 16 Jul (*vide* Jim Witter)

and Conneaut, **Ashtabula**, on 28 Jul (two birds, Craig Caldwell).

Ring-billed Gull: Daniel Kramer reported a colony of approximately 1,000 pairs in an industrial area along the Cuyahoga River, **Cuyahoga** (22 Jun). Fledglings were also reported from **Summit** and **Mahoning** on 12 Jul (Gregory Bennett).

Herring Gull: A juvenile bird was seen flying over a known gull colony in **Summit** on 12 Jul (Gregory Bennett). Adults were sitting on nests in **Ottawa** (18 Jun, Mark Shieldcastle).

Lesser Black-backed Gull: A first-cycle bird was at Conneaut, **Ashtabula**, on 13 Jun (Craig Holt).

Great Black-backed Gull: Seven birds was an excellent number at Conneaut, **Ashtabula**, on 07 Jun (Mark Vass). Two Great Black-backed Gulls were at Headlands Beach State Park, **Lake**, on 27 Jun (Chuck McClagherty, m. obs.).

Caspian Tern: Three birds were

at Conneaut, **Ashtabula**, on 07 Jun (Mark Vass). Intriguing was a single tern spotted in **Richland** on 15 Jun (Carl Ball). The high count was 16 individuals in **Knox** on 31 Jul (Gary Cowell).

Black Tern: Marsh bird surveys at Cedar Point NWR, **Lucas**, yielded a single nest on 16 Jun (Karen Willard). Single migrants were reported in **Montgomery** (25 Jul, Rick Asamoto) and **Knox** (31 Jul, Gary Cowell), and three birds were observed in **Pickaway** on 17 Jul (Rob Thorn). Oddly, a single stray was observed at a farm pond in **Holmes** (23 Jun, Bruce Glick).

Common Tern: A pair of birds was seen during an avian census on Kelly's Island, **Erie**, on 18 Jun (Tom Bartlett). This Lake Erie island could conceivably host nesting pairs of this species. The Lake Erie population increased by 42% because of a second successful nesting season at the artificial nesting platforms in Willow Point WA (85 nests fledging 163 young). Single birds were

reported from **Clermont** on 01 Jun (Tyler Ficker), **Lake** on 27 Jun (Chuck McLaugherty, m. obs.), and **Knox** on 31 Jul (Gary Cowell).

Forster's Tern: A single Forster's Tern in breeding plumage was in **Columbiana** on 21 Jun (Bob Lane); two birds were in **Portage** on 26 Jun (Gabe Leidy).

Rock Pigeon: Reported to the OBBA2 from 250 survey blocks.

Eurasian Collared-Dove: Ohio's first confirmed breeding record for this species came from **Logan** on 15 Jun, when juvenile birds were found in the vicinity of where an adult had been observed carrying nesting material (Troy Shively). The documentation was accepted by the OBRC. In northeastern Ohio, multiple doves were reported in **Holmes** and **Tuscarawas** throughout the period (*vide* Ed Schlabach); some were photographed and their



*The spread of Eurasian Collared-Doves has not proceeded as many observers expected; rather than proliferating through the eastern half of the continent, their numbers have swelled west to the Pacific coast. Ohioans may have expected this to become a common urban bird (as it is in the southern part of their naturalized range in North America), but so far they have preferred agricultural areas in the state, such as this bird photographed 27 Jun near Bunker Hill, **Holmes**, by Gabe Leidy.*

documentation accepted. In addition, undocumented reports continue to come from Celina, *Mercer*.

White-winged Dove: One was observed sporadically on 25 and 26 Jun in *Holmes* (Adam Barkman *vide* Ed Schlabach). The excellent documentation of the bird's appearance and behavior was accepted by the OBRC.

Mourning Dove: Reported to the OBBA2 from 565 survey blocks.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: Reported to the OBBA2 from 182 survey blocks.

Black-billed Cuckoo: Of the 47 survey block records submitted to the OBBA2, only one represented confirmed breeding (01 Jun, *Harrison*; Scott Albaugh).

