

SPECIES ACCOUNTS

By Craig Caldwell

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck:

One spent from 20 Jun to 09 Jul in a pond on Yauger Road near Mt. Vernon, **Knox**. The OBRC is sorting through the multiple reports.

Canada Goose:

Sixty-eight counties provided reports. The high count of 443 came from the 17 Jun Kelleys Island census by Tom Bartlett *et al.* Erin Schmidt found about 300 at Cleveland's East 55th Street on 07 Jul and Wes Hatch found the same number at Conneaut on 29 Jul.

Mute Swan:

The only double-digit count was 12, at Port Clinton, **Ottawa**, on 14 Jul (Justin Bosler). Jen Brumfield came close with three adults and six cygnets at the intersection of Routes 2 and 269, **Erie**, on 27 Jul. Reports came from 14 other counties as well.

Trumpeter Swan:

The 03 Jun ONWR census team counted 76 (Ed Pierce *et al.*, *vide* Douglas Vogus). The only other double-digit count was Ken Ostermiller's 10 at Metzger on 28 Jul. **Delaware**, **Geauga**, **Lorain**, **Marion**, **Muskingum**, and **Wyandot** also produced sightings.

Wood Duck:

Richard Counts tallied 114 in the **Hardin** Wetlands on 16 Jul. Su Snyder almost tied him with 110 at Killbuck on 28 Jul. Sixty-one counties produced reports.

Gadwall:

Rob and Sandy Harlan found a presumed northbound straggler in the ephemeral ponds west of Bellevue, **Sandusky**, on 06 Jun. It or a southbound pioneer showed up at Medusa Marsh, **Erie**, on 28 Jul (Ken Ostermiller).

American Widgeon:

One lingered at ONWR for Ed Pierce's census team to find on 03 Jun. The Bellevue ponds, **Sandusky**, held two males on 06 Jun (Rob and Sandy Harlan).

American Black Duck:

Only two counts exceeded nine. Rich and Karen Kassouf saw 16 at Sandy Ridge on 24 Jul and Terry Colvin found 10 in Schleman NP, **Medina**, on 26 Jul. Other reports came from **Delaware**, **Erie**, **Hardin**, **Lucas**, and **Ottawa**.

Mallard:

The Winous Point Horseshoe Unit hosted about 400 for Tom Bartlett on 07 Jun. Sandy Ridge held at least 300 on 23 Jul (Kristina Polk). Reports came from 65 counties.

Blue-winged Teal:

The highest of five double-digit counts came from Winous Point on 07 Jun (Tom Bartlett). Sixteen counties produced sightings.

Northern Shoveler:

A small marshy area near the Caesar Creek Flea Market, **Clinton**, held two on 28 Jul (Anna Wittmer). Three locations hosted single birds: Mill Creek Sanctuary, **Mahoning**, on 08 Jun (William Jones); Darby Creek on 10 Jun (Tracy Hammer) and 14 Jun (Bruce Simpson); and Slate Run MP, **Pickaway**, on 25 Jun (Gene Stauffer). One flew over Winous Point on 13 Jul (Justin Bosler).

Northern Pintail:

Rob and Sandy Harlan scored again with a male pintail in the Bellevue ponds, **Sandusky**, on 06 Jun.

Green-winged Teal:

Jen Brumfield saw four at Pipe Creek WA, **Erie**, on 27 Jul. Justin Bosler found the same number that same day at ONWR. Reports also came from **Cuyahoga** and **Sandusky**.

Canvasback:

The sole find was Justin Bosler's at Port Clinton, **Ottawa**, on 14 Jul.

Ring-necked Duck:

The four reports are:

One male at Wilbeth Road wetlands, **Summit**, on 02 Jun (Rob and Sandy Harlan)

One female at the Bellevue ponds, **Sandusky**, on 06 Jun (Rob and Sandy Harlan)

Two at the Barrett Paving ponds, **Montgomery**, 23 Jun to 30 Jul (Rick Asamoto)

A pair ("no nesting evidence") at the **Hardin** Wetlands on 16 Jul (Richard Counts)

Lesser Scaup:

Robert Hershberger found two in Wright Marsh, **Wayne**, on 07 Jun; they were last reported on 12 Jun. Rick Asamoto photographed one which he saw on multiple visits to the Barrett Paving ponds, **Montgomery**, between 23 Jun and 30 Jul.

Common Goldeneye:

Zeb Acuff saw an adult male on the Great Miami River in Hamilton, **Butler**, on 13 Jun; he stated that it had been seen in the area in late May but I found no other reports.

Hooded Merganser:

Joe Baldwin counted 17 at Big Island WA, **Marion**, on 04 Jun and 16 there on 21 Jul. Reports came from 18 other counties as well.

Common Merganser:

Bob Lane keeps track of Ohio's only regular breeding population. He discovered seven families along Little Beaver Creek, **Columbiana**, and two along nearby Yellow Creek, **Jefferson**. Four birds at Conneaut on 23 Jul (Craig Holt) grew to 12 on 29 Jul (Wes Hatch, Jeff Harvey). David Yoder saw one on the Tuscarawas River in **Coshocton** on 11 Jul.

Red-breasted Merganser:

The five reports are:

Two at Owl House, **Erie**, on 06 Jun (Ben Warner)

One on the Muskingum River at the Ohio, **Washington**, on 08 Jun (Kyle Carlsen)

One female at Buck Creek SP, **Clark**, on 01 Jul (Doug Overacker)

Three at Conneaut on 07 Jul (Richard Banish)

One possibly injured female at Huntington Reservation, **Cuyahoga**, on 13 to 19 Jul (m. obs.)

Ruddy Duck:

There were seven reports of singles and one of two birds scattered fairly evenly through the season. The sightings were in **Greene, Lorain, Lucas, Mahoning, Marion, Sandusky** (2 sites), and **Wayne**.

Northern Bobwhite:

Cory Chiappone saw one and heard as many as 10 in Crown City WA, **Gallia**, on 03 Jun. Reports of smaller numbers came from 18 other counties as well.

Ring-necked Pheasant:

Angelika Nelson counted six along her BBS route near New Dover, **Union**, on 03 Jun. Twelve other counties also provided sightings.

Ruffed Grouse:

Bruce Simpson saw three young of the year in Zaleski on 09 Jul. One report of two birds and six reports of one came from other sites in **Vinton** as well as locations in **Adams** and **Harrison**.

Wild Turkey:

The high count of 40 came from Blendon Woods MP, **Franklin**, on 24 Jul (Grace Daenen). There were several counts in the 20s there and at other locations. Forty-one counties provided reports.

Common Loon:

Five sites hosted this species:

Findlay Reservoirs, **Hancock** – one on 24 Jun (Jeff Loughman) and four on 04 Jul (Jeff Loughman and Robert Sams)

Kilby Road gravel pits, **Hamilton** – one on 20 Jun (Paul Krusling) and 22 Jun (Joe Kappa); two on 10 Jul (David Brinkman)

LaDue Reservoir, **Geauga** – one on 17 Jul (Bob Faber)

Piedmont Lake, **Belmont** – one on 28 Jul (Michelle Skolmutch)

Smith Tract CP, **Hamilton** – two on 15 Jul (Leslie Houser)

Pied-billed Grebe:

Dave Slager and Jack Stenger noted “several broods” among the 77 grebes which they counted in Big Island WA, **Marion**, on 22 Jul. Several other double-digit counts came from there, Killdeer, and Metzger. Reports came from 20 counties overall.

Double-crested Cormorant:

Elliot Tramer wrote, “A count of 1100+ at CPNWR on June 26 was the highest we’ve had since wildlife personnel instituted control measures several years ago.” The highest inland count was 101 “all non-breeding immatures” at Hoover NP on 16 Jun (Charles Bombaci). Forty-two counties had sightings.

American White Pelican:

Jane Robinson provided the sole report, of four birds (two apparent pairs) on Berlin Lake, **Portage**, on 04 Jun.



A familiar whistling call alerted photographer Irinia Shulgina to the location of a Northern Bobwhite in Homestead Park, **Franklin**, on 22 Jul. 125

American Bittern:

The seven reports are:

One near Danville, **Knox**, on 03 Jun (Emily Teel)

Two during the ONWR census on 03 Jun (Ed Pierce *et al.*, *vide* Douglas Vogus)

One heard at Fernald on 05 Jun (Mark Gilsdorf and Brian Wulker)

One flyover at Heritage Trail MP, **Franklin**, on 22 Jul (Irina Shulgina)

One flyover at ONWR on 27 Jul (Tom Bartlett *et al.*)

One in ONWR on 30 Jul (Tom Bartlett *et al.*)

One in Winous Point's Metzger unit, **Sandusky**, on 31 Jul (Tom Bartlett *et al.*)

Least Bittern:

Reports of two birds came from Prairie Oaks MP, **Franklin**, on 16 Jun (Samantha Stoklosa) and the Winous Conservancy's Metzger Unit, **Sandusky** (Justin Bosler). Dave Slager found one near the **Vinton** airport on 18 Jun and noted, "***rare. Singing from the tiny cattail pond SW of the main pond. Not seen, but got sound recording. Farther southeast than any Least Bittern record in the 1st or 2nd Ohio Breeding Bird Atlas". Reports also came from **Ashtabula**, **Cuyahoga**, **Hamilton**, **Lucas**, **Mahoning**, **Ottawa**, **Trumbull**, and **Wayne**.

