

**BIRDS AROUND THE STATE:  
FALL 2018-WINTER 2018/2019**

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The following is a summary of noteworthy bird sightings in Mississippi for fall 2018 and winter 2018/2019 (1 August 2018-28 February 2019) as collected by Terence Schiefer for the seasonal report to *North American Birds*. The sequence of information in each account is: species, number, date, place, observer(s), and significance. Numbers of birds sighted are underlined. The significance of sightings is indicated by letters in parentheses following a record. These letters are as follows: (Ac) = accidental, (E) = early date, (L) = late date, (N) = unusually large number, (R) = species rare in area, (RS) = species rare in that season, (U) = species uncommon in area, (US) = species uncommon in that season. Other abbreviations used include the following: ad = adult, Co. = County, cos. = counties, f = female/s, imm = immature/s, m = male/s, m.ob. = many observers, MSU = Mississippi State University, NWR = National Wildlife Refuge, Rd. = Road, and S.L. = Sewage Lagoon. The list of sightings is followed by a key to observers' initials and a gazetteer of localities.

Contributions of records are welcome from anyone who makes observations of Mississippi birds. Only with the assistance of many individuals from throughout the state over a period of years can we come to understand the dynamics of the bird populations of Mississippi. Contributors should submit records on 3" x 5" cards or similar-sized slips of paper with one record per card including the following information: species, number seen,

date (including year), location (state, county, and specific location), observer(s), and details and significance of the observation. Very unusual records should be accompanied by full details including description of bird, details of observation, and explanation of how similar species were eliminated. While records are welcome at any time, those received by 15 March, 15 June, 15 August, and 15 December will be submitted with the seasonal report to North American Birds (formerly known as Audubon Field Notes and American Birds), and will also be considered for use in *The Mississippi Kite*. Please send all records to:

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BLACK-BELLIED WHISTLING-DUCK -- up to 35, 11 Aug.-10 Sep., 2 mi. west of Trinity, WJ, TS, DP, JP, m.ob. (R); up to 19, 7 Sep.-23 Oct., Noxubee NWR, Noxubee Co., KMa, LT, LTa (R); 3 ad, 8 imm, 3 Nov., 2 mi. west of Trinity, TS, MS, IB, JH, LC, JC (R, L)

ROSS'S GOOSE -- 1 ad, 1 Nov., Oktibbeha Co. Lake, TS (U); 2, 17 Dec.-7 Jan., Noxubee NWR, Noxubee Co., TS, LF (U); 1 ad, 23-24 Dec., Artesia, JH, MP, m.ob. (U); 1 ad, 26 Dec., Cooksville Rd., near McLeod, TS (U); 14, 5 Jan., Paulette Rd., McLeod, TS, MS, IB (U); 1, 5 Jan., Brooksville, TS, MS, IB (U); 9 ad, 1 imm, 10 Jan., Columbus Lake, TS, GD, PM (U); 1 ad, 16 Jan., Starkville, TS, MS (U); 4, 17 Jan., near Bent Oak, Lowndes Co., TS (U)

BLUE-WINGED TEAL -- up to 9, 3 Dec.-20 Feb., Columbus Lake, PM, GD, m.ob. (US); up to 3, 11 Jan.-2 Feb., Cooksville Rd., near McLeod, PM, TS, MS, JH (US)

AMERICAN BLACK DUCK -- 1, 31 Dec.-14 Jan., Noxubee NWR, Noxubee Co., JH, MP, TS, m.ob. (U)

CANVASBACK -- 200, 27 Nov., Columbus Lake, DP, MM (N)

REDHEAD -- 300, 28 Dec., near Trinity, TS, MS (N)

BLACK SCOTER -- 2, 9 Nov., Point area, Biloxi, HC (U); up to 32, 10-11 Nov., Pass Christian Harbor, HC, LG (U, N); 3, 14 Nov., Broadwater Marina, Biloxi, HC (U); 2 ad m, 1 f, 15-16 Nov., Louisville south S.L., TS, MS, JH, PM, FSt, IB (R); 9, 16 Nov., Winona S.L., MS, JH, IB (R, N); 13, 6 Jan., Biloxi, HC, LM (U)

BUFFLEHEAD -- 2 f, 23 Oct., West Point S.L., JH, MS (E)

HOODED MERGANSER -- 1, 15 Sep., Oktibbeha Co. Lake, MS (U nesting species)

COMMON MERGANSER -- 2, 12 Feb., Oktibbeha Co. Lake, TS, MS (R)

AMERICAN FLAMINGO -- 1, 2 Dec., Columbus Lake, PM, TS, MS, JH, m.ob. (Ac) [Review List Species]

INCA DOVE -- 2, 22 Sep., Seaman Rd. S.L., Jackson Co., KB, MA, BJ (R); 1, 8, 18 Oct., Hattiesburg Zoo, LG (R)