Barn Owl: At least 50 Barn Owl nests were known from their northeastern Ohio stronghold (*Holmes* and vicinity, *vide* Ed Schlabach). More scarce in southwestern Ohio, a single Barn Owl was observed in *Brown* throughout the period (reported 27 Jun, John Troyer Jr.).

Eastern Screech-Owl: Reported to the OBBA2 from 123 survey blocks.

Great Horned Owl: Reported to the OBBA2 from 52 survey blocks.

Barred Owl: Reported to the OBBA2 from 69 survey blocks.

Long-eared Owl: A bird was observed in *Ashtabula* (recorded vocalizations indicative of the species, possibly near a

nest) from 08 Jun through 01 Jul (Laura Gooch, Julie West) representing probable breeding at best. Since the beginning of extensive survey efforts for the state's second breeding bird atlas, this record represents the closest evidence to establishing Long-eared Owl as a nesting species within the atlas period (2006–2011). The true extent of breeding for this species in Ohio may never be well understood.

Northern Saw-whet Owl: Two separate birds summered in suitable breeding habitat in *Lake*, where they were previously detected during May 2009 (11 and 19 Jun respectively, John Pogacnik); this represents “probable” nesting at best.

Common Nighthawk: Reported to the OBBA2 from 49 survey blocks. Current breeding bird atlas data show a gap in this species' Ohio distribution, where previously the species was known to occur in a large portion of east-central Ohio. This gap in the data could be a result of low survey effort in this region, especially considering the nocturnal nature of the species. In *Wyandot* (19 Jun), Rick Counts observed two recently fledged downy young perched on electrical lines

Chuck-will's-widow: Multiple birds were reported from northern *Adams* on 14 and 17 Jun (Aaron Boone, Dave Slager, Eric Hall).

Whip-poor-will: A territorial bird was heard the evening of 27 Jun at the *Knox/Holmes* line (Joe Herman). The remaining 25 atlas records were confined to southern Ohio. Gary Cowell recorded seven territorial birds the evening of 27 Jun in *Athens*.

Chimney Swift: Reported to the OBBA2 from 413 survey blocks.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: Reported to the OBBA2 from 283 survey blocks.

Belted Kingfisher: Reported to the OBBA2 from 165 survey blocks.

Red-headed Woodpecker: Reported to the OBBA2 from 173 survey blocks. Red-headed Woodpecker is more sparsely distributed in the southeastern counties as a breeding species—three atlas records from **Washington** (05 and 06 Jun, Eric Hall; 04 Jul, Sue Tackett) are noteworthy, considering that no nesting records were documented in this county during the first breeding bird atlas.

Red-bellied Woodpecker: Reported to the OBBA2 from 443 survey blocks.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: A female was observed in **Lorain** (6

Jul), farther west of the typical nesting range in extreme northeastern Ohio (Harry Spencer). Breeding sapsuckers are proving to be more common and locally widespread than previously documented. Possible breeding records were submitted to the OBBA2 from five survey blocks in **Ashtabula**.

Downy Woodpecker: Reported to the OBBA2 from 474 survey blocks.

Hairy Woodpecker: Reported to the OBBA2 from 219 survey blocks.

Northern Flicker: Reported to the OBBA2 from 451 survey blocks.

Pileated Woodpecker: Reported to the OBBA2 from 188 survey blocks. Four separate reports of Pileated Woodpeckers came from northwestern Ohio—two observations in **Williams** (13 and 20 Jun, Tom Kemp) and two from **Lucas** (28 Jun, *vide* Aaron Boone; 24 Jul, Mark Shieldcastle).

Olive-sided Flycatcher: Jun records of Olive-sided Flycatcher



Look carefully and you will spot a female Yellow-bellied Sapsucker exiting a nest hole. This species has increased in abundance since the first Ohio Breeding Bird Atlas, and is fairly common as a breeder in the northeast corner of the state. Judy Semroc photographed this bird 12 Jun at Thompson Ledges, Geauga.

in Ohio involved single birds in **Cuyahoga** (Bill Tacon) and **Geauga** (Inga Schmidt) on 02 Jun, with possibly the same individual again in **Cuyahoga** on 14 Jun (Bill Tacon). Another late migrant was found at Oak Openings, **Lucas**, on 10 Jun (Matt Anderson), as well as a bird in **Tuscarawas** on 13 Jun (Leroy Schlabach).

