

(MT), and an imm. male appeared at R.M.B.S. 18 Oct (†Judy Bergmann). A record 50 Dickcissels was at Grand Pass C.A., *Saline*, MO 6 Sep (SK). Over 100 Bobolinks were at T.R.W. 24 Aug (SK), and one tied the 3rd latest record at R.M.B.S. 8 Oct (BR). A total of 200 Brewer's Blackbirds was in the St. Louis area 3 Nov (BR). If accepted, a single ad. **Common Chaffinch** at a feeder at Cedar Hill, *Jefferson*, MO 18-28 Nov would furnish a first state record (WG, m.ob.). A Pine Siskin at Iowa State University, Ames, *Story*, IA 24 Aug (SD) might have been a summering bird.

**Erratum and corrigendum:** Delete the Roseate Spoonbill at Ten Mile Pond C.A., *Mississippi*, MO 26 Aug–21 Sep 2004 (no documentation submitted). The report of 58 Black Vultures in *Genevieve* (Rocky Ridge) in winter 2004-2005 was in error; it should read 3 Black Vultures.

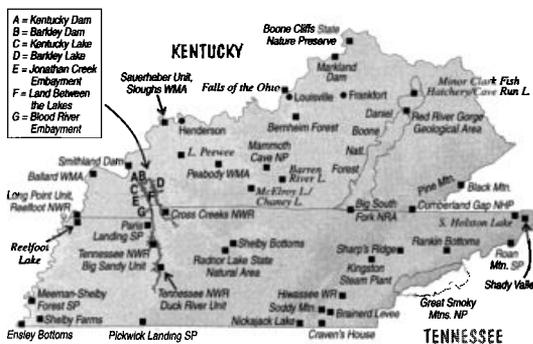
**Addenda:** The following sightings from TR were inadvertently omitted from the fall 2004 report, and she should be credited as the discoverer of the Sabine's Gull at S.R. 16 Sep. Two imm. Ruddy Ducks were at S.C.R. 2 Aug. Six King Rails were at S.C.R. 23 Aug. Greater Yellowlegs lingered late at S.C.R.: 11 on 17 Nov and 9 on 25 Nov. Philadelphia Vireos were first seen at S.C.R. 29 Aug and last 6 Oct. A high count of 90 Yellow-rumped Warblers was tallied at Big L. S.P., *Holt*, MO 12 Oct. A very early White-crowned Sparrow was at S.C.R. 27 Sep.

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## Tennessee & Kentucky



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The fall 2005 season was overall warmer and drier than normal. August was hot, with the temperature reaching 90° F or higher on 20 days at Louisville and 22 days at Nashville. The most remarkable weather event of the season was the passage of the remnants of Hurricane *Katrina*, which moved through the Region 30 August with copious precipitation (11 cm at Bowling Green, Kentucky, and about 6.6 cm at both Nashville and Louisville) and moderate, gusty winds. In fact, the rains provided by the storm's passage provided many areas with the only substantial precipitation over the entire period! September and October remained warmer than normal with little precipitation (e.g., Nashville received only 0.5 cm of rain during October). November remained slightly warmer than normal, but precipita-

tion began to return to normal.

Rarity highlights included the plethora of coastal and pelagic species found during the passage of the remnants of *Katrina* (see S.A.), several rare waders (Tricolored Heron, White Ibis, and Roseate Spoonbill) in the western part of the Region, a few rare shorebirds (including Marbled Godwit and Red Phalarope), two Pomarine Jaegers, first Regional records of Black-throated Sparrow and Townsend's Solitaire, second Regional records for Clapper Rail and Broad-tailed Hummingbird, and a returning Spotted Towhee. In contrast to the previous year, natural food crops, including evergreen cones, berries, acorns, and hickory nuts, all appeared to be produced in abundance, boding well for wintering species.

**Abbreviations:** Ensley (Ensley Bottoms, including the EARTH Complex, in sw. *Shelby*, TN); Pickwick (Pickwick Lake and Dam, *Hardin*, TN); Sauerheber (Sauerheber Unit Sloughs W.M.A., *Henderson*, KY).