Great Blue Heron:

Ed Pierce's ONWR census team counted 146 on 03 Jun and 142 on 01 Jul. The only other triple-digit count was Rick Asamoto's, 127 in Englewood MP, **Montgomery**, on 07 Jul. Seventy-one counties provided reports.

Great Egret:

The 03 Jun ONWR census again provided the highest count, 158 (Ed Pierce *et al.*, *vide* Douglas Vogus). The mouth of Sand Creek, **Sandusky**, hosted 105 on 23 Jul (Justin Bosler). Sightings came from 33 counties.

Snowy Egret:

Josh Haughawout counted 23 from ONWR's Crane Creek Estuary Trail on 20 Jul; two other **Lucas** sites provided counts of up to 15 during Jul. The species isn't common far from Lake Erie but two stayed at Lost Bridge, **Hamilton**, on 27 and 28 Jul (m. obs.). Sightings also came from **Butler**, **Erie**, **Medina**, **Ottawa**, and **Wayne**.

Little Blue Heron:

These were rather more plentiful than usual. Margaret Bowman found six at Dillon Reservoir, **Muskingum**, on 31 Jul. Charles Bombaci

saw four in Hoover NP's Area M on 27 Jul. **Clinton**, **Erie**, **Hamilton**, **Hancock**, **Lucas**, **Mahoning**, **Portage**, **Preble**, and **Wood** also hosted at least one. Curiously, none were reported in **Ottawa**.



Rick Asamoto photographed a Little Blue Heron gracing the shallows at Caesar Creek on 29 Jul.

Cattle Egret:

Reports came only from **Erie**, **Lucas**, and **Ottawa**, and the only "twofer" sighting was across from the McDonald's on the Cedar Point Road, Erie, on 27 Jul (Jen Brumfield *et al.*).

Green Heron:

Reports came from 58 counties. Jeff Harvey made the high count of 10, at Mill Creek Sanctuary, **Mahoning**, on 21 Jul.

Black-crowned Night-Heron:

David Gesiki counted 30 during an official visit to West Sister Island, **Ottawa**, on 27 Jun. (That's the restricted-access sanctuary visible from the Magee beach). ONWR provided the only other double-digit counts, 24 on 01 Jul (Ed Pierce *et al.*, *vide* Douglas Vogus) and 25 on 27 Jul (Tom Bartlett *et al.*). Fifteen counties had sightings.

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron:

The Preston Road site in Columbus had two adults and five almost-fledged young on 07 Jun (Craig Caldwell); the last sighting there was of three birds on 01 Jul (Wes Hatch). Eric and Merle Carr saw one in Eastwood MP, **Montgomery**, while kayaking on 09 Jun. Killbuck hosted one on 02 Jun (Michael Hershberger) and two on 14 Jun (Aden A. Yoder).

White-faced Ibis:

One spent 15 to 17 Jul at Pickerington Ponds MP, **Franklin**, and its visit was documented by Dave Slager.

***Plegadis* sp. Ibis:**

Two ibis accompanying the White-faced Ibis at Pickerington Ponds could not be conclusively identified at the species level.

Black Vulture:

Margaret Bowman counted 56 at a farm south of Danville, **Knox**, on 05 Jun. The second highest count was 21, by William Hull at the Milford Technology Center, **Clermont**, on 01 Jun. Reports came from 23 counties as far north as **Ashland** and **Lake**. This last was a single bird at Headlands on 05 Jun (m. obs.).

Turkey Vulture:

Cole DiFabio estimated that 150 streamed past him at Conneaut on 27 Jul. Charles Bombaci counted 86 while monitoring Prothonotary Warbler nest boxes along the northeast shore of Hoover Reservoir on 24 Jun. Seventy-nine counties provided sightings.

Osprey:

The north shore of Hoover Reservoir hosted eight on 02 Jun (Charles Bombaci). Elsewhere, there were a few counts of six but most were of three or fewer birds. Reports came from 30 counties.

Northern Harrier:

Most of the reports, from 15 counties, were of single birds. However, Scott Pendleton often saw two or three harriers at The Bowl and on 14 Jul saw four there.

Sharp-shinned Hawk:

Jacob McCartney saw two in Strouds Run SP, **Athens**, on 21 Jul. That was the only report having more than one bird. Nineteen counties had sightings.

Cooper's Hawk:

John Moore found 10 in Englewood MP, **Montgomery**, on 03 Jul. Five sites in **Cuyahoga**, **Franklin**, and **Summit** hosted three birds apiece and there were many reports of two. Sightings came from 43 counties.

Bald Eagle:

Two adults and 17 immature birds passed by or lingered at Conneaut on 15 Jul (Jeff Harvey). There were two other double-digit reports from Conneaut and one from Winous Point. Forty-two counties provided reports; of them only **Butler**, **Hamilton**, **Highland**, **Scioto**, and **Warren** are south of Columbus.

Red-shouldered Hawk:

Diana Steele found an adult and three juveniles at their nest in the Oberlin Arboretum, **Lorain**, on 02 Jun and last saw all of them there on 14 Jun. Reports came from 39 counties.

Broad-winged Hawk:

Draw a line from **Hamilton** to **Ashtabula**. Twenty counties on or southeast of that line provided sightings; only single reports from **Lucas**, **Miami**, and **Montgomery**, where corn and soybean fields far outnumber forests, were outside that zone. Two counts of three were the highest. They were from Hoover NP on 02 Jun (Charles Bombaci) and Zaleski on 09 Jun (John Shrader).

Red-tailed Hawk:

Jen Brumfield counted 10 at and over the Rocky River Reservation's Aerospace Field, **Cuyahoga**, on 03 Jun. The second highest count was six, by Charles Bombaci at Killdeer on 03 Jun and Hoover Reservoir's north shore on 24 Jun. Seventy-one counties produced sightings.

King Rail:

Joe Baldwin found one at Big Island WA, **Marion**, on 02 Jun.

Virginia Rail:

Aden A. Yoder found six in Killbuck on 14 Jun. All of the many other reports of two or more birds came from the Honda Wetlands, **Union**, where they have bred the last couple of years. Irina Shulgina saw five there on both 15 and 24 Jun. **Ashtabula**, **Franklin**, **Harrison**, **Lorain**, **Summit**, **Trumbull**, and **Wayne** hosted singles.



Irina Shulgina photographed the normally reclusive Virginia Rail with two adorable young in the Honda wetlands on 07 Jun.

Sora:

The seven reports are:

One on 03 Jun at Clear Fork Reservoir, **Richland** (Gary Cowell)

Two on 11 Jun at Mosquito Creek WA, **Trumbull** (William Jones)

One on 12 Jun at Metzger (Loren Hintz)

Two on 14 Jun at Killbuck (Aden A. Yoder)

One on 23 Jun in the Honda Wetlands, **Union** (Charles Bombaci)

One on 16 Jul near Port Clinton, **Ottawa** (Jacob Guettler)

One on 16 Jul at the Winous Conservancy Metzger Unit, **Sandusky** (Justin Bosler)

Common Gallinule:

Dave Slager and Jack Stenger found 13 at Big Island WA, **Marion**, on 22 Jul. Two more double-digit reports came from there, and another from the **Ottawa** section of ONWR. Other sightings were in **Geauga**, **Lucas**, **Sandusky**, and **Wayne**.

American Coot:

Metzger hosted the season's high count of 22 for Kenn Kaufman on 04 Jun. Nineteen counties produced sightings.

Sandhill Crane:

Susan Jones and Clyde Witt counted 30 at Killbuck on 04 Jun and Ken Ostermiller topped them with 35 at nearby Funk on 01 Jul. Brian Zwiebel watched one of a group of three dancing and tossing corn husks into the air by Corduroy Road, **Lucas**, on 17 Jun, evidently a bonding ritual. Reports also came from **Ashtabula**, **Fairfield**, **Geauga**, **Knox**, **Lorain**, **Muskingum**, **Ottawa**, **Pickaway**, **Richland**, and **Trumbull**.

Black-bellied Plover:

The three reports are:

- One at Magee on 02 Jun (Kenn Kaufman)
- Two in ONWR on 03 Jun (Ed Pierce *et al.*, *fide* Douglas Vogus)
- One at Pipe Creek WA, **Erie**, on 15 Jul (Jen Brumfield)

Snowy Plover:

The OBRC has several reports of one at Conneaut on 02 Jun.