Eastern Wood-Pewee: Reported to the OBBA2 from 519 survey blocks

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:

Migrant birds were reported from Magee Marsh WA, **Lucas**, on 07 Jun (Gene Stauffer) and **Lake** on 08 Jun (John Pogacnik).

Acadian Flycatcher: Reported to the OBBA2 from 343 survey blocks.

Alder Flycatcher: One territorial bird continued through 08 Jul in **Logan** (Troy Shively) and counter-singing males were detected in **Coshocton** on 22 Jun (Aaron Boone). Alder Flycatchers continue as breeders at Clear Creek Metro Park, **Hocking** (pair observed 05 Jun, Carrie Morrow). The species was reported to the OBBA2 from an additional 15 survey blocks in northern counties. An unconfirmed pair of birds in **Brown** on 13 Jun (Joshua Eastlake) needs further investigation.

Willow Flycatcher: Reported to the OBBA2 from 325 survey blocks.

Least Flycatcher: Territorial birds in southern Ohio were in **Montgomery** on 09 Jun (Ed Neubauer) and in **Pickaway** on 12 Jun (Carrie Morrow). Other reports of territorial birds (no breeding

confirmations were obtained) were from **Trumbull** (four separate records), **Ashtabula** (three separate records), **Richland**, **Stark**, **Columbiana**, **Knox**, and **Defiance**.

Eastern Phoebe: Reported to the OBBA2 from 400 survey blocks.

Great Crested Flycatcher: Reported to the OBBA2 from 331 survey blocks.

Eastern Kingbird: Reported to the OBBA2 from 359 survey blocks.

White-eyed Vireo: Reported to the OBBA2 from 222 survey blocks. A single territorial individual was observed in suitable nesting habitat in western **Defiance** on 12 Jun (Tom Kemp).

Bell's Vireo: The species returned to a **Franklin** location and was present at least through mid-Jun (16 Jun, Jay Lehman). Southwestern Ohio held a pair of vireos in **Hamilton** (as late as 02 Jul, Brian Wulker), and a pair was confirmed nesting in **Montgomery** on 03 Jul (Rick Asamoto, John Habig). There was also a singing bird in **Clark** on 19 Jul (Doug Overacker).

Yellow-throated Vireo: Reported to the OBBA2 from 255 survey blocks.

Blue-headed Vireo: A territory was maintained throughout the period in **Coshocton** (Adam Yoder). One territorial record was reported from the Oak Openings, **Fulton**, on 27 Jun (Mark Shieldcastle).

Warbling Vireo: Reported to the OBBA2 from 325 survey blocks.

Red-eyed Vireo: Reported to the OBBA2 from 546 survey blocks.

Blue Jay: Reported to the OBBA2 from 526 survey blocks.

American Crow: Reported to the OBBA2 from 452 survey blocks.

Common Raven: Ravens continue to pop up in eastern Ohio; watch for the species when birding in the region, especially in strip mine reclamation areas. While near Cadiz, *Harrison*, on 28 Jun, Rob and Sandy Harlan observed four birds flying in a loose group. The documentation was accepted by the OBRC. A single raven was reported 01 Jun in *Noble* but not documented to the OBRC.

Horned Lark: Reported to the OBBA2 from 239 survey blocks.

Northern Rough-winged Swallow: Reported to the OBBA2 from 268 survey blocks.

Purple Martin: Reported to the OBBA2 from 174 survey blocks.

Tree Swallow: Reported to the OBBA2 from 282 survey blocks.

Bank Swallow: Reported to the OBBA2 from 47 survey blocks.

Barn Swallow: Reported to the OBBA2 from 544 survey blocks.

Cliff Swallow: The detection of nesting Cliff Swallows in northwestern Ohio has apparently increased in recent years. In *Williams* alone, birds were likely nesting at five separate locations within the county (01, 13, and 30 Jun, Tom Kemp; 30 Jun, Karen Willard).

Carolina Chickadee: Reported to the OBBA2 from 312 survey blocks.

Black-capped Chickadee: Reported to the OBBA2 from 175 survey blocks.