### GEESE THROUGH GREBES

The injured and summering Greater White-fronted Goose at Ballard W.M.A., *Ballard*, KY was seen several times in Aug and Sep. The first of Sauerheber's wintering flock of Tundra Swans (8) returned 18 Nov (MMr). Duck migration occurred with relatively few high-

lights, lacking sizeable fallouts or extreme dates. Dabblers appeared to arrive on time but in relatively small numbers, perhaps due in part to the overall lack of water as a result of the dry late summer and fall. Mottled Ducks are being discovered with increasing frequency, at least in part as a result of heightened observer awareness; a male and female were in *Henry*, TN 24–30 Sep (ph. MT, DMA et al.). There were fewer reports of scoters this fall, with only one report from Kentucky: 2 Surfs in *Kenton* 2 Nov (FR). Two Surfs and a Black were relatively early at Mud I., *Shelby* TN 15 Oct (JRW). Elsewhere in Tennessee, single Surfs were in *Henry* 6 Nov (MT) and *Lake* 25 Nov (MT, JRW, DMA); and a Black was at Center Hill L. 28 Oct, with 3 there 18 Nov (SJS). A Black Scoter at Boone L., *Sullivan* 22 Nov (RK) was the only ad. male scoter reported this season.

A **Yellow-billed Loon**, Tennessee's 5th and the Region's 6th, was in *Henry* 26 Nov (ph. JRW). At least 2 different Red-throated Loons were reported regularly in *Henry*, TN 13–26 Nov (JRW, MT); a Pacific Loon was there 6 Nov (MT) and another 19 & 26 Nov (MT, ph. JRW et al.). The only rare loon in Kentucky was a juv. Red-throated on the Ohio R. at Louisville 2–6 Nov (JBe, PB, E&JH). Single Red-necked Grebes, rare in the Region, were at Britton Ford, Big Sandy Unit, Tennessee N.W.R., *Benton*, TN 12 Nov (ph. JRW) and *Lake*, TN 21–25 Nov (MT, JRW, DMA, NaM). Eared Grebes returned to S. Holston L., *Sulli-*

**SA** The remnants of Hurricane *Katrina* brought an unprecedented number and diversity of pelagic and coastal birds to the Region 29 Aug–2 Sep. Certainly the assortment of species observed in the vicinity of Pickwick



This Band-rumped Storm Petrel was one of two found at Pickwick Lake, Hardin County, Tennessee in the wake of Hurricane *Katrina* 30 August 2005. Photograph by Joe Guinn.

Dam 30 Aug was among the most astonishing collections of avian rarities ever observed in the Region. The following waifs were documented there during and immediately after the storm's passage: **Band-rumped Storm-Petrel** (at least 2 on 30 Aug with one remaining 31 Aug [JRW, ph. MT, ph. JG, †JD et al.]); **Magnificent Frigatebird** (a female 30 Aug [ph. JRW, ph. MT, ph. JG, †JD et al.]); **South Polar Skua** (un-aged bird 30–31 Aug [ph. MT, †JD, †JRW, ph. JG et al.]); **Royal Tern** (ad. 2 Sep [†DS]); **Sooty Tern** (2 ads. 29 Aug; at least 3 ads. 30 Aug [ph. JRW et al.]); and **Black Skimmer** (ad. 30 Aug [ph. JRW, ph. MT et al.]).



This Black Skimmer was found on the Tennessee River in Chattanooga, Tennessee 2 September 2005, three days after Hurricane *Katrina* passed through the Region. Photograph by Kevin Calhoon.