Semipalmated Plover:

The last northbound migrants were seen on 07 Jun. Robert Hershberger found one in Wright Marsh, **Wayne**, and Tom Bartlett *et al.* counted 14 in the Winous Point Horseshoe Unit. The latter report had the season's highest number. Southbound birds arrived at Conneaut and Sheldon's Marsh SNP, **Erie**, on 03 Jul (Craig Holt and Andrew Mashburn, respectively). Nineteen counties provided reports.

Killdeer:

The mudflats of Berlin Lake, **Portage**, were "covered with Killdeer" on 12 Jul, when Jeff Harvey estimated 350 were there. Reports came from 70 counties.

American Avocet:

Counts of three were at Conneaut on 03 Jul (Craig Holt), Hoover NP on 27 Jul (m. obs.) and on TH108, **Wyandot**, on 29 Jul (Peter Johantgen). **Auglaize**, **Cuyahoga**, **Darke**,

Erie, **Lorain**, **Lucas**, **Paulding**, and **Wayne** also yielded sightings.



Fall shorebird migration was in full swing on 31 Jul at Conneaut, where Bob Lane photographed Whimbrel, American Avocet and Short-billed Dowitcher.

Spotted Sandpiper:

The 20 which Charles Bombaci saw on the Pelican Island, **Delaware**, mudflats on 30 Jul were probably a mix of local nesters and migrants. Several of the reports, from 45 counties in total, included juveniles too young to have flown far.

Solitary Sandpiper:

None were seen until 30 Jun, when small numbers appeared at ONWR (eTT) and Mosquito Lake, **Trumbull** (*fide* Craig Holt). The high count of 19 came a month later, on 30 Jul at Caesar Creek SP, **Clinton** (Larry Gara and Bob Powell). Thirty-eight counties had sightings.

Greater Yellowlegs:

Tom Bartlett *et al.* found two northbound stragglers in the Winous Conservancy Horseshoe Unit on 07 Jun. The first southbound birds were reported on the ONWR eTT on 30 Jun. Numbers built during the next month to a high of 25 on 22 Jul, also at ONWR (Gene Stauffer). Twenty counties provided reports.

Willet:

The six reports are:

- One at Boater's Beach, **Erie**, on 30 Jun (Glenn Seeholzer)
- Eighteen at Conneaut on 13 Jul (William Jones)
- One at Pipe Creek WA, **Erie**, on 14 Jul (Jen Brumfield)
- Fifteen at Buck Creek SP, **Clark**, on 26 Jul (Rick Asamoto)
- One at Darby Creek on 27 Jul (Doreene Linzell and Dan Sanders)
- One at Conneaut on 29 Jul (Jeff Harvey and Wes Hatch)

Lesser Yellowlegs:

As they did with their larger cousins, Tom Bartlett *et al.* found two northbound Lessers in the Winous Conservancy Horseshoe Unit on 07 Jun. Josh Haughawout reported the first southbound birds, two at Farnsworth MP, **Lucas**, on 24 Jun. The mouth of South Creek, **Sandusky**, hosted 200 on 23 Jul (Justin Bosler), and there were several other counts in triple digits. Thirty-two counties produced sightings.

Upland Sandpiper:

Scott Pendleton wrote on 14 Jun, "**Harrison** County is host to no less than 11 pairs of Upland Sandpipers this season." They were on private land, but as they dispersed post-breeding, some spent time where the general public could view them. Sightings continued to the end of the season. The reports away from **Harrison** came from **Paulding**, where Doug and Micki Dunakin saw one on a power line on 05 Jul, and **Tuscarawas**, where Ed Schlabach had a "farm first" flyby on 28 Jul.

Whimbrel:

The four locations with sightings are:

Winous Point, three on 05 Jun (Keith Norris)

Boater's Beach, **Erie**, one on 30 June (Glenn Seeholzer)

Conneaut, two on 18 Jul (Margaret Bowman), one on 23 Jul (Craig Holt), and one on 27 Jul (*file* Cole DiFabio)

Burke Lakefront Airport, **Cuyahoga**, three on 31 Jul (Jen Brumfield)

Marbled Godwit:

One, probably northbound, was at Lorain on 11 Jun (Joel McNeal). One southbound bird was briefly at Conneaut on 15 Jul (Jeff Harvey *et al.*)

Ruddy Turnstone:

The five reports follow. I assume that the Jun birds were heading north and the Jul ones south.

Two at Magee on 02 Jun (Kenn Kaufman)



The beach at Buck Creek State Park, Clark, boasted 15 Willets on 26 Jul, counted in this photo by Rick Asamoto.

Two at Conneaut, also on 02 Jun (Richard Banish)

Nine at Maumee Bay, on 04 Jun (Kenn Kaufman *et al.*)

Two at the Bellevue ponds, **Sandusky**, on 06 Jun (Rob and Sandy Harlan)

One in Crane Creek viewed from the ONWR Estuary Trail on 22 Jul (m. obs.)

One at Wendy Park, **Cuyahoga**, on 30 Jul (Jen Brumfield)

Red Knot:

Richard Banish filed the only report, of one at Conneaut on 02 Jun.

Sanderling:

The last spring migrants, and the highest number, were the 14 which Kenn Kaufman found at Maumee Bay on 04 Jun. Jen Brumfield and Bev Walborn saw the first southbound bird at Huntington Reservation, **Cuyahoga**, on 13 Jul. Reports also came from other **Lucas** sites and **Ashtabula**, **Clark**, **Delaware**, and **Wayne**.

Semipalmated Sandpiper:

Tom Bartlett's crew at the Winous Point Horseshoe Unit saw 30 on 07 Jun. The next sighting was of southbound birds, at Sandy Ridge on 25 Jun (BRAS). Justin Bosler estimated 500 were at the mouth of South Creek, **Sandusky**, on 23 Jul. Twenty-two counties contributed sightings.

Western Sandpiper:

Five northbound birds at Conneaut on 02 Jun were lifers for Cole DiFabio. His sighting was also summer's high count. Six weeks later, on 15 Jul, Lost Bridge, **Hamilton** and the Upper Sandusky Reservoir, **Wyandot**, hosted the first birds going the other direction (Leslie Houser and Cody Kent, respectively). **Franklin**, **Seneca**, and **Wayne** also had sightings.

Least Sandpiper:

The Winous Point Horseshoe Unit said goodbye to the last 12 northbound birds on 07 Jun (Tom Bartlett *et al.*). Fall migrants appeared 01 Jul, five at Conneaut (Jeff Harvey and Wes Hatch) and one in **Darke** (Ethan Kistler). Tom Bartlett's banding crew made the high count of 75 in both the Crane Creek and South Creek estuaries on 23 Jul. Most of the 37 counties with sightings were well to the north, but they ranged to **Hamilton**.

White-rumped Sandpiper:

These trickled north through Lorain until Joel McNeal's sighting on 11 Jun. Jeff Harvey and Wes Hatch reported the first of fall on 29 Jul at

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Conneaut. Keith Norris, part of a banding crew at Winous Point, counted 45 on 05 Jun for the high. **Auglaize, Butler, Darke, Franklin, Hamilton, Lucas, Sandusky,** and **Wayne** also contributed reports.

Baird's Sandpiper:

The six reports are:

One at Wright Marsh, **Wayne**, on 11 Jul (Margaret Bowman, James Coots)

Two at Killbuck on 21 Jul and one on 28 Jul (Aden A. Yoder and Atlee A. Yoder)

One at Lost Bridge, **Hamilton**, on 22 Jul (Mark Gilsdorf; Jay and Paula Stenger)

Two at Armleder Park, **Hamilton**, on 25 Jul (Brian Wulker)

One along Wilderness Road, **Wayne**, on 28 Jul (*fide* Su Snyder and Sue Evanoff)

Pectoral Sandpiper:

Rick Asamoto saw the last one of spring migration on 03 Jun along Woods Road, **Darke**. Conneaut hosted the first one of fall on 01 Jul (Jeff Harvey). The mouth of South Creek, **Sandusky**, held an impressive 110 on 23 Jul for Justin Bosler; the next highest count was 50, shared by three locations in late Jul. Twenty-four counties in the northern half of the state, plus **Hamilton, Montgomery,** and **Preble**, produced sightings.

Dunlin:

Joel McNeal found a straggler at Lorain on 11 Jun. The same site hosted a rare 15 Jul bird for Jen Brumfield, the only one of the month. Keith Norris provided the high count of 27 while banding at Winous Point on 05 Jun.

Stilt Sandpiper:

The first three of these arrived a little early, at Mosquito Lake, **Trumbull**, on 01 Jul (Jeff Harvey). The next weren't seen until 12 Jul, on Old Sunbury Road, **Delaware** (Charles Bombaci). The several counts in the 10s and 20s were topped by Justin Bosler's 30 at Medusa Marsh, **Erie**, on 21 Jul. **Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Erie, Franklin, Hamilton, Ottawa, Sandusky,** and **Wayne** also had sightings.