Tufted Titmouse: Reported to the OBBA2 from 493 survey blocks.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: A noteworthy record was of a bird calling in *Perry* on 16 Jun (Eric Hall). Records from the northern counties include one in *Richland* on 26 Jul (Gary Cowell) and backyard sightings from *Geauga* (8 Jun, Wes Hatch) and *Cuyahoga* (07 Jul, Marcia Polevoi). A family of recently fledged young was seen in a pine plantation at Goll Woods SNP on 25 Jun (Ryan Schroeder).

White-breasted Nuthatch: Reported to the OBBA2 from 448 survey blocks.

Brown Creeper: A territorial bird in *Muskingum* was a good find 29 Jun (Dave Slager, Aaron Boone). Especially noteworthy for northwestern Ohio was a family of creepers in *Lucas* on 24 Jul (Mark Shieldcastle).

Carolina Wren: Reported to the OBBA2 from 357 survey blocks.

House Wren: Reported to the OBBA2 from 604 survey blocks.

Winter Wren: An unusual summer *Hancock* sighting came on 21 Jun (Robert Sams). A territorial bird in suitable breeding habitat was found in *Wayne* 6-14 Jun (Willis Brubaker).

Sedge Wren: Confirmed nesting was discovered 04 Jul in *Union*

(Nathaniel Nye). Territorial birds of note were in **Butler** on 25 Jul (Sam Fitton) and **Lawrence** on 24 Jul (Jason Friggens).

Marsh Wren: A nice concentration of at least eight territorial birds was in residence at a restored wetland in eastern **Hardin** (noted on 13 and 18 Jul, Richard Counts). Multiple pairs confirmed as nesting in **Coshocton** (24 Jun, Aaron Boone) and in **Guernsey** (28 Jun, Scott Pendleton) represent the southernmost detections for Marsh Wren during Ohio's current breeding bird atlas.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: Reported to the OBBA2 from 313 survey blocks.

Golden-crowned Kinglet: A single bird of unknown breeding status was observed in **Lorain** on 02 Jul (*fide*



Confirming a species as a local nester may not require leaving your home. Julie Zickefoose photographed this Carolina Wren taking nesting material to its nest in this flowerpot in her yard near Whipple, Washington, 02 Jun.

Black River Audubon Society).

Eastern Bluebird: Reported to the OBBA2 from 484 survey blocks.

Veery: Reported to the OBBA2 from 59 survey blocks. A Veery at a preserve in **Darke** was a good find on 30 Jun (Robb Clifford).

Swainson's Thrush: Late migrants were in **Lake** on 08 Jun (John Pogacnik) and in **Summit** on 04 Jun (Clyde Witt).

Hermit Thrush: A bird was apparently on territory in **Harrison** on 25 Jun—fairly distant from known breeding populations in the state (Eric Hall).

Wood Thrush: Reported to the OBBA2 from 458 survey blocks.

American Robin: Reported to the OBBA2 from 650 survey blocks.

Gray Catbird: Reported to the OBBA2 from 613 survey blocks.

Northern Mockingbird: Somewhat scarce in far northern Ohio, single mockingbirds were observed in **Cuyahoga** on 02 and 11 Jun (anonymous) and 02 Jul (Claire Kluskens). Compared with data from the first breeding atlas, Northern Mockingbird appears to have a more pronounced presence in northern Ohio, especially in the greater Cleveland region.

Brown Thrasher: Reported to the OBBA2 from 363 survey blocks.

European Starling: Reported to the OBBA2 from 494 survey blocks.

Cedar Waxwing: Reported to the OBBA2 from 451 survey blocks.

Blue-winged Warbler: A bird was on territory in *Shelby* (05 Jun, Troy Shively) and in *Greene* (01 Jun, Julie Karlson). This species was reported to the OBBA2 from 108 survey blocks.

'Lawrence's' Warbler: This hybrid was reported to the OBBA2 from *Summit* on 14 Jun (Paul Hoffer). No information pertaining to what species this bird was paired with was obtained.

Golden-winged Warbler: During recent years, Cuyahoga Valley National Park (*Cuyahoga*) seems to be the only reliable Ohio location to find Golden-winged Warbler during the summer period—one was seen on 06 Jun (Rob and Sandy Harlan).