*Katrina*-borne pelagic and coastal rarities reported elsewhere in the Region comprised 6 **Sooty Terns** including a juv. (ph. KC, RW, JH, DJ, JE et al.), 2 **Bridled Terns** (DJ, †KC et al.) and a **Black Skimmer** (ph. KC et al.) on the Tennessee R., *Hamilton*, TN 30 Aug; 3 storm-petrels in Kentucky—a **Band-rumped** at the Falls of the Ohio 31 Aug (vt. †BY, MWr, BP) and 2 barely able to fly at a fish hatchery in *Franklin* 31 Aug (ML), with parts of one retrieved the following day and confirmed to be **Band-rumped** (†BP); a **Greater Shearwater** found injured in Murfreesboro, *Rutherford*, TN 31 Aug (ph. DW; it subsequently died); a **Sooty Tern** at Old Hickory L., *Davidson*, TN 31 Aug (†CS); and an ad. **Royal Tern** feeding a juv. at Dacus Bar, *Mississippi R.*, *Shelby*, TN 1 Sep (ph. JRW).

The passage of the remnants of *Katrina* also resulted in the observation of many other birds that were either of coastal origin or grounded southbound migrants. These included a Least Tern at Pickwick Dam 29 Aug (JRW); 2 Black-necked Stilts, 4 American Avocets, a juv. **Long-tailed Jaeger** (†JD, BP, MG), at least 50 Laughing Gulls, and dozens of Forster's, Common, Caspian, and Black Terns in the vicinity of Pickwick Dam 30 Aug (m.ob.); 3 Least Terns at Chickamauga L., *Hamilton*, TN 30 Aug (KC, JH, DJ et al.); a molting juv. **Red Phalarope** on the Ohio R. at the mouth of the Licking R., *Campbell/Kenton*, KY 31 Aug (DB, ph. FR, ph. JD); and a number of widely scattered reports of Laughing Gulls, including a state-record flock of 10 at Freeman L., *Hardin*, KY 31 Aug (RH).

In all, if all records are accepted, Tennessee would tally two new species for its state list as a result of this storm.



This Greater Shearwater, representing one of very few inland records, was found with a broken leg in a church parking lot in Murfreesboro, Tennessee in the aftermath of Hurricane *Katrina* 31 August 2005. It survived for a while in captivity but died shortly after surgery to repair the broken leg. Photograph by Denise Weyer.



Among the assemblage of pelagic and coastal species detected on Pickwick Lake, Hardin County, Tennessee in the wake of Hurricane *Katrina*, this Sooty Tern was photographed 30 August 2005. Photograph by Jeff R. Wilson.

van, TN for the 12th consecutive year 23 Sep and peaked at 14 on 26 Oct (RK, WC, m.ob.).

## PELICANS THROUGH FALCONS

American White Pelicans passed through the w. part of the Region in spectacular numbers, with a high count of 4892 seen from Mud I., *Shelby*, TN 7 Oct (JRW). The imm. Brown Pelican first discovered on Chickamauga L., TN 11 Jul lingered through 10 Oct (*vide* KC).

Great Egrets lingered widely across Kentucky for a few weeks later than normal, with 7 still at the Falls of the Ohio, *Jefferson* 18 Nov (BE), one in *Woodford* 19 Nov (IH), and one in *Anderson* 21 Nov (BW, MB). One to 2 Tricolored Herons were in w. *Fulton*, KY 4–21 Aug (ph. DR, ph. RD, ph. JRW). Eight Cattle Egrets in *Russell*, KY 15 Nov (LC) were late.

White Ibis were fairly widely reported: an imm. in w. *Fulton*, KY 4 Aug (ph. DR); an imm. at Ballard W.M.A., *Ballard*, KY 9–13 Aug (ph. NR et al.); one to 5 at Rankin Bottoms, *Cocke*, TN 9–27 Aug (MS et al.); an imm. at Arrow L., *Maury*, TN 19 Aug (TE); one at Cove Lake S.P., *Campbell*, TN 19 Aug (NeM); and one in *Hamilton*, TN 24–26 Oct (HH). The only *Plegadis* ibis was a single flyby along the Mississippi R. in *Shelby*, TN 26 Sep (JRW). Two of the 5 Roseate Spoonbills in *Obion*, TN lingered through 2 Aug (CD, NaM); a juv. was in w. *Fulton*, KY 5 Aug (†DR).