WHITE-WINGED DOVE -- up to 6, Aug.-Nov., Greenville, FS, FJS (U)

YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO -- 1, 10 Nov., Columbus, PM (L)

BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO -- 1, 8 Sep., Columbus, PM (R); 1, 14 Sep., Plymouth Bluff, JO (R)

GROOVE-BILLED ANI -- 1, 17 Nov., Tillman St., Pascagoula, HC, LM, RP, LG (R)

YELLOW RAIL -- 2, 12 Dec., Mississippi Sandhill Crane NWR, Jackson Co., HC, LM, m.ob. (R)

PURPLE GALLINULE -- 13, spring-1 Nov., Noxubee NWR, Noxubee and Oktibbeha cos., WP, RH, m.ob. (R)

COMMON GALLINULE -- 22, spring-1 Nov., Noxubee NWR, Noxubee and Oktibbeha cos., WP, JH, m.ob. (R); 1, 13-16 Dec., Noxubee NWR, Noxubee Co., TS, JH (RS)

LIMPKIN -- 1, 24 Sep., near Potts Camp, KD (Ac) [Review List Species]

SANDHILL CRANE -- 16, 16 Dec., New Hope, Lowndes Co., DG (R); 1, 17 Dec., Columbus Lake, PM (R); up to 50, 22 Dec.-11 Jan., Cooksville Rd., near McLeod, JH, TS, MP, m.ob. (R); 1, 12 Jan., New Hope, Lowndes Co., DG (R)

BLACK-NECKED STILT -- up to 6, 15 Aug.-6 Sep., 2 mi. west of Trinity, PM, TS, m.ob. (R)

AMERICAN AVOCET -- 12, 3 Aug., White's Creek Lake, Webster Co., TS, MS, MP (R); 1, 20-21 Aug., 2 mi. west of Trinity, TS, JH, MS, m.ob. (R); 1, 26 Aug., Stan Tabor Rd., JH (R)

UPLAND SANDPIPER -- 2, 12 Aug., Stan Tabor Rd., JH, MS (U)

MARbled GODWIT -- 1, 13-14 Aug., Greenville, FS, FJS (U)

BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER -- 1, 13 Aug., Harrah's Casino green space, Biloxi, HC (U); 1, 6 Oct., near Prairie Point, JH, LC, JC, m.ob. (U, L)

LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER -- 1, 25 Jan., White's Creek Lake, Webster Co., TS (RS)

WILSON'S PHALAROPE -- 1 imm, 11-15 Aug., 2 mi. west of Trinity, TS, MS, m.ob. (R); 2 ad, 21 Aug., 2 mi. west of Trinity, TS, JH, BD, MP (R); 1, 5-6 Sep., Lynn Creek Rd., Noxubee Co., JH, MS, TS (R)

RED PHALAROPE -- 1 imm, 22-24 Sep., Oktibbeha Co. Lake, MS, TS, MP, m.ob. (Ac) [Review List Species]

POMARINE JAEGER -- 1, 23 Nov., Broadwater Marina, Biloxi, OG (Ac) [Review List Species]

FRANKLIN'S GULL -- 1, 29 Oct., Oktibbeha Co. Lake, TS, MS, JH, PM (R); up to 2, 4 Nov.-10 Dec., Columbus Lake, TS, JH, MP, m.ob. (R); up to 4, 7-10 Nov., Catalpa Creek bottoms, Lowndes Co., JH, PM, MM, m.ob. (R)

LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL -- 1, 13 Sep., New Round Island, Jackson Co., AD, BW, AF (R); 1, 24 Nov., Sardis Lower Lake, Panola Co., HC, LJ (R); 1, 10 Feb., near Pass Christian Harbor, HC, LM (R)

GLAUCOUS GULL -- 1, 26 Nov., Canton S.L., AB (Ac) [Review List Species]

GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL -- 1, 27 Aug., Biloxi beach, HC (Ac) [Review List Species]

LEAST TERN -- 1, 3 Aug., White's Creek Lake, Webster Co., TS, MS (U); 2 ad, 9 Aug., West Point S.L., TS, MS, MP, GD (U)

CASPIAN TERN -- 1, 7-16 Nov., Columbus Lake, PM, TS, MP, m.ob. (L)

COMMON TERN -- 1, 1 Aug., Gulfport, MA, BW, AD (R); 1, 23 Sep., Oktibbeha Co. Lake, TS (U)