Tennessee Warbler: A late migrant was in *Ottawa* on 07 Jun (Aaron Bartley).

Nashville Warbler: Exceptionally rare as a breeder in northeastern Ohio, an adult Nashville Warbler (*Lake*, John Pogacnik) was observed attending to two fledglings on 13 Jun. A male of unknown breeding status was heard singing on 06 Jun in *Tuscarawas* (Levi Yoder).

Northern Parula: Reported to the OBBA2 from 77 survey blocks. Noteworthy observations came from *Defiance* (05 to 10 Jul, Robert Sams; 08 Jun, Karen Willard) and *Henry* (14 Jun, Ryan Schroeder). A singing male on Kelly's Island, *Erie*, on 17 Jun could have been a breeder and may be a new island record for the summer period (Tom Bartlett). A possible migrant was in

Ottawa on 24 Jul (Andrew Thornton).
Yellow Warbler: Reported to the OBBA2 from 412 survey blocks.

Chestnut-sided Warbler: A territorial bird in *Knox* on 06 Jul was at the southern edge of the species' typical breeding range in Ohio (Aaron Boone). Reported to the OBBA2 from 18 survey blocks from northern counties.

Magnolia Warbler: A singing Magnolia Warbler was out of place on Kelly's Island, *Erie*, on 17 Jun (Tom Bartlett). A territorial individual was in *Jefferson* on 06 Jun (Bob Lane). Two birds of unknown breeding status were found in Lake on 01 Jun (Laura Gooch).

Black-throated Blue Warbler: It should only be a matter of time before Black-throated Blue Warbler is again confirmed as a nesting species in Ohio—a male was singing in *Ashtabula* 13 Jun (*vide* Terri Martincic) but could not be relocated. A territorial male was found twice in *Geauga* (05 and 12 Jun, Linda Gilbert). Especially encouraging was the presence of at least three territorial males for the second year in a row at the Holden Arboretum (*Lake*) throughout the entire period (Haans Petruschke).

Black-throated Green Warbler: Reported to the OBBA2 from 17 survey blocks. A 30-year-old White Pine plantation in Morgan held a territorial male on 27 Jun (Eric Hall, Jason Friggens). A Black-throated Green Warbler was unexpected in *Fulton* on 6 Jun (Tom Kemp).

Blackburnian Warbler: A single bird was apparently on territory in *Columbiana* on 13 Jun (Ron

Antonucci). A pair was found nesting in **Hocking** during Jun (*vide* John Watts).

Yellow-throated Warbler:

Reported to the OBBA2 from 110 survey blocks.

Pine Warbler: Reported to the OBBA2 from 110 survey blocks.

Prairie Warbler: Reported to the OBBA2 from 62 survey blocks. A singing male in suitable nesting habitat was found in **Delaware** on 31 Jul (Charles Bombaci). Another **Delaware** bird was found on 05 Jun (Tom Bain). Prairie Warbler was an unusual summer find in **Cuyahoga** on 01 Jun (*vide* Dwight and Ann Chasar); a singing bird was also in **Wood** (16 Jun, Jeremy Ross).

Blackpoll Warbler: A late migrant Blackpoll Warbler appeared in **Richland** on 02 Jun (Gary Cowell).

Cerulean Warbler: Reported to the OBBA2 from 97 survey blocks. A territorial male was at Secor Metropark (**Lucas**) on 02 Jun (Matt Kemp).

Black-and-white Warbler: Reported to the OBBA2 from 54 survey blocks. A female observed in suitable breeding habitat was found in **Paulding** on 27 Jun (Tom Kemp); this species was not recorded in **Paulding** during the first breeding bird atlas. Charlie Bombaci detected a Black-and-white Warbler in **Delaware** on 05 Jun while conducting atlas surveys; a bird in **Franklin** on 21 Jul could have been an early fall migrant (James Sipiorea).

American Redstart: Reported to the OBBA2 from 135 survey blocks.

Prothonotary Warbler: Thirty-nine Prothonotary Warblers detected on 18 Jun attests to this species' sizeable population at Hoover Reservoir, **Delaware** (Charlie Bombaci). Reported to the OBBA2 from 33 additional survey blocks.