A Swallow-tailed Kite was reported in *Rhea*, TN 17 Aug (EM *vide* DT). Three imm. Golden Eagles were reported, with one each from Mud I., *Shelby*, TN 22 Oct (JRW), Duck River Unit, Tennessee N.W.R., *Humphreys*, TN

11 Nov (MT, DMA), and *Trigg*, KY 12 Nov (BLi). There were fewer reports this fall than last of transient Peregrine Falcons and Merlins across the Region.

## RAILS THROUGH SKIMMER

Tennessee's and the Region's 2nd Clapper Rail—possibly related to *Katrina*—was found with a broken wing and leg in Chattanooga 23 Sep and later euthanized (ph. LAP, DV). Virginia Rails were present throughout the period at Standifer Gap Marsh, *Hamilton*, TN, with an exceptionally high count of 16 on 4 Nov (DP). An injured juv. Purple Gallinule was certainly out of place in a small cattail marsh in a hilly, relatively forested area near Sugarloaf Mt., *Rowan*, KY 18–25 Sep (ph. TB et al.).

Only 2 Piping Plovers were reported, both



Mottled Ducks have been detected with increasing frequency in the Tennessee & Kentucky Region, so two in Henry County, Tennessee (one here with a female Mallard at right; 25 September 2005) were not as surprising as they would have been just a few years ago. Photograph by Mike Todd.

along the Mississippi R.: one in Carlisle, KY 17 Aug (ph. SR) and the other in Lauderdale, TN 20 Aug (JRW). A Black-necked Stilt at Gallatin Steam Plant, Sumner, TN 8 Oct (CS, JL) represents one of a growing number of records in the Region away from the Mississippi R. American Avocets were detected in above-average numbers, with flocks of 2–15 reported from four Tennessee and two Kentucky counties 13 Aug–16 Sep; 6 at Duck River Unit, Tennessee N.W.R., Benton, TN 3 Nov (HH) were late. Upland Sandpipers, on the other hand, were barely detected, with one in w. Fulton, KY 5 Aug (DR) and 2 at Ensley 6 Aug (JRW). The only Marbled Godwit was at Jonathan Creek embayment of Kentucky L., Marshall, KY 25–26 Sep (ph. HC, ME). Following the flurry of Willet reports in mid-Jul, there was only one additional Kentucky record of 4 at Smithland Dam, Livingston 4 Aug (DR). Eleven Willets—including 8 at Hiwassee Wildlife Refuge, Rhea 20 Aug (JBa)—were reported from four locations in e. Tennessee, where this species is fairly rare. An exceptional count of 11 Red Knots was tallied at Dacus Bar, Mississippi R., Shelby, TN 13 Aug (JRW).

White-rumped Sandpipers are rare fall transients in the Region, so reports of singles at Ensley 3 Sep (JRW) and L. Barkley, Trigg, KY 16 Sep (DR) were noteworthy. It was an average year for Baird's and Buff-breasted Sandpipers, with small numbers reported throughout Aug and Sep, mostly from the w. part of the Region. A Long-billed Dowitcher in Pulaski, KY 30 Nov (ph. RD) established a new late date for Kentucky; 12 in Humphreys, TN 11 Nov (MT, DMA) were also unusually late. Only 4 Wilson's Phalaropes were reported in Tennessee, all from Shelby 5–20 Aug (JRW); one to 2 were reported at three Kentucky locales 13 Aug–15 Sep (m.ob.). A Red-necked Phalarope was in Henry, TN 4 Oct (KO, ph. MT, DMA).

Two Pomarine Jaegers put in appearances

during the season: a subad. over Ensley 23 Oct (†JRW) and an intermediate-morph juv. at Freeman L., Hardin, KY 3–7 Nov (RH, ph. DR et al.). There were certainly more Laughing Gulls in the Region this fall than have ever been recorded before. Most were drawn northward with the remnants of Hurricane Katrina, likely mixing with small numbers that would normally have been present on larger lakes and rivers. High counts of 12 total at three locales in w. Kentucky 27 Sep (DR) and 12 at Chicka-