WOOD STORK -- up to 425, spring-6 Oct., Stan Tabor Rd., JH, m.ob. (U); up to 40, summer-5 Sep., Noxubee NWR, Noxubee Co., WP, JH, m.ob. (U); up to 115, 7 Aug.-28 Sep., Oktibbeha Co. Lake, TS, MS, MP, JH, m.ob. (U); up to 25, 8 Aug.-30 Sep., Columbus, PM (U); 28, 11 Aug., St. Catherine Creek NWR, HC (U); up to 397, 11 Aug.-26 Sep., near Brooksville, JH, MS, TS, MP (U); up to 240, 12 Aug.-5 Sep., Paulette Rd., McLeod, JH, m.ob. (U); up to 8, 17 Aug.-5 Sep., Greenbrier Rd., Prairie Point, JH, m.ob. (U); up to 60, 21 Aug.-3 Sep., near Trinity, JH, BD, TS, MS, WP (U); 100, 26 Aug., Hwy. 14, McLeod, JH, m.ob. (U); 1, 7 Sep., Hwy. 25, Starkville, MP (U); 6, 15 Sep., Petal, LB, AM, LG (U)

NEOTROPIC CORMORANT -- 47, 11 Aug., St. Catherine Creek NWR, HC (U); 1, 24 Feb., Noxubee NWR, Noxubee Co., DT (R)

ANHINGA -- up to 50, spring 2018-spring 2019, Noxubee NWR, Noxubee and Oktibbeha cos., TS, MS, JH, MP, m.ob. (U nesting)

species, N); 1, 30 Aug., 15 Sep., Oktibbeha Co. Lake, TS, MS (U); 1, 9 Oct., Columbus Lake, GD (U); 2, 22 Oct., White's Slough, Lowndes Co., JO (U)

LEAST BITTERN -- 1, 23 Sep., Noxubee NWR, Noxubee Co., JJ (R, L)

TRICOLORED HERON -- 1 imm, 18 Aug., near Trinity, JH, MP, MS, PM (R)

BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON -- up to 3, spring-28 Sep., Noxubee NWR, Noxubee Co., WP, JH (U)

YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON -- 1 imm, 18 Aug.-6 Sep., near Trinity, JH, MS, TS, IB, LC (U)

PLEGADIS SP. -- 1, 29 Sep., near Brooksville, JH (R)

GLOSSY IBIS -- 3, 11 Aug., St. Catherine Creek NWR, HC (U)

WHITE-FACED IBIS -- 9, 11 Aug., St. Catherine Creek NWR, HC (U)

ROSEATE SPOONBILL -- 23, 11 Aug., St. Catherine Creek NWR, HC (U); 20, 20 Aug., Southside Rd., Greenville, FS, FJS (U, N); up to 8 imm, 13-23 Sep., Oktibbeha Co. Lake, TS, MS, JH, MP, m.ob. (R); 1, 15 Sep., Hattiesburg, LB, AM, LG (R); 1, 3 Nov., LeFleur's Bluff S.P., Jackson, LG, LB (R)

SWALLOW-TAILED KITE -- 1, 15 Aug., Curtis Chapel Rd., near Starkville, MP (R)

RED-TAILED-HAWK -- 1 ad Harlan's, 11 Jan., near Abbott, Clay Co., TS (R); 1 imm Krider's, 10 Feb., near Abbott, Clay Co., TS, MS (U)

NORTHERN SAW-WHET OWL -- up to 3, 6-19 Nov., Holly Springs, KM, HM, m.ob. (Ac) [Review List Species]

MERLIN -- 1 f, 18 Oct., Noxubee NWR, Winston Co., MS (R); 1 ad m, 5-15 Nov., Columbus, PM, MP (R); 1, 6 Dec., Starkville S.L., MS (R); 1, 14 Dec.-2 Jan., near Oktoc, Oktibbeha Co., TS (R); 1, 26 Dec., Prairie Point, TS (R); 1, 3 Jan., near Starkville, LT (R); 1, 7 Feb., Columbus, PM (R); 1, 8 Feb., near West Point, TS (R)

PEREGRINE FALCON -- 1, 28 Sep., New Light Rd., near Starkville, MS (R)

WESTERN KINGBIRD -- up to 2, 14-15 Oct., Broadwater Golf Course, HC (U); 1, 1 Dec., Broadwater Golf Course, LG (U); 3, 1 Jan., Broadwater Golf Course, HC, LM (U); up to 4, 2 Feb.-21 Apr., Broadwater Golf Course, HC (U)

EASTERN KINGBIRD -- 1, 5 Oct., Columbus, PM (L)

SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER -- 1 m, 1 f, summer-7 Sep., near Artesia, TS, MP, MS, m.ob. (R); 1, 6 Oct., Biloxi, HC (R); 1, 9 Oct., Triple Barrel, Jackson Co., MA, BW, MF (R); 1, 11 Oct., 2 Nov., Southside Rd., Greenville, FS (R); 1, 13 Oct., Port Bienville, Bay St. Louis, HC (R); 2, 14 Oct., Tillman St., Pascagoula, HC, LJ (R); 4, 14 Oct., Broadwater Golf Course, HC (R); 2, 27 Oct., Graveline Beach, Ocean Springs, HC (R)

OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER -- 1, 20 Sep., Biloxi, HC (U)



EASTERN WOOD-PEWEE -- 2, 2 Nov., near Columbus, JO (L)

ACADIAN FLYCATCHER -- 1, 17 Oct., Plymouth Bluff, PM (L)

VERMILION FLYCATCHER -- 1, 6 Oct., Biloxi, HC (U)

WHITE-EYED VIREO -- 1, 15 Dec., Noxubee NWR, Noxubee Co., PM, DG (RS); 1, 16 Dec., near Browning Creek dam, Oktibbeha Co., TS (RS); 1, 18 Dec., Columbus, PM (RS); 1, 20 Dec.-5 Jan., near Artesia, JH, TS, MS, m.ob. (RS); 1, 6 Jan., Noxubee NWR, Oktibbeha Co., TS, MS (RS); 1, 10 Jan., MSU campus, CA (RS)

WARBLING VIREO -- 1, 30 Sep., near Adaton, Oktibbeha Co., MS (U)

BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER -- 1, 29 Jan., Starkville, BD (RS)

GRAY CATBIRD -- 1, 30 Jan., Plymouth Bluff, PM (R); 1, 10 Feb., Siloam, Clay Co., TS, MS (R)

CLAY-COLORED SPARROW -- 1, 29 Oct., Oktibbeha Co. Lake, TS, MS (Ac) [Review List Species]

LARK SPARROW -- 3, spring-2 Aug., Stan Tabor Rd., MS, JH (U); 6, 2 Aug., near Starkville, TS (U); 1 imm, 7 Sep., Biloxi, HC (U)

LINCOLN'S SPARROW -- 1, 21 Oct., Broadwater Golf Course, HC, PK (U); 1, 11, 19 Nov., White's Slough, Lowndes Co., TS, MS, PM (U); 1, 3 Dec., Moselle, LG (U)

BALTIMORE ORIOLE -- 1 f/imm, 1-6 Jan., Browning Creek, Oktibbeha Co., TS, MS, JH (RS)

GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER -- 1, 12, 21 Sep., near Starkville, MS (U); up to 2, 14, 17, 18, 21 Sep., Plymouth Bluff, JO, MS, PM, HC (U); 1, 1, 2 Oct., Columbus, PM (U)

BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER -- 1, 3-4 Nov., Columbus Lake, GD, TS (L)

SWAINSON'S WARBLER -- 1, spring-7 Sep., Section Line Rd., Lowndes Co., PM (U); 1, spring-15 Sep., Reed Rd., Oktibbeha Co., MS (U); 1, spring-17 Sep., Plymouth Bluff, PM, JO (U); 1, spring-17 Sep., Longview-Adaton Rd. x Morris Rd., Oktibbeha Co., IB (U); 1, summer-12 Aug., Columbus, PM (U); 1, 19 Sep., East Lindsey Ferry Rd., Lowndes Co., TS (U)

NASHVILLE WARBLER -- 1, 12-13 Oct., White's Slough, Lowndes Co., JO (U); 1, 6 Nov., Columbus, PM (U)

MOURNING WARBLER -- 1, 17 Sep., Plymouth Bluff, TS (R)

NORTHERN PARULA -- 1 ad m, 4 Nov., Columbus Lake, TS (L)

BAY-BREASTED WARBLER -- 1, 4 Nov., Columbus Lake, TS (L)

PALM WARBLER -- up to 3, 23 Dec.-18 Feb., Paulette Rd., McLeod, TS, MS (US); up to 2, 24 Dec.-5 Jan., Stan Tabor Rd., TS, JH, m.ob. (US); 1, 29 Dec., Catalpa Creek bottoms, Lowndes Co., PM (US); 3, 1 Jan., MSU North Farm, TS, MS (US); up to 4, 15-16 Jan., near Artesia, MS, TS (US)

INDIGO BUNTING -- 1 f/imm, 16 Dec., near Browning Creek dam, Oktibbeha Co., TS (RS)

PAINTED BUNTING -- 1, 12 Aug., near Trinity, MS, JH (U nesting species); 1 f/imm, 18 Nov., near Artesia, DP, JP (U, L)

### **CONTRIBUTORS**

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### **KEY TO LOCALITIES**

Localities not listed are indexed on the “Official Highway Map of Mississippi” or the county is listed in the main text.

Broadwater Golf Course = Biloxi; Columbus Lake = Lowndes Co.; McLeod = Noxubee Co.; Plymouth Bluff = Lowndes Co.; St. Catherine Creek NWR = Adams Co.; Stan Tabor Rd. = Noxubee Co.; Trinity = Lowndes Co.