Worm-eating Warbler: A singing male was discovered on a forested hillside in northeastern **Licking** (Paul Rodewald) on 19 Jul. In northern Ohio, a singing male was apparently on territory in forested habitat in **Summit** on 13 Jun (*vide* Dwight and Ann Chasar).

Ovenbird: Reported to the OBBA2 from 147 survey blocks.

Northern Waterthrush: A probable breeding record was reported from **Trumbull** on 06 Jun (Dave and Judy Hochadel). An additional northern Ohio record came from **Geauga** on 13 Jun (Rob and Sandy Harlan).

Louisiana Waterthrush: Reported to the OBBA2 from 72 survey blocks. Relatively scarce in west-central counties, a territorial bird was reported from a forested wetland in **Champaign** (01 Jun; Troy Shively).

Kentucky Warbler: Reported to the OBBA2 from 101 survey blocks.

Connecticut Warbler: On 01 Jun, a Connecticut Warbler was found in **Vinton** (Bruce Simpson).

Mourning Warbler: A late migrant was in **Montgomery** on 03 Jun (Philip Ware). John Pogacnik had a possible breeder in Lake on 08 Jun (John Pogacnik).



Judy Semroc and Larry Rosche encountered this Hooded Warbler feeding a chick at Thompson Ledges, Geauga, 12 Jun. The chick's head appears larger than the adult's, a good clue that the chick is actually a Brown-headed Cowbird. Hooded Warblers are frequently parasitized by cowbirds.

Common Yellowthroat: Reported to the OBBA2 from 576 survey blocks.

Hooded Warbler: Reported to the OBBA2 from 208 survey blocks.

Wilson's Warbler: A late migrant was singing in *Marion* on 01 Jun (Aaron Boone).

Canada Warbler: Territorial birds were again present at Clear Creek Metro Park (*Hocking*) on 13 Jun (Brad Sparks). A singing bird seen in *Ashtabula* on 04 Jun could have been a late migrant (Aaron Boone, Paul Rodewald). Most unusual was a bird found at the Wright Patterson Air Force Base (*Greene*) on 19 Jun (John Brenneman).

Yellow-breasted Chat: Reported to the OBBA2 from 173 survey blocks.

Eastern Towhee: Reported to the OBBA2 from 455 survey blocks.

Chipping Sparrow: Reported to the OBBA2 from 580 survey blocks.

Clay-colored Sparrow: One male was on territory throughout

the period in *Holmes* but was apparently unmated (James F. Yoder).

Field Sparrow: Reported to the OBBA2 from 507 survey blocks.

Vesper Sparrow: Reported to the OBBA2 from 192 survey blocks. Preliminary data suggest that the species is not as widely distributed in eastern counties as it was during Ohio's first breeding bird atlas, with relevant records coming from *Geauga* (one record), *Trumbull* (five records), *Columbiana* (three records), *Jefferson* (one record), and *Washington* (one record).

Lark Sparrow: The species continued at Ohio State University's farm campus (*Franklin*), where three birds were observed 07 Jun (Dave Slager); two birds formed a mated pair and likely nested after they were observed copulating on 15 Jun (Aaron Boone, Dave Slager). A single Lark Sparrow was on territory at remnant dune habitat in *Fulton* on 03 Jun (Tom Kemp). In *Green*, the species was detected at a location where nesting was confirmed in previous years (13 Jun, Timothy Spahr) and

was also detected at a quarry site a few miles to the north (09 Jun, Julie Karlson).

Savannah Sparrow: Reported to the OBBA2 from 307 survey blocks.

Grasshopper Sparrow: Reported to the OBBA2 from 220 survey blocks. Relatively scarce in northeastern Ohio, a pair was observed in *Ashtabula* on 03 Jun (John Tautin), and a single territorial male was heard on 09 Jun in suitable habitat in *Lake* (Lisa Chapman).

Henslow's Sparrow: Reported to the OBBA2 from 47 survey blocks. In the northwest, territorial birds were in *Defiance* (06 Jun, Matt Kemp), *Wood* (02 Jul, Mark Shieldcastle), *Lucas* (24 Jul, Mark Shieldcastle), and *Fulton* (27 Jun, Mark Shieldcastle).