mauga L., Hamilton, TN 1 Oct (KDE) suggested that some birds lingered in the Region well beyond the time of the storm's passage. Overall, one to 12 birds were reported on numerous occasions from eight widely scattered locations in Tennessee 31 Aug–8 Oct, and one to 10 birds were reported from 13 Kentucky locales 24 Aug–25 Oct. Unlike the previous two years, no large movement of Franklin's Gulls was detected; small numbers were reported regularly 30 Aug–21 Nov, mostly from the w. part of the Region, with the highest concentrations in early Nov, peaking with 26 in Henry, TN 6 Nov (MT). Two Little Gulls, an ad. (†JRW, m.ob.) and a first-year bird (ph. JRW, m.ob.) at Reelfoot L., Lake, TN 19 Nov+, added to the handful of records for the Region. A Bonaparte's Gull at Rankin Bottoms, Cocke, TN 1 Oct (RK et al.) was unusually early.

One to 2 ad. Lesser Black-backed Gulls were present on n. Kentucky L. and n. L. Barkley 21 Sep (DR)–13 Oct (BP et al.), with perhaps one of the same ads. on L. Barkley near Canton, Trigg 24 Nov (KB). In Tennessee, an ad. was present in Henry 16 Sep–30 Nov+



This juvenile intermediate-morph Pomarine Jaeger was present at Freeman Lake, Hardin County, Kentucky 3–7 (here 6) November 2005. Photograph by David Roemer.

(MT). Great Black-backed Gulls are very rare in the Region, so a first-year bird in Henry/Benton 13 Nov (JRW) was noteworthy. A Black Skimmer, possibly a holdover from

Katrina, was at Dacus Bar, Mississippi R., Shelby, TN 17 Sep (ph. JRW, K&LN).

## DOVES THROUGH THRUSHES

An Inca Dove reported in Hamilton, TN 28 Aug (†DMA, *vide* MT) would represent the state's 2nd if accepted. Only 3 Black-billed Cuckoos were reported: one each from Radnor 5 Sep (JS), Craven's House, Hamilton, TN 6 Sep (KC), and Jefferson, KY 9 Sep (BW). The earliest Short-eared Owl was at Sauerheber 22 Oct (DR et al.); one was at Dyer/Obion, TN 19 Nov (JRW). Netting efforts in Jefferson KY yielded 5 Northern Saw-whet Owls 10–17 Nov (MMn, BP et al.). In Tennessee, 3 immes banded on Big Bald Mt., Unicoi, TN in Sep (MH, KG) furnished the first evidence of breeding there. An imm. male Broad-tailed



This Clapper Rail, representing the second record for Tennessee, was found with a broken leg in Chattanooga 23 September 2005. It was later euthanized. Photograph by Louanne Parington.

Hummingbird, Tennessee's and the Region's 2nd, visited a feeder in Signal Mt., Hamilton, TN 24 Nov+ (DW, ph. CS, m.ob.).

Single Olive-sided Flycatchers were reported from four Kentucky and five Tennessee locations 7 Aug–25 Sep. Yellow-bellied Flycatchers were detected in above-average numbers in Tennessee, with five reports from four counties; in Kentucky, single Yellow-bellied were reported three times in Jefferson 3–17 Sep (m.ob.). Single Least Flycatchers in Hamilton, TN 25 Aug (DA) and 1 Sep (KC) were rare for se. Tennessee. A Say's Phoebe was at Reelfoot L., TN 29 Nov (MG). Scissor-tailed Flycatchers were not reported, apart from birds lingering near breeding locations in Livingston, KY until 16 Sep (DR) and Rutherford, TN through 13 Oct (LMc).

A very tardy Northern Rough-winged Swallow was observed in w. Fulton, KY 28 Nov (vt. BY, MWt). A modest flight of Red-breasted Nuthatches began to arrive in early Sep, with the earliest being one in Jefferson 4 Sep (BP); the species was relatively widespread in Kentucky by mid-Oct but was still



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largely absent from Tennessee. Marsh and Sedge Wrens were reported in good numbers across the Region. A *Townsend's Solitaire* at Seven Islands Refuge, *Knox*, TN 20 Nov (ph. DMo, LMo) represents a long-expected Regional first. A Hermit Thrush in *Bedford*, TN 23 Sep (MT) was unusually early.