Short-billed Dowitcher:

The first showed up on 01 Jul, a total of 18 at four Lake Erie-side locations (m. obs.). Kyle Carlsen found the next one on 06 Jul all the way down near The Wilds, **Muskingum**. Justin Bosler noted 250 at the South Creek mouth, **Sandusky**, on 23 Jul; he also had the second-highest count, 65, at Pickerel Creek

WA, **Sandusky**, on 16 Jul. Seventeen counties, most in the north but including **Hamilton** and **Montgomery**, had sightings.



Allan Claybon photographed a Short-billed Dowitcher 16 Jul at Lost Bridge, **Hamilton**.

Long-billed Dowitcher:

Jen Brumfield and her Cleveland MP field trip participants found one very early bird with several Short-billed Dowitchers on 27 Jul; they were all visible from the Crane Creek Estuary Trail, **Lucas**.

Wilson's Snipe:

The six reports are all of single birds at these locations:

Darby Creek on 02 Jun (Irina Shulgina)

River Road, Madison, **Lake** on 15 Jun (Mitzi Smetters)

Metzger on 09 Jul (Cory Chiappone)

Irwin Prairie SNP, **Lucas**, on 10 Jul (Todd Crail)

ONWR on 27 Jul (Justin Bosler)

Winous Point Horseshoe Unit on 28 Jul (Tom Bartlett *et al.*)



This Stilt Sandpiper was still in handsome breeding plumage 14 Jul at Pickerel Creek WA, **Sandusky**. Photo by Dave Galvin.

American Woodcock:

The last sighting of the season was on 18 Jul at ONWR (Justin Bosler); none were seen again until mid-Aug. Members of a Columbus Avid Birders field trip noted a family of five on McGhee Road, **Harrison**, on 09 Jun. Tom Bartlett's banding crews also saw five at Springville Marsh on both 16 Jun and 01 Jul. Fourteen counties in all produced reports.

Wilson's Phalarope:

Bob Lane and Andy Avram teamed up to discover and identify one at Conneaut on 01 Jun.

Red-necked Phalarope:

Jen Brumfield winkled one out of a mass of other shorebirds in the mudflats northeast of the intersection of Routes 2 and 269, **Erie**, for participants in her 27 Jul workshop.

Bonaparte's Gull:

Every county bordering Lake Erie except **Lake**, plus inland **Richland**, had sightings. The last significant count of spring was 83 at Maumee Bay on 04 Jun (Kenn Kaufman) and the first large flock of fall, 86, was around Kelleys Island on 20 Jul (Tom Bartlett). Between those dates were a half-dozen reports of up to 12 birds at Lake Erie sites. The highest count of the season was Ken Ostermiller's 150 from the Crane Creek Estuary Trail on 28 Jul.

Laughing Gull:

One showed up at Headlands on 03 Jun (Ray Hannikman) and a second joined it on 04 Jun (m. obs.).

Ring-billed Gull:

Almost every large body of water in 38 counties from Lake Erie to **Preble** hosted some of these. The high count of 3380 came from the 20 Jul Kelleys Island census (Tom Bartlett *et al.*), and there were a few other counts in the thousands.

Herring Gull:

The only four-digit counts came during the 17 Jun (2175) and 20 July (1964) Kelleys Island censuses (Tom Bartlett *et al.*). Reports came from 21 counties as far south as **Highland** and **Warren**.

Lesser Black-backed Gull:

Jen Brumfield found one at Huntington Reservation, **Cuyahoga**, on 15 Jul.

Great Black-backed Gull:

Ashtabula, **Cuyahoga**, and **Erie** produced a few reports; the high count was four at Conneaut on 01 and 02 Jun (Bob Lane, Cole DiFabio).

Caspian Tern:

Reports continued from spring until 04 Jun, then began again on 16 Jun and grew through Jul. The high count of 35 was at Pipe Creek WA, **Erie**, on both 14 and 15 Jul (Jen Brumfield). The highest inland number was a close second at 33, at the Pelican Island mudflats, **Delaware**, on 30 Jul (Charles Bombaci). Twenty counties all the way to **Hamilton** produced sightings.

Black Tern:

Up to three graced Metzger for most of Jun, and nearby Maumee Bay, ONWR, and Winous Point produced Jun and Jul sightings of one or two. Inland reports came on 01 Jun (six at Darby Creek, Joe Baldwin), 02 Jun (one at Funk, James E. Yoder), 16 Jul (one in the **Hardin** Wetlands, Richard Counts), and 22 Jul (one at Killdeer, Dave Slager and Jack Stenger).

Common Tern:

Justin Bosler estimated 300 at the Crane Creek Estuary Trail on 22 Jul. They may have included the 50 (the second highest count) which Craig Caldwell found along the **Lucas** section of the ONWR auto tour that same day. Reports also came from **Ashtabula**, **Clark**, **Delaware**, **Erie**, **Franklin**, **Lorain**, **Mahoning**, **Muskingum**, and **Ottawa**.

Forster's Tern:

Reports were frequent until 09 Jun, and then there were only two until 01 Jul after which they increased through the end of the period. The high count of 200 was from the Estuary Trail on 28 Jul (Justin Bosler). Most of the reports came from **Ashtabula**, **Erie**, **Lucas**, and **Ottawa**, but Pleasant Hill Lake, **Ashland**, held four on 05 Jun (Gary Cowell), and Su Snyder found one at Funk on 12 Jul.

Rock Pigeon:

Fifty-eight counties, most of which have urban areas, produced sightings. However, the high count of 150 came from the Sycamore Plains Trail in Prairie Oaks MP, **Franklin**, which is rural-suburban (Irina Shulgina).

Eurasian Collared-Dove:

Up to five were reported in Port William, **Clinton**; Dave Shrader documented them on 16 Jun and Kathi Hutton did so on 23 Jun. Others not documented for the OBRC were reported in **Clark**, **Mercer**, **Preble**, and **Wayne**.

Mourning Dove:

Reports came from all but seven counties. The highest of several three-digit counts was Ed Schlabach's; he found at least 475 near

Sugarcreek, *Tuscarawas*, on 14 Jul. Hallie Mason noted 257 on a power line along Schilling Hill Road, *Tuscarawas*, on 25 Jun.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo:

Tom Bartlett's census team counted six at Kelleys Island on 17 Jun. Kurk Dorsey and Bill Stanley each discovered five in different parts of East Fork on 23 and 24 Jul, respectively. Fifty-two counties produced sightings.

Black-billed Cuckoo:

Three parties each found two: Kenn Kaufman at Metzger on 03 Jun; Craig Holt at Berlin Lake, *Stark*, on 15 Jul; and Bernie Master at The Wilds' Lodge, *Muskingum*, on 28 and 29 Jul. Reports came from 20 counties in all.

Barn Owl:

Thomas Henry describes his banding project in a separate article in this issue; it includes a table of his results from this summer. Sightings from counties which he doesn't cover were a family of seven at Long Branch Farm, *Clermont*, on 02 Jun (Cincinnati Nature Center staff); one bird at Dawes Arboretum, *Licking*, on 14 Jun (Margaret Bowman *et al.*); and one near Glacier Ridge MP, *Union*, on 17 Jul (David Tan). Robert Hershberger reported that the Mel Miller farm, *Holmes*, hosted a banded bird that was 14 years old, "a state and maybe national record".

Eastern Screech-Owl:

Most of the reports were from July, and several were of two birds. Eighteen counties provided sightings.

Great Horned Owl:

Bill Stanley noted four along Bootjack Road, *Clermont*, on 31 Jul. Kirk Westendorf heard two males and a female counter-calling in Armleder Park, *Hamilton* on 06 Jul, and there were many reports of two birds. Reports came from 18 counties.

Barred Owl:

From his *Hamilton* yard, Mark Gilsdorf reported "6 individual birds heard calling from six distinct locations, from Bantry Ave. to Orchard Lane to Grand Vista simultaneously." Samantha Stoklosa found three immature birds in the *Franklin* section of Prairie Oaks MP on 16 Jun; Chris Zacharias found the same number in John Bryan SP, *Greene*, on 08 Jul. Twenty-six counties had sightings.

Short-eared Owl:

Scott Pendleton kept tabs all summer on an apparent pair in *Harrison*, hoping (without success) to confirm that they bred. Austin White

had a quick visit from one at his *Tuscarawas* home on 19 Jul.

Common Nighthawk:

Tom Fishburn reported hearing and seeing one all summer in Berea, *Cuyahoga*. Counts of up to six came from 23 counties during summer, and migration brought 55 to Burke Lakefront Airport, *Cuyahoga*, on 30 July (Jen Brumfield).

Chuck-will's-widow:

Five parties reported up to three birds calling near the Eulett Center, Waggoner Riffle Road, *Adams*, between 11 and 25 Jun.