Song Sparrow: Reported to the OBBA2 from 667 survey blocks.

Lincoln's Sparrow: An early migrant was found 19 Jul in *Hancock* at a county conservation area (Robert Sams).

Swamp Sparrow: Reported to the OBBA2 from 95 survey blocks. Since the beginning of Ohio's second atlas, several Swamp Sparrow records have turned up south of their distribution that was delineated during the first atlas project. A confirmed nesting record from a wetland along the Ohio River (*Washington*) on 03 Jun is the southeastern most nesting record for the species to date during this atlas (Brad Bond). Probable nesting was recorded at a wetland in *Guernsey*

(17 Jul, Doug Overacker) and from another wetland preserve in *Ross* (07 Jun, David Hess).

White-throated Sparrow: A late Jun record of two birds was reported from Sheldon Marsh State Nature Preserve, *Erie*, on 29 Jun (Mick Gentry). The species was also reported from a residence in *Cuyahoga* (04 Jul, Mike Bracken), *Lucas* (7 Jun, Gene Stauffer), and *Richland* (19 Jun, Carl Ball).

White-crowned Sparrow: A straggling migrant was found at Magee Marsh WA (*Lucas*) on 07 Jun (Gene Stauffer).

Dark-eyed Junco: On 20 Jun, a junco was found in rural *Richland* (Barbara Dille).

Summer Tanager: Reported to the OBBA2 from 39 survey blocks. Not recorded in *Hancock* during the first atlas, a territorial record north of *Findlay* was unusual (19 Jul, Robert Sams). Also in northwestern Ohio, a pair of tanagers was seen in *Williams*, away from expected locations in the Oak Openings (13 Jun, Rick Nirschl).

Scarlet Tanager: Reported to the OBBA2 from 340 survey blocks.

Northern Cardinal: Reported to the OBBA2 from 598 survey blocks.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: Reported to the OBBA2 from 230 survey blocks.

Blue Grosbeak: A Blue Grosbeak in *Guernsey* (15 Jul, Andy Sewell) may hint at the increased presence

of this species as a breeder in this eastern region of the state. Supporting this notion was the return of several pairs of grosbeaks (nesting confirmation noted) in nearby **Tuscarawas**; birds also turned up at two other locations within the county (*vide* Ed Schlabach). Tom Kemp found a territorial bird in **Paulding** on 16 Jun. In all, this species was reported from 21 atlas survey blocks.

Indigo Bunting: Reported to the OBBA2 from 611 survey blocks.

Dickcissel: Reported to the OBBA2 from 114 survey blocks. At least one pair of Dickcissel was confirmed as nesting in **Holmes** on 20 Jun (David Weaver).

Bobolink: On 20 Jun, Richard Counts reported an impressive 72 Bobolink from one location in **Hardin**. Overall, reported to the OBBA2 from 150 survey blocks.

Red-winged Blackbird: Reported to the OBBA2 from 517 survey blocks.

Eastern Meadowlark: Reported to the OBBA2 from 405 survey blocks.

Western Meadowlark: A territorial bird returned to a previously documented location in **Wood** (*vide* Tom Kemp). Also of note was a singing bird in **Hardin** on 08 Jun (Rick Counts). Most surprising was a bird singing in southwestern Ohio on 01 Jul (**Butler**, Troy Shively).

Common Grackle: Reported to the OBBA2 from 435 survey blocks.

Brown-headed Cowbird:

Reported to the OBBA2 from 425 survey blocks.

Orchard Oriole: Reported to the OBBA2 from 251 survey blocks.

Baltimore Oriole: Reported to the OBBA2 from 368 survey blocks.

Purple Finch: Southern Ohio records of Purple Finch came from **Ross** on 08 Jun (Dave Hess) and **Washington** on 07 Jun (*vide* Brad Bond). Also unusual was a bird singing in **Lucas** on 24 Jun (Elliot Tramer).

House Finch: Reported to the OBBA2 from 374 survey blocks.

