



This juvenile White Ibis (right) was present at Lake No. 9, Fulton County, Kentucky 28 July 2007 and again 10 August (here). Photograph by Hap Chambers.

and at Ensley 11 Jul (JRW). Two ad. Sanderlings on the Mississippi R., *Carlisle*, KY 26 Jul (BPa) and 2 on the Mississippi R., *Shelby*, TN 28 Jul (JRW) were the earliest fall birds to be reported. An early Baird's Sandpiper was at Ensley 22 Jul (JRW). An ad. Long-billed Dowitcher in se. *Muhlenberg*, KY 5 Jul (†DR) represented a new early fall arrival date for Kentucky. Two Stilt Sandpipers at Upper Douglas L., *Sevier*, TN 16 Jul (MS) were early. An injured male Red-necked Phalarope in *Union*, KY 20 Jun (ph. BPa) represented the first for the state in Jun.

Two ad. or second-summer Laughing Gulls were present at Kentucky Dam 1 Jun (DR). A Herring Gull was still at Kentucky Dam 1 Jun (DR). Nesting Least Terns seemed to be doing relatively well during mid-breeding season, with 12-120 nests documented at four Mississippi R. sites in *Carlisle*, *Fulton*, and *Hickman*, KY 24-27 Jun (RR, JB et al.) and 3-19 nests documented at four sites on the lower Ohio R. in *Ballard* and *McCracken*, KY (JB, GB, BPa). A few pairs were on nests at an industrial pond at Calvert City, *Marshall*, KY in Jun (DSw), and up to six pairs were present on a small island in the Ohio R. below Lewisport, *Hancock*, KY in Jun (DA). The only report of a bird away from nesting areas was a juv. in *Muhlenberg*, KY 25 Jul (DR). Two Caspian Terns were still at Barkley Dam 1 Jun (DR); the earliest report of probable returning fall Caspians was of 2 in *Jefferson*, KY 1 Jul (BW, JS). Black Terns were on the Mississippi R., *Shelby*, TN 1 Jul (2) and 6 Jul (one; both JRW). A first-year Forster's Tern was still at Barkley Dam 1 Jun (DR); likely summering Forster's included one at *Hatchie N.W.R.*, *Haywood*, TN 16 Jun (BPu), a first-year bird on the Ohio R., *Livingston*, KY 26 Jun (JB, BPa, GB), and a first-year bird and an ad. on the Mississippi R., *Fulton*, KY 27 Jun (JB, RR et al.).

OWLS THROUGH WRENS

There were several reports of Barn Owls in Kentucky: one in *Pulaski* 5 Jun (RD); one from a family group in *Marshall* was turned into a raptor rehabilitator in early Jun (DF, *vide EW*); a family group in s. *Fleming* in mid-Jun (TG, *vide WM*); nesting birds in a chimney in *Nelson* in mid-Jun (BH, *vide EW*); and one in *Warren* 30 Jul (DR). A singing Chuck-will's-widow in *Elliott*, KY 13 Jul (EM) was unusual for ne. Kentucky. At least four pairs of Western Kingbirds nested in *Memphis*, TN in Jun (JRW). A Scissor-tailed Flycatcher nest with 4

young was observed in s. *Livingston*, KY 24 Jun (ph. HC); it is unclear if an imm. bird below Barkley Dam, *Lyon*, KY 22 Jul (KL, BL) was from that nearby *Livingston* nest site or one below the dam, as there were no other reports during the season from the latter locale. In Tennessee, at least five pairs nested, all in regular nesting locations in *Shelby*, *Bledsoe*, *Rutherford*, and *Marion*. Twenty-seven Least Flycatchers at *Roan Mt.*, *Carter*, TN 9 Jun was an unusually large number. A singing Bell's Vireo just nw. of *Sonora*, *Hardin*, KY 22 Jun (BPa, AS) was away from known breeding areas. Bell's Vireos at *Ensley* on 2 Jun (one) and 17 Jun (2 birds) apparently nested (JRW).

A Bank Swallow colony involving about 40 burrows was found at *Dayton*, *Campbell*, KY in early Jul (FR) for a new county breeding record. A count of 834+ in *Greene*, TN 21 Jul (DMi) was exceptional. Several Cliff Swallows at a bridge at *Tatum Springs*, *Washington*, KY 16 Jun (BPa) represented a new county breeding record. The singing Bewick's Wren found nw. of *Beechwood*, *Owen*, KY in late May lingered on territory through at least 6 Jun (BPa, AS, SV); another singing bird was reported just se. of *Buena Vista*, *Harrison*, KY 9 & 22-23 Jun (SM). Late Jul reports of likely breeding Sedge Wrens in Kentucky came from *Ballard* (BPa), *Fulton* (BPa), *Greenup* (RS, SF), *Jefferson* (BPa), and *Ohio* (DR). Two Marsh Wrens were at *Standifer Gap* 8 Jul (DP et al.).