Eastern Whip-poor-will:

Jack Stenger posted this to Ohio-birds.org on 13 Jun: "During the past week I took advantage of the bright moon to conduct road-based whip-poor-will surveys within the Vinton Furnace State Experimental Forest (Vinton County). I surveyed 30 road points over four nights, all of which were randomly selected and separated by one kilometer. I only surveyed on clear nights when the moon was above the horizon and >50% full. Thanks to Andrea Ball who helped survey on two nights. Whip-poor-wills did not disappoint. I detected a total of 82 Eastern Whip-poor-wills on 28 of the 30 points. I surveyed each point for six minutes." At one of his stops he heard at least six birds; Jay Lehman equaled that along FR 14 in Shawnee on 09 Jun. Reports also came from *Harrison*, *Lucas*, *Montgomery*, and *Tuscarawas*.

Chimney Swift:

Small numbers were seen all season. Margaret Bowman noted an early migratory concentration of about 250 entering a chimney in Newark, *Licking*, on the evening of 12 Jul. Reports came from 67 counties.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird:

Allen Chartier counted 68 in the Frazesburg area, *Muskingum*, on 15 Jul and banded 47 of them. He had banded 45 during a demonstration at Lake Hope the day before. The highest number simply seen was Ryan Eldridge's 13 at Sandy Ridge on 28 Jul. Sixty-five counties yielded sightings.

Belted Kingfisher:

Craig Moore found 15 while kayaking about five miles of lake and river in Dillon SP, *Muskingum*, on 29 Jul. Charles Bombaci noted 14 along the northeast shore of Hoover Reservoir on 24 Jun while surveying Prothonotary Warbler nests. The other reports, from 62 counties, were all of fewer than 10 birds.

Red-headed Woodpecker:

Oak Openings is a hot spot, especially at the south end of Girdham Road. David Gesicki counted 14 in the park on 12 Jul. Fifty-two counties provided sightings.

Red-bellied Woodpecker:

The only double-digit count was Bill Stanley's 23 along three miles of the Edge of Appalachia's Wilderness Trail, *Adams*, on 23 Jun. Reports came from 67 counties.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker:

Daniel Parsons saw a possible northbound straggler in Paine Falk MP, *Lake*, on 09 Jun. He also found up to three, including a nest with young, in Holden Arboretum between 16 Jun and 29 Jul. The Kickel Easement, *Ashtabula*, hosted up to three between 20 Jun and 04 Jul (CMNH Natural Areas staff).

Downy Woodpecker:

Tom Bartlett's crews counted 18 on two occasions, the 03 Jun Springville Marsh banding day and the 17 Jun Kelleys Island census. The high count by a single observer was Charles Bombaci's 14 in Delaware WA's Area N on 14 Jun. Seventy-one counties yielded sightings.

Hairy Woodpecker:

These must like the Dayton region. David Bernstein counted 12 in a small area near Beaver Creek, *Greene*, on 07 Jun, and Jessica Green found 10 at Aullwood Audubon Center, *Montgomery*, on 01 Jun. Fifty counties provided reports.



The distinctive rattling call of the Belted Kingfisher signals one is nearby. Allan Clayton photographed this bird perched on a branch over the water at Caesar Creek Lake on 30 Jul.

Northern Flicker:

Charles Bombaci counted nine in Hoover NP on 16 Jun. Greg Miller also found nine near Sugar Creek, *Tuscarawas*, on 17 Jul and commented, "All together in a loose flock feeding. All adults. Are flickers moving already? Or is this dry area just recently a great spot for ants?" Reports came from 65 counties.

Pileated Woodpecker:

This species' high count, five, was also shared. Robert Reed found them in Aullwood Audubon Center, *Montgomery*, on 10 Jun and Allen Chartier saw his at Lake Hope on 14 Jul. Both observers saw adults and young. Fifty-one counties provided sightings.

American Kestrel:

Jen Brumfield counted nine, probably a mix of locals and migrants, at Burke Lakefront Airport, *Cuyahoga*, on 30 July. Fifty-four counties yielded reports.

Merlin:

Scott Pendleton saw one near The Bowl on 02 Jun, 06 Jun, and 27 Jul. He hopes it was the same bird each time, which means it summered there, but can't be sure. Levi A. Yoder spotted a flyby near Trail, *Holmes*, on 07 Jun, as did Mark Miller outside Bowling Green, *Wood*, on 14 Jul.

Peregrine Falcon:

Scattered reports from 14 counties spanned the season and the state. Hope Orr saw both adults and three youngsters of a family in the Boston area of CVNP on 28 Jun and 12 Jul.

Olive-sided Flycatcher:

Bruce Simpson found a latish bird in a Zaleski clear cut on 07 Jun, and it or another was there on 16 Jun.

Eastern Wood-Pewee:

There were five double-digit counts; of them two counts of 12 birds tied for the highest. The 06 Jul CVNP census tallied them (Douglas Vogus *et al.*), and Cole DiFabio found his in Geneva-on-the-Lake, *Ashtabula*, on 27 Jul. Reports came from 69 counties.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:

The three reports, all of single birds, are:

Springville Marsh on 03 Jun (Tom Bartlett *et al.*)

College Hill, *Hamilton*, on 07 Jun (Steve Pelikan)

Shawnee Lookout on 09 Jun (David Bernstein)

Acadian Flycatcher:

Dwight and Ann Chasar counted 16 along the Blue Hen Falls Trail in CVNP on 21 Jun. Fifty-four counties had sightings.

Alder Flycatcher:

Reports of one or two came from *Lorain, Lucas, Medina, Richland, Seneca, Stark, Summit, Wayne,* and *Wood*. Sightings spanned the season but were more numerous in Jun.

Willow Flycatcher:

The 03 Jun ONWR census tallied 30 (Ed Pierce *et al.*, *fide* Douglas Vogus). Dave Slager found 20 all by himself along the Heritage Trail, *Franklin*, on 17 Jul. Fifty-six counties provided reports.

Least Flycatcher:

There were few reports, but they were scattered throughout the season and from 12 counties. David Gesicki found two birds in Wintergarden/St. Johns NP, *Wood*, on 04 Jul. Tom Bartlett's banders caught two in Springville Marsh on 22 Jul.

Gray Flycatcher:

One was reported in *Lake*; the OBRC has documentation.

Eastern Phoebe:

Three reports were of 10 birds: along Hoover Reservoir's north shore on 24 Jun (Charles Bombaci), in *Scioto* on 24 Jun (Doug Overacker), and in the Seven Ranges Boy Scout Camp, *Carroll*, on 06 Jul (Fred Losi). Sightings came in 65 counties.

Great Crested Flycatcher:

Charles Bombaci continues to rack up numbers along Hoover Reservoir's north shore; he found 13 Great Cresteds there on 24 Jun, for the only double-digit count. Fifty-eight counties provided reports.

Eastern Kingbird:

The 20 Jul Kelleys Island census tallied 82, which no doubt included many southbound birds (Tom Bartlett *et al.*). ONWR census teams found 33 on 03 Jun and 37 on 01 Jul (Ed Pierce *et al.*, *fide* Douglas Vogus). Reports came from 68 counties.

Loggerhead Shrike:

The OBRC has reports from *Highland* and *Paulding*.

White-eyed Vireo:

Lake Hope and Zaleski were jumping on 09 Jun when John Shrader counted 30 there. The other double-digit report was Bill Stanley's 10 at East Fork on 30 Jun. Forty-three counties yielded sightings.

Bell's Vireo:

Irina Shulgina found two pairs along the Heritage Trail, *Franklin*, on 03 Jun; they've

nested there for years. Reports also came from *Butler, Champaign, Clark,* and *Hamilton*.

Yellow-throated Vireo:

Greg Hoeting found 10 in Salt Fork SP, *Guernsey*, on 09 Jun. Forty-three counties had sightings.

Blue-headed Vireo:

Levi A. Yoder found 13 while hiking Mohican on 08 Jun. Ben Warner counted five, the second highest number, in the Deep Woods of Hocking Hills SP on 21 Jul. Several other reports contained two, three, or four birds. *Ashland, Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lucas, Montgomery,* and *Summit* contributed sightings.

Warbling Vireo:

ONWR censuses on 03 Jun and 01 Jul found 21 and 25, respectively (Ed Pierce *et al.*, *fide* Douglas Vogus). Fifty-three counties produced reports.

Philadelphia Vireo:

One straggler remained on Girdham Road in Oak Openings on 16 Jun (Paul Sherwood, Dick Lee, *et al.*).

Red-eyed Vireo:

Mohican SP's Hemlock Gorge Trail hosted 24 on 04 Jun for Shawn Kurtzman, the highest of many double-digit counts. Reports came from 67 counties.

Blue Jay:

Laura Gooch counted 31 along her BBS route in *Trumbull* on 17 Jun. The next highest count was 20, a total from several *Adams* sites on 23 Jun (Doug Overacker). Seventy-three counties produced sightings.

American Crow:

Two observers each found 60. Dave Slager's were at the OSU Waterman Farm, *Franklin*, on 18 Jun, and Doug Overacker's were distributed around *Scioto* on 24 Jun. Seventy-five counties yielded reports.