Red Crossbill: A female crossbill was seen in the Oak Openings region (**Fulton/Lucas**) on 09 and 10 Jun (Elliot Tramer, Matt Anderson) in an area where a large flock was observed on several occasions during May. Could the species have nested in the region during the period?

Pine Siskin: In the wake of the massive winter irruption of siskins into the region, most conclusive nesting evidence in Ohio came during spring. The only confirmed breeding report during the summer season was of fledglings in **Columbiana** on 15 Jun (Jim Dolan). Other records during the summer period were from **Mahoning** (one record), **Marion** (one record), **Wood** (one record), **Lorain** (two records), **Trumbull** (one record), and **Stark** (one record). An especially noteworthy record was of two birds in **Athens** on 12 Jun (Janet Duerr).

American Goldfinch: Reported to the OBBA2 from 632 survey blocks.

House Sparrow: Reported to the OBBA2 from 517 survey blocks.

Evening Grosbeak: A single bird was seen in *Erie* on 24 and 25 Jun (Brad Phillips, Sandy Wright).

The editorial staff of *The Ohio Cardinal* thanks all of the individuals and organizations who made their field data available to us through reports submitted directly to us by mail and e-mail, as well as through online resources managed by the Ohio Ornithological Society and other means.

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Jason Friggens	Robert Jackson	Chester Martin
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John Herman	Rene' Layne	Roberta Ober
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Janet O'Dell	Ron Sempier	Sylvia Townsend
Ryan O'Donnell	Andy Sewell	Elliot Tramer
Hope Orr	Richard Shaw	Renee Tressler
Ken Ostermiller	James Sherwood	Henry Trimpe
Doug Overacker	Mark Shieldcastle	Duane Troyer
Wendi Overmyer	Troy Shively	Alan Twaddle Jr.
Greg Park	John Shrader	Lee Underschultz
Scott Pendleton	Kate Shulgina	Jane Van Coney
Jack Perry	Melanie Shuter	Michael Vanderhorst
Chris Peters	Darlene Sillick	Mark Vass
Darrin Petko	Bruce Simpson	John Velasquez
Haans Petruschke	James Sipiora	Stephen H. Vessey
William Pfau	George Skerm	Sean Ward
Brad Phillips	Carol Skinner	Philip Ware
Chris Pierce	Michele Skolmutch	Ben Warner
Robert Placier	Dave Slager	Leslie Warren
Bob Scott Placier	Emily Slager	Sally Waterhouse
John Pogacnik	Thomas Slemmer	John Watts
Marcia Polevoi	Dany Sloan	Wayne Wauligman
Bob Powell	Mike Smith	David Weaver
Caleb Putnam	Sherry Smith	Lisa Wendt
Deanna Ream	Su Snyder	Janet Wertz
Grant Rettig	Paul Sontag	Kirk Westendorf
Barry Rice	Timothy Spahr	Olivia Wilkin
Steve Ritt	Brad Sparks	Karen Willard
Samalot Riviera	Robert Sparks	Susan Williams
Joyce Robinson	Bill Stanley	Andi Wolfe
Paul Rodewald	Gene Stauffer	Stephen Wolfe
Mary Anne Romito	Cindy Steffen	Richard Wolinski
Jeremy Ross	Gary Stegner	Lauren Worona
Randall Rowe	Charles Steiner	Ed Wransky
Kristi Rowland	Ryan Steiner	Becky Wright
Robert Sams	Marty Stetz	Gene wright
Thomas Sanders	Kristen Stillwell	Sandy Wright
Charlie Saunders	Dick Stoffer	Brian Wulker
Regina Schieltz	Chris Stone	Adam Yoder
Christina Schlabach	John Strathern	Aden A. Yoder
Jennifer Schlabach	Sue Tackett	Daryl Yoder
Leroy Schlabach	Bill Tacon	Levi Yoder
Inga Schmidt	John Tautin	James F. Yoder
Lee Schon	David Terrell	Autumn Young
Ryan Schroeder	Robert Thobaben	Chris Zimmer
Tom Schulenberg	Rebecca Thompson	Bill Zimmerman
Katrina Schultes	Rob Thorn	Alexander Zorach
Evan Schwartz	Andrew Thornton	