**WARBLERS THROUGH FINCHES**

Unusually early migrant warblers included Orange-crowned in *Jefferson*, KY 11 Sep (JBe); Nashville at Louisville 23 Aug (JBe, PB et al.); Chestnut-sided in *Pulaski*, KY 22 Aug (RD); Magnolias at multiple sites in *Jefferson*, KY 23 Aug (JBe, PB et al.); Blackburnian at Louisville 21 Aug (BY, MWr); and Canada in *Pulaski*, KY 22 Aug (RD). Unusually late warblers included a Golden-winged in *Pulaski*, KY 15 Oct (RD, GC); Tennessees in *Hamilton*, TN 1 Nov (DA), at Shelby Bottoms, *Davidson*, TN 2 Nov (PC, FF), and in *Jefferson*, KY 6 Nov (BY, MWr); Nashville in *Knox*, TN 17 Nov (DMo); Black-throated Blue in *Pulaski*, KY 18 Oct (RD); and Prairie in *Lincoln*, KY 12 Nov (ph. RD et al.).

Golden-winged Warblers were reported in above-average numbers in *Hamilton*, TN (m.ob.). There were three reports of Blackpoll Warblers from relatively far w. in the Region: singles in *Henry*, TN 4 Oct (MT); *Franklin*, KY 15 Oct (b.; ph. AS); and *Pulaski*, KY 18 Oct (†RD); the last represented a new late departure date for Kentucky. Also noteworthy as relatively far w. for autumn was a Cape May in *Benton*, TN 16 Sep (MT). A female Black-throated Blue Warbler in Shelby Forest S.P., *Shelby*, TN 20 Oct (VR) was a rare find away from the e. mts. The only Connecticut Warbler was found at Mammoth Cave N.P., *Edmonson*, KY 16 Oct (JBe, PB et al.). Mourning Warblers were detected in typically low numbers.

A male Spotted Towhee was observed 27 Oct and 30 Nov (SR) at the same w. *McCracken*, KY location where it has been present the past two winters. Two Clay-colored Sparrows were reported in ne. *Jefferson*, KY 15 Oct (†MWm). The Region's first Black-throated Sparrow was discovered in *Lincoln*, TN 29 Nov+ (MWi, ph. JRW, m.ob.). Lingering or transient Henslow's Sparrows were at Sauerheber 22 Oct (DR et al.), Standifer Gap Marsh, *Hamilton*, TN 26 Oct (JE), and in *Pulaski* 30 Oct (ph. RD). Le Conte's Sparrows are rare in e. Tennessee, so one in *Greene* 9 Nov (DH) was noteworthy. It was a good fall for Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrows in Kentucky, with one to 6 observed in *Henderson*, *Jefferson*, *Nelson*, and *Ohio* 3-22 Oct; in Tennessee, the only report was of one at Hatchie N.W.R., *Haywood*, TN 12 Nov (JRW). Unusually early or possibly summering White-

throated Sparrows appeared in *Jefferson*, KY 6 & 12 Aug (BW).

A Bobolink lingered in *Jefferson*, KY 30 Oct (BP), a new late departure date for the state. A Brewer's Blackbird at Sauerheber 22 Oct (DR, BP) was rather early; 2 in sw. *Oldham* 6 Nov (MWm) were unusual for n.-cen. Kentucky. A small flight of Purple Finches moved into Kentucky starting in late Oct but was barely noticed in Tennessee. Only 5 Pine Siskins were reported from four widely scattered locations across the Region.

**Addendum:** A Clay-colored Sparrow near *Hardin*, *Marshall*, KY 5 Nov 2004 (†MI).

**Corrigendum:** From N.A.B. 59: 444, the report of 8 American White Pelicans at S. Holston L., *Sullivan*, TN was erroneous. One was at Fort Loudoun L., *Loudoun*, TN 21-27 Mar 2005 (MD).

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