THRUSHES THROUGH FINCHES

Up to 5 Hermit Thrushes, very rare breeders in the Region, were on *Roan Mt.*, *Carter*, TN

through the season (RK et al.); 2 were at *Unaka Mt.*, *Unicoi*, TN 14 Jun (RK, VF). Magnolia Warblers are very rare breeders in the Region, so 2 each at *Roan Mt.*, *Carter*, TN and *Unaka Mt.*, *Unicoi*, TN in mid-Jun (RK et al.) were noteworthy. Two Yellow-rumped Warblers, similarly rare breeders, were near *Mt. Kephart*, *Great Smoky Mountains N.P.*, *Sevier*, TN 6 Jun (THw). A singing Blackburnian Warbler near the crest of *Pine Mt.* just s. of *Shell Gap*, *Harlan*, KY 14 Jun (BPa) was away from known breeding areas of the higher mts. just to the southeast. At least one and possibly two Prothonotary Warbler nests at *Lewis County W.M.A.*, KY in early Jun (SF) represented a first breeding record for that county in ne. Kentucky; a nest in *Smith*, TN 3 Jun (KH) was also a first county record.

Territorial Savannah Sparrows were reported from *Fayette*, KY 1 Jun (BPa, SV) and ne. *Shelby*, KY 10 Jun (BSm). Four pairs were at three sites in *Washington*, TN through the season (RK); a Savannah Sparrow in *Greene*, TN 29 Jun-5 Jul (DMi) also suggested breeding. A new colony of at least 10 singing Henslow's Sparrows was reported just e. of *Touristville*, *Wayne*, KY in early Jul (ph. CO); 3 territorial birds were in *Marshall*, TN 3 Jun+ (DMO). The White-throated Sparrow that lingered at *Richmond*, *Madison*, KY into late May was last seen 1 Jun (THg). One in *Putnam*, TN 8-20



This male Red-necked Phalarope in *Union County*, Kentucky 20 June 2007 had an injured leg. It represents a first June record for the state. Photograph by *Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.*

Jul (SJS, BHS) represents the 2nd summer record for the county. Following the unprecedented spring showing of Rose-breasted Grosbeaks at feeders across the Region, a female was present in a yard in n. *Woodford*, KY 3-5 Jun (JL); and a pair was present in a yard at *Covington*, *Kenton*, KY at least into mid-Jun (MAB, *vide LM*).

There were several reports of breeding Bobolinks in Kentucky: birds nw. of *Harrodsburg*, *Mercer* continued into Jun (GD et al.); one to 2 singing males in ne. *Shelby* 10 Jun (BSm); a small colony of at least 6 males and

4 females in *Woodford* 18 Jun (ph. JL); 5 territorial birds just n. of Winchester, *Clark* 26 Jun (JSm); and several territorial birds in ne. *Bourbon* 16 Jul (SM, RB). Two pairs were in *Washington, TN* through the season (DH, RK); 3 juvs. seen there 23 Jul (RK) furnished the state's 2nd breeding record.

Corrigenda: The Mottled Duck at Dutch Bottoms, Douglas L., TN Sep 2006 was seen in *Jefferson* and *Cocke*, not *Sevier* as reported. It represents the 2nd accepted record for the state.

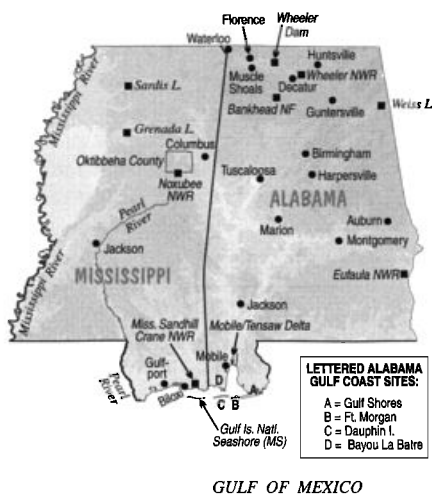
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Abbreviations: Noxubee (Noxubee N.W.R., *Oktibbeha/Winston, MS*); Swan Creek (Swan Creek W.M.A., *Limestone, AL*)

WATERFOWL THROUGH STORKS

Four Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks were found 15 Jul near Inverness in *Sunflower, MS* (SJD). Two calling Pied-billed Grebes made a nice surprise 7 Jul at Swan Creek, where the species is an uncommon breeder (SWM). The

(J&MP). Summering American White Pelicans are rarely found inland in Alabama, making the 24 in *Hale, AL* 15 Jul quite noteworthy (GJH). The long-staying individual at the mouth of Town Cr., *Colbert/Lawrence, AL* continued for a 3rd year (m.ob.). Three Neotropic Cormorants (2 ads., one imm.) at Dutch Brake, *Sunflower* 15 Jul were rare for Mississippi (SJD). Repeated observations of Anhinga throughout the season in e.-cen



Up to 14 Wood Storks visited a small pond in Muscle Shoals, Colbert County, Alabama in late June 2007 (here with small fish on 29 June). The species is only an occasional visitor to the Tennessee Valley region of northern Alabama. Photograph by Jerry D. Green.

Steven W. McConnell

The number of observer reports from across our Region this season seemed to be fewer than in recent years. Two reasons for this downturn were likely the completion of the Alabama Breeding Bird Atlas field work during 2006 and the continuing very warm and dry weather pattern. Many locations did receive some temporary relief during July, when rainfall exceeded normal totals and the mercury averaged slightly below typical. No tropical cyclones threatened the Region this season. Highlights from this breeding season included the discovery of the Region's first Cedar Waxwing nest and a Bell's Vireo captured in Mississippi. A pair of inland Gull-billed Terns in Alabama was more difficult to explain.

alternate-plumaged Horned Grebe in Bayou Heron n. of Dauphin I., *Mobile, AL* 16 Jun-7 Jul provided a very unusual summer record

Mississippi, including a nest with 3 young 13 Jul at Noxubee, provided evidence of rarely detected breeding (TLS).