Fish Crow:

One member of the Rockland Road, *Cuyahoga*, family was last seen on 02 Jun (Andy Jones and Michelle Leighty).

Common Raven:

I gleaned four reports, none of which appear to have been submitted to the OBRC.

Horned Lark:

Charles Bombaci found 25 in Killdeer on 03 Jun. Reports came from 41 counties.

Northern Rough-winged Swallow:

Bev Walborn noted about 100 staging at Willow

Point WA, **Erie**, on 27 Jul. Fifty-three counties had sightings.

Purple Martin:

Tom Bartlett *et al.* counted 251 during the 20 Jul Kelleys Island census. Estimates of 200 came from Magee on 16 Jul (John Whitehead) and Holden Arboretum on 29 Jul (Daniel and Kevin Parsons). Sightings came from 52 counties.

Tree Swallow:

Seventy-four counties produced reports; three of them were of 300 birds:

Hoover Reservoir northeast shore on 24 Jun
(Charles Bombaci)

Winous Point on 08 Jul (Justin Bosler)

Springfield Bog, **Summit**, on 13 Jul (Kent Miller)

Bank Swallow:

Matt Anderson found about 100 nesting pairs at a sandpit in **Fulton** on 03 Jun. At the other end of the season, estimates ranged from 600 to 1000 birds staging at Willow Point WA, **Erie**, on 27 Jul (m. obs.). Reports came from 42 counties.

Barn Swallow:

Kelleys Island hosted 405 and 328 on 17 Jun and 20 Jul respectively (Tom Bartlett *et al.*). Seventy-eight counties produced sightings.



Photographer Allan Clayton captured the aerial antics of Barn Swallows at Armleder Park, **Hamilton**, as they gathered insects and fed their young on 12 Jun.

Cliff Swallow:

Dave and Emily Slager found almost 100 birds in a colony under the Woody Hayes Drive bridge over the Olentangy River, **Franklin**, on 16 Jun. About 150, including young birds, were in that

area on 30 Jun. Charles Bombaci saw about 200 along the northeast shore of Hoover Reservoir on 24 Jun. Thirty-six counties contributed reports.

Carolina Chickadee:

The Hoover Reservoir northeast shore and Charles Bombaci also provided this species' high count, 33 on 16 Jun. Reports came from 53 counties.

Black-capped Chickadee:

The 20 Jul Kelleys Island census crew counted 56 (Tom Bartlett *et al.*). Dwight and Ann Chasar found 38 during a walk along the **Summit** Bike-Hike Trail on 19 Jun. Sightings came from 24 counties.

Tufted Titmouse:

Three-quarters of our counties provided sightings. The high count again came from northeast Hoover Reservoir; Charles Bombaci found 28 there on 16 Jun.

Red-breasted Nuthatch:

Ann and Dwight Chasar noted four on the Tree Farm Trail in CVNP on 16 Jun; they nest in the conifers near the beginning of the trail. Other reports came from **Clermont**, **Cuyahoga**, **Geauga**, **Hocking**, **Lucas**, **Mahoning**, and **Medina**.

White-breasted Nuthatch:

Owen Rodewald's **Franklin** yard hosted 17 on 13 Jul. Sightings came from 72 counties in all.

Brown Creeper:

Greg Cornett found three at the north end of Hoover Reservoir on 08 Jun. There were about a dozen other reports, all in June. Three sites in **Summit** and one each in **Ashland**, **Ashtabula**, **Columbiana**, **Cuyahoga**, **Franklin**, **Harrison**, **Holmes**, **Lake**, **Mahoning**, and **Wayne** produced them.

House Wren:

Tom Bartlett's crew counted 38 on Kelleys Island on 17 Jun. Sixty-seven counties had sightings.

Winter Wren:

Observers found up to six on the Lyons Falls Trail in Mohican SP throughout the season (m. obs.); the high count included adults feeding young on 11 Jul (Margaret Bowman). Holden Arboretum's Stebbins Gulch, **Geauga**, yielded one during a 23 Jun survey (Tom Frankel). The CVNP Ledges/Octagon area had one or two on several dates (m. obs.).

Sedge Wren:

Searchers found up to five in the various wetlands

The Ohio Cardinal, Summer 2012

of Darby Creek. One or two were seen at sites in *Coshocton*, *Erie*, *Geauga*, *Hamilton*, *Lucas*, *Ottawa*, *Sandusky*, and *Wayne*.

Marsh Wren:

The 03 Jun and 01 Jul ONWR censuses tallied 33 and 25, respectively (m. obs.). The high count by single observers was eight, achieved by Joel McNeal at Sandy Ridge on 09 Jun and Kenn Kaufman at Metzger on 07 Jul. Twenty counties provided reports.

Carolina Wren:

These cheeky guys and gals were found in 64 counties. The high count was 15, by John Shrader in Lake Hope and Zaleski on 09 Jun and by Kirk Dorsey in East Fork on 23 Jul.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher:

Fifteen was also the high gnatcatcher count. Bill Stanley found them in the Cincinnati Nature Center's Rowe Woods, *Clermont*, on 28 Jul. Reports came from 52 counties.

Golden-crowned Kinglet:

Matt Anderson found one singing in Maumee SE, *Lucas*, on 02 Jun. Holden Arboretum hosted another on 18 Jun (Cole DiFabio).

Eastern Bluebird:

Mike Watson of the Holden Arboretum passed on that Ohio Bluebird Society members reported 5923 fledged young statewide in 2012. His map showed that most of the reports came from a broad band spanning from Cincinnati to Cleveland, with some others in the northwest and a very few in the southeast. The high number of sightings was Reuben S. Erb's 44 near Walnut Creek, *Holmes*, on 29 Jul. Counts of 25 birds came from Oak Openings on 02 Jun (Oakland, Michigan, Audubon Society) and from Orchard Hills Park, *Geauga*, on 04 Jul (Christine Kelly). Christine noted that most of hers were young of the year. Overall, 64 counties provided sightings.

Veery:

Reports decreased significantly after 15 Jul, probably due to the species' post-breeding silence. Mohican was swarming with them. James F. Yoder found 34 there on 02 Jun and Levi A. Yoder counted 62 six days later. Eighteen counties hosted them.

Swainson's Thrush:

Two stragglers were singing in *Franklin*, in Lou Berliner Park on 02 Jun (Tracy Hammer) and on Walhalla Road on 05 Jun (Molly McDermott).

Hermit Thrush:

One remained in Maumee SE, *Lucas*, on 02 Jun (Matt Anderson). *Hocking* provided several

reports including the next-to-highest count of five in the Rose Lake area on 10 and 12 Jun (Kyle Brooks). The highest tally was 11, in Mohican on 08 Jun (Levi A. Yoder). Single birds were also reported in typical breeding habitat in *Columbiana* and *Summit*.

Wood Thrush:

Haans Petruschke found 30 in a wooded tract in *Geauga* near Holden Arboretum on 01 Jul. Craig Caldwell came in second with 24, counted along 14 miles of road in Shawnee on 22 Jun. Reports came from 59 counties.

American Robin:

Two careful counts almost tied for the high number. Tom Bartlett's Kelleys Island census crew noted 166 on 17 Jun, but Angelika Nelson had already edged them by one along her New Dover, *Union*, BBS route on 03 Jun. Seventy-seven counties produced sightings.

Gray Catbird:

Banders at Springville Marsh tallied 75 on 14 Jul (Tom Bartlett *et al.*). Dave Slager made the high single-observer count of 35 along the Heritage Trail, *Franklin*, on 17 Jul. Seventy-three counties provided reports.

Northern Mockingbird:

Angelika Nelson again took the high-count prize with 10 during her 03 Jun BBS count in *Union*. Sightings came from 54 counties.

Brown Thrasher:

Killdeer held seven for Charles Bombaci on 03 Jun and *Adams* hosted eight for Doug Overacker on 23 Jun. Reports came from 62 counties.

European Starling:

Dave Slager estimated 2000 were in the Darby Creek wetlands on 10 Jun. He wrote, "Large flocks leaving roost in cattails. Conservative count. Seems unusual to get numbers this high as early as the 2nd week of June." It was the highest count of the summer; the next highest was 600 in VOA Park, *Butler*, on 03 Jun (Harris Abramson). Seventy-five counties yielded sightings.

Cedar Waxwing:

The 17 Jun Kelleys Island census found 71 (Tom Bartlett *et al.*). The next highest count was 40, at Griggs Reservoir, *Franklin*, on 09 Jun (Ryan Eldridge). Sixty-six counties provided reports.

Ovenbird:

In an understatement, *The Bobolink* reported, "Apparently a common nester at Mohican, where hikers counted 85 on 6/8 [Levi A. Yoder] & 55 on 6/2 [James F. Yoder]." Twenty provided

a chorus for John Shrader in Lake Hope and Zaleski on 09 Jun and for Craig Caldwell in Shawnee on 22 Jun. Reports came from 29 counties.

Worm-eating Warbler:

The dry oak ridges of Clear Creek MP, **Hocking**, hosted five for Craig Moore on 09 Jun. However, Mohican took the prize with Levi A. Yoder's 14 on 08 Jun. Ben Warner watched two adults feeding two youngsters along the Lyons Falls Trail in Mohican SP on 25 Jun. Reports also came from **Adams**, **Coshocton**, **Fairfield**, **Scioto**, **Summit**, and **Vinton**.

Louisiana Waterthrush:

Levi A. Yoder and James F. Yoder provided the one-two punch from Mohican with 24 on 08 Jun and 15 on 02 Jun respectively. The high count away from there was five; Kyle Brooks found them in the Rose Lake area of **Hocking** on 10 Jun. Twenty-six counties yielded sightings.

Northern Waterthrush:

A very few spend their summers in Ohio, and they have bred here. Jeff and Shawn Kurtzman and friends saw two in the hemlock gorge of Mohican SP on 04 Jun. CMNH Natural Areas staffers saw two in the Kickel Easement, **Ashtabula**, on 20 Jun and one in practically the same spot there on 04 Jun.

Blue-winged Warbler:

Alex Champagne, Anthony Fries, and Alex Hughes counted eight along Service Road 14 in Shawnee on 12 Jun. Most of the reports, from 27 counties, were in Jun.

[Blue-winged X Golden-winged ("Lawrence's") Warbler]:

Rob and Sandy Harlan discovered one on Scobe Road in CVNP on 03 Jun.



Bruce Wunderlich had his camera handy for a lovely photo-op of this Cedar Waxwing during a lunch outing in Marietta, **Washington**, on 06 Jun.

Black-and-white Warbler:

The numerous Jun sightings decreased during Jul. The high count was eight, from Lake Hope and Zaleski on 09 Jun (John Shrader). Two observers each found five, Craig Caldwell in Shawnee on 22 Jun and Kyle Carlsen along Leith Run, **Washington**, on 04 Jul. Twenty-one counties provided reports.

Prothonotary Warbler:

Charles Bombaci monitors golden swamp warblers in **Delaware**; he found 50 along Big Walnut Creek on 06 Jun and 33 to 49 at other sites, also during Jun. Reports came from 28 counties.

Mourning Warbler:

Jacqui Pressly of the CMNH Natural Areas staff found one in Mentor Marsh SNP, **Lake**, on 24 Jun.

Kentucky Warbler:

Twenty-one mostly southern counties provided report. Doug Overacker counted five while wandering **Scioto** on 24 Jun, and there were many reports of three birds. Mohican, though, hosted 24 for Levi A. Yoder on 08 Jun.

Common Yellowthroat:

Sightings were numerous all season, and from 70 counties. The 01 Jul ONWR census team counted 59 (Ed Pierce *et al.*, *vide* Douglas Vogus). The high count by single observers was three, shared by Ken Ostermiller in Tri-Valley WA, **Muskingum** on 27 Jun, Angela Freeman in Herrick Fen, **Portage**, on 09 Jul, and Chris Zacharias at Darby Creek on 14 Jul.



A curious Common Yellowthroat popped up for this nice image, taken by Allan Claybon on 04 Jun at Armleder Park, **Hamilton**.

Hooded Warbler:

“A whopping 92 were tallied on a long hike at Mohican on 6/8 [Levi A. Yoder],” said *The Bobolink*. Fourteen miles of dirt road in Shawnee produced 21 for Craig Caldwell on 22 Jun, slightly edging the 20 which John Shrader found in Lake Hope and Zaleski on 09 Jun. Thirty-nine counties produced reports.

American Redstart:

David Bernstein counted 25 in Shawnee Lookout on 09 Jun. The second highest number was 13, from Carlisle Reservation, *Lorain*, on 10 Jun (Joel McNeal). Sightings came from 35 counties.

Cerulean Warbler:

David Bernstein’s 09 Jun sojourn in Shawnee Lookout produced 30 of OOS’s iconic species. John Shrader’s 10 in Lake Hope and Zaleski, also on 09 Jun, was the second highest count. Reports came from 25 counties.

Northern Parula:

Reports were thin but steady throughout the season. Shawnee Lookout again provided the high count, 18, on 09 Jun (David Bernstein). Mohican hosted 14 on 08 Jun (Levi A. Yoder). Thirty-two counties had sightings.

Magnolia Warbler:

The season had a trickle of sightings throughout. Mohican produced 10 birds on 08 Jun (Levi A. Yoder) and many reports of one or two birds in Jun and Jul; *Hocking* and *Vinton* each had several reports of singles. Two *Geauga* sites and one in *Lucas* each hosted one bird.

Blackburnian Warbler:

Ashland hosted all five sightings:

Mohican SF and SP, up to five on 02 and 08 Jun (James F. Yoder, Levi A. Yoder)

Mohican SP, unspecified area, one on 06 Jun (Rob and Sandy Harlan)

Mohican SP, covered bridge, one on 23 Jun (Hallie Mason)

Mohican SF, Hickory Ridge, one on 07 Jul (Gary Cowell)

Yellow Warbler:

The whole summer provided frequent sightings; 63 counties contributed. The 03 Jun ONWR census team counted 209 (Ed Pierce *et al.*, *fide* Douglas Vogus). Elliott Tramer found about 90 in CPNWR on 26 Jun and commented, “This species is probably as abundant around the Lake Erie marshes in summer as anywhere else in North America.” Several individual observers found 25 to 30 at Magee and ONWR in Jul.

Chestnut-sided Warbler:

Levi A. Yoder found 10 in Mohican on 08 Jun. Kelleys Island hosted three, the second highest count, on 17 Jun (Tom Bartlett *et al.*). There were about a dozen reports of one or two birds (mostly in Jun) in *Erie*, *Fulton*, *Geauga*, *Henry*, *Jefferson*, *Lucas*, *Medina*, *Montgomery*, *Ottawa*, *Seneca*, and *Summit*.

Blackpoll Warbler:

Tom Bartlett *et al.* banded one at Springville Marsh on 03 Jun and Ben Warner saw one on Kelleys Island the next day.

Black-throated Blue Warbler:

Tom Bartlett *et al.* found a singing male on Kelleys Island on 17 Jun. That same day, Paul Wharton watched one singing “an atypical song” in Colerain Township, *Hamilton*. Tom Frankel and Haans Petruschke found up to four on territory in Holden Arboretum’s Stebbins Gulch, *Geauga*, on several Jun and Jul dates.

Pine Warbler:

The Mohican Discovery Forest provided the last sighting, on 15 Jul (Gary Cowell), though surely the species didn’t vacate the state that early. The high count also came from Mohican, 17 on 08 Jun (Levi A. Yoder). Reports also came from *Adams*, *Clermont*, *Columbiana*, *Franklin*, *Harrison*, *Hocking*, *Lucas*, *Portage*, *Scioto*, and *Summit*.

Yellow-rumped Warbler:

From *The Bobolink*, “Not known to nest in Ohio so the 2 found at Mohican on 6/8 [by Levi A. Yoder] were probably just very late migrants, though Mohican would be a likely place for the first nesting record.”

Yellow-throated Warbler:

Sightings were fairly uniform throughout the season. Thirty-five counties provided reports. In Mohican, Levi A. Yoder’s 13 on 08 Jun slightly edged James F. Yoder’s 12 on 02 Jun. Matt Anderson found a nest and two nearby singing males in *Lucas* for the third year in a row; it’s the only breeding site he knows in that county.

Prairie Warbler:

Doug Overacker’s southern Ohio trek produced eight on 23 Jun in *Adams*. Twenty mostly southern counties had sightings, though *Lucas*, *Medina*, and *Richland* each had one.

Black-throated Green Warbler:

The Rose Lake area, *Hocking*, hosted five for Kyle Brooks on 10 Jun. Other reports came from that county and also from *Ashland*, *Cuyahoga*, *Franklin*, *Geauga*, *Richland*, *Scioto*, *Summit*, *Tuscarawas*, and *Vinton*.

Canada Warbler:

Most of the reports were from various parts of the gorge in Mohican, including the high count of 19 on 02 Jun (James F. Yoder). *Geauga*, *Jefferson*, *Lake*, and *Lucas* each contributed one sighting.

Wilson's Warbler:

Magee hosted a straggler on 02 Jun (Kenn Kaufman) as did a *Lorain* residence on 06 Jun (Joel McNeal).

Yellow-breasted Chat:

The Rehoboth mine reclamation area in *Perry* must be a noisy place – Joe Faulkner found 12 chats there on 30 Jun. *Adams*, *Clermont*, and *Hamilton* each had sites with counts of six or more. Robert Hershberger reported “two nesters at a new summer location” in *Holmes*. A sprinkling of reports also came from *Erie*, *Lucas*, *Lorain*, and *Medina* though most of the 35 counties with sightings are in the southern half of the state.

Eastern Towhee:

John Shrader's seven hours in Lake Hope and Zaleski on 09 Jun yielded 30. The second highest count, 17, was Craig Caldwell's in Shawnee on 22 Jun. Reports came from 64 counties.

Chipping Sparrow:

Angelika Nelson counted 51 along her BBS route in *Union* on 03 Jun. Laura Gooch found 25 in *Trumbull* on 17 Jun, also along a BBS route. Seventy-two counties provided sightings.

Field Sparrow:

Big Darby Headwaters CP, *Logan*, hosted so many that the two highest counts came from it. Steve Jones found 30 on 06 Jun and Chris Zacharias 25 on 14 Jul. Sixty-eight counties had sightings.

Vesper Sparrow:

Scott Pendleton counted 35 in the Second Reclaim District, *Harrison*, on 01 Jul. He quipped, “25 of these birds came from one short stretch, young present, likely an undercount as one of my compatriots thought we should estimate the number as ‘filthy with vespers.’” Every count greater than five were from this site and another in *Harrison*. Reports came from 16 other counties as well.

Lark Sparrow:

Oak Openings hosts Ohio's only substantial breeding population. All but one count higher than three came from it; the highest was 11 on 04 Jun (Jeremy Ross). A relatively recent colony at Leighly Hill, *Tuscarawas*, held at least three

pairs and a youngster on 24 Jun (James F. Yoder). *Butler*, *Greene*, *Hamilton*, and *Lorain* also contributed sightings.

Savannah Sparrow:

The Bowl provided 30 for Scott Pendleton on 29 Jul. Two Jun counts of 15 in *Cuyahoga* were the second highest (Jen Brumfield). Forty-one counties had sightings.

Grasshopper Sparrow:

The high count was 75, on 27 Jul again at The Bowl (Scott Pendleton). That and every other count greater than 10 came from *Harrison*; 28 other counties also contributed reports.



Jerry Talkington captured this Grasshopper Sparrow in mid-song in Fernwood SE, Jefferson, on 10 Jun.

Henslow's Sparrow:

These much-sought birds occurred in 19 counties. Ten to 25 were at each of The Bowl and Tri-Valley WA, *Muskingum*, on several dates (m. obs.). The Second Reclaim District, *Harrison*, held 30 on 01 Jul (Scott Pendleton).

Song Sparrow:

Sandy Ridge provided the high count of 65 on 28 Jul (Ryan Eldridge). CVNP censuses had the next two in line, 61 on 06 Jul and 44 on 02 Jun (Douglas Vogus). Reports came from 74 counties.

Lincoln's Sparrow:

Tom Bartlett's crew banded one at Springville Marsh on 03 Jun.

Swamp Sparrow:

Springville Marsh also provided counts up to 25 on several summer dates (Tom Bartlett *et al.*). The only other double-digit report came from Sandy Ridge, 11 on 09 Jun (Joel McNeal). Twenty-seven counties yielded sightings.

White-throated Sparrow:

One lingered, and sang, in Marcia Rubin's *Geauga* yard on 11 Jun.

White-crowned Sparrow:

One of these lingered as well. Diana Evans photographed it on the road in Sheldon's Marsh SNP, *Erie*, on 07 Jun.

Dark-eyed Junco:

A trickle of reports in Jun became drops in Jul. Haans Petruschke's *Lake* yard hosted eight on 11 Jun. *Franklin* and *Highland* each had a single unexpected sighting, and multiple reports came from the localized breeding areas (usually hemlock gorges) in *Ashland*, *Cuyahoga*, *Geauga*, *Lake*, *Medina*, *Portage*, and *Summit*.

Summer Tanager:

Three reports of three birds arrived: in Shawnee Lookout on 15 Jun (m. obs.), in East Fork's Williamsburg Ledges on 25 Jun (Bill Stanley), and in Hannan Park, *Pickaway*, on 19 Jul (Kyle Brooks). Nineteen counties had sightings.

Scarlet Tanager:

John Shrader counted 15 during his 09 Jun sojourn in Lake Hope and Zaleski. And again Craig Caldwell trailed him (numerically and temporally) with the second highest count of 13 in Shawnee on 22 Jun. Reports came from 51 counties.

Northern Cardinal:

The 17 Jun Kelleys Island census tallied 71 (Tom Bartlett *et al.*). The next highest count was 41, by Charles Bombaci while monitoring Prothonotary Warbler nests along the north shore of Hoover Reservoir. Seventy-six counties provided reports.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak:

Douglas Vogus' census crew counted 10 in CVNP on 02 Jun. Forty-four counties yielded sightings.

Blue Grosbeak:

Brian Wulker found 11 at Fernald on 04 Jun, and five on each of the next two days. Reports came from 18 counties overall; of them only *Holmes*, *Lucas*, and *Tuscarawas* are north of *Franklin*.

Indigo Bunting:

Kelleys Island hosted 51 on 17 Jun (Tom Bartlett *et al.*). The second highest count was Bill and René McGill's 32 in Armeleder Park, *Hamilton*, on 29 Jul. Seventy-six counties had sightings.

Dickcissel:

Reports were numerous ("Another knockout year" according to *The Bobolink*) and evenly distributed in time. Distribution was not even, however: The 34 counties with reports did not include any in the heavily wooded southeast nor



*This beautiful Blue Grosbeak posed nicely for Allan Claybon on 13 Jun in Armeleder Park, **Hamilton**.*



*This vibrant Indigo Bunting caught the eye of photographer Laura Keene at Fernald Preserve, **Hamilton**, on 26 Jul.*



*Ron Sempier focused his camera on this Dickcissel declaring its territory on 06 Jun in **Wyandot**, near **Hardin**.*

the far northwest. The high count of 32 came from Jackson Township, **Hardin**, on 03 Jun (Charles Bombaci). After noting at least 30 at Fernald on 04 Jun, Brian Wulker commented, "After today, I will be hearing Dickcissel in my sleep."

Bobolink:

The Jackson Township, **Hardin**, area which produced the high Dickcissel count did the same for Bobolinks. Charles Bombaci found 61 there, also on 03 Jun. Scott Pendleton and Steve Landes counted 50 in The Bowl on 09 Jun. Thirty-five counties provided reports.

Red-winged Blackbird:

Justin Bosler found what he called a "mega-flock" of at least 5000 in ONWR on 27 Jul as they were staging for their journey to the south. Other northwestern marshes had smaller four-digit counts during the last two weeks of Jul. Reports came from 78 counties.

Eastern Meadowlark:

Scott Pendleton found 35 to 45 in The Bowl throughout Jul. A count of 30 came from VOA Park, **Butler**, on 03 Jun (Harris Abramson). Fifty-six counties yielded sightings.

Common Grackle:

About 950 staged at Charles Mill Lake, **Ashland**, on 31 Jul (Gary Cowell). Springfield Marsh hosted 500 on 01 and 14 Jul (Tom Bartlett *et al.*). Seventy counties provided reports.

Brown-headed Cowbird:

Tom Bartlett noted 50 at Springville Marsh on 01 Jul. There were several counts in the 25 to 35 range in the 70 counties with sightings.

Orchard Oriole:

Harris Abramson found 12 at Fernald on 17 Jun, as did Andy R. Troyer near Apple Creek, **Wayne**, on 13 Jul. Tom Bartlett counted 11 on both Kelleys Island on 17 Jun and North Bass Island on 28 Jun. Reports came from 50 counties.

Baltimore Oriole:

Kelleys Island census takers found 40 on 17 Jun (Tom Bartlett *et al.*). Charles Bombaci noted 18 along the north shore of Hoover Reservoir on 02 Jun. **Lucas**, **Delaware**, **Summit**, and **Wyandot** all produced double-digit counts, and 65 counties provided sightings.

Purple Finch:

A **Lorain** feeder hosted six on 10 Jul (Randy Lindsey) and two pairs were regular visitors all summer at Carole Babyak's feeders in **Trumbull**. **Ashland** was the southernmost of the 13 counties with sightings.

House Finch:

Kirk Westendorf found 26 in Armleder Park, **Hamilton**, on 02 Jul and 30 on 13 Jul. Sixty counties produced reports.

European Greenfinch:

This bird visited Ken Ostermiller's **Medina** feeder from 25 Jun to 03 Jul. I know, I know – it was released or escaped from captivity, and Ken knows that too, but it was no doubt fun to watch.

Pine Siskin:

One or two were irregular visitors to several feeders in **Lake**, one in **Holmes**, and one in **Medina** during early Jun. Non-feeder sites in **Cuyahoga**, **Hardin**, and **Hocking** provided brief views in Jun, Jul, and Jul respectively.

American Goldfinch:

A field near Millersburg, **Holmes**, held 46 on 24 Jun for Rueben S. Erb. The fields south of Hopkins Airport, **Cuyahoga**, held about 40 on 10 Jun (Jen Brumfield). Seventy-six counties had sightings.

House Sparrow:

Mike Busam found about 200 in a fallow field in **Butler** on 20 Jun. Angelika Nelson's BBS route in **Union** produced 161 on 03 Jun. Reports came from 71 counties.

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