





CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT 1971	COAST						COASTAL PLAIN						PIEDMONT						MTN.												
	Bole- Pea Island, N.C. 30 December	Morohead City, N.C. 26 December	Wilmington, N.C. 18 December	Southport, N.C. 19 December	Hitchfield-Pawley's Is., S.C. 29 December	Charleston, S.C. 2 January	Hilton Head Island, S.C. 29 December	Beaufort Co., N.C. 2 January	Pamlico Co., N.C. 26 December	Rocky Mount, N.C. 1 January	Southern Pines, N.C. 23 December	Dillon, S.C. 28 December	Columbia, S.C. 27 December	Aiken, S.C. 26 December	Roanoke Rapids, N.C. 31 December	Henderson, N.C. 30 December	Raleigh, N.C. 1 January	Chapel Hill, N.C. 2 January		Greensboro, N.C. 1 January	Winston- Salem, N.C. 2 January	Stanly Co., N.C. 1 January	Charlotte, N.C. 31 December	Erkin-Ronda, N.C. 26 December	North Wilkesboro, N.C. 28 December	Caldwell Co., N.C. 30 December	Yancey- McDowell Co., N.C. 18 December	Bancombe Co., N.C. 31 December	Great Smoky Mtn., Natl. Park, 28 December		
Killdeer	7	30	67	11	—	5	49	30	6	5	10	—	22	2	65	—	43	11	68	1	45	44	—	—	—	2	16	7			
Bl.-bellied Plover	432	70	97	95	34	37	133	133	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Ruddy Turnstone	4	32	15	34	7	33	65	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Gm. Crows	1	—	1	4	1	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Am. Crows	225	20	1	14	25	26	2	13	3	3	6	2	—	—	4	—	4	13	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Common Snipe	225	20	1	14	25	26	2	13	3	3	6	2	—	—	4	—	4	13	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Whimbrel	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Spotted Sandpiper	16	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Willow Pt.	4	1	108	25	26	56	97	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Greater Yellowlegs	47	8	15	14	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Lesser Yellowlegs	22	6	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Knot	36	6	—	1	3	10	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Purple Sandpiper	4	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Least Sandpiper	16	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Dunlin	3,600	2,008	811	715	19	253	693	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Short-billed Dow.	505	229	133	133	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Long-billed Dow.	41	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Dowitcher (sp.?)	605	32	—	—	—	—	560	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Semip. Sandpiper	388	116	70	166	14	—	22	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Western Sandpiper	253	10	4	3	2	20	100	94	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Marbled Godwit	435	3	57	14	—	—	435	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Sandwich Sparrow	4,500	75	—	25	13	11	283	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Winter Wren	67	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Pumaline Jaeger	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Parasitic Jaeger	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Gr. Br.-backed Gull	1,233	70	29	7	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Herring Gull	1,800	5,950	1,568	570	45	240	330	18	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Ring-billed Gull	8471	1,650	2,417	1,532	330	33	290	757	52	293	2	8	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Laughing Gull	146	17	20	51	11	—	46	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Bonaparte's Gull	215	5	3	179	9	4	2	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Little Gull	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Bl.-legged Kittiwake	33	31	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Forster's Tern	1,129	743	3	261	50	4	3	63	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Common Tern	46	9	—	—	1	11	23	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Least Tern	3	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Individual  
Totals





Br.-hd. Cowbird	113,802	4	48	84	43	13	12	263	1	41	21	25	220	700	85	7	75	30	70,438	2	286	41,500	25	2	32	102	141	88		
Cardinal	501	55	12	114	118	225	116	225	118	41	11	99	23	90	71	45	38	264	288	282	427	433	106	31	2	32	102	141	88	
Evening Grosbeak	190	97	13	20	16	16	16	16	16	12	16	31	22	22	6	130	105	250	68	239	78	120	36	14	14	326	148	66		
House Finch	2987	47	13	38	8	15	18	26	30	3	120	139	*	3	17	57	30	161	324	266	439	160	8	46	39	236	235	250		
House Sparrow	32										14																			
Pine Siskin	1124	159	*	5	4						175	175				53	1	78	79	4	2	54				6	47	27	425	
Am. Goldfinch	2664	31	50	33	34	7	225	58	9	19	16	231	15	53	82	76	36	327	242	183	398	160	45		3	38	105	100		
Red Crossbill	177	5																												
Ruf.-sided Towhee	1807	80	61	77	77	13	227	73	44	11	5	71	18	47	77	23	17	232	141	76	71	122	99	25	5	26	16	28	45	
Ipwich Sparrow	1424	3																												
Savannah Sparrow	1424	152	102	80	85	12	15	66	16	7	40	58	2	506	6	69		73	75	1		16					40	3		
Grasshopper Sp.	28																													
Henslow & Sparrow	2																													
Sharp-tailed Sp.	84	26	*	10	27	6	10	5																						
Seaside Sparrow	127	14	1	16	77	3	8	8																						
Vesper Sparrow	196																													
Bachman's Sparrow	5																													
State-colored Junco	7186																													
Tire Sparrow	559	6	31	124	44	11	9	69	22																					
King Sparrow	2672	13	10	43	34	2	50	11	103	10	36	123	12	25	89	48	16	531	168	81	379	302	1			1				
White-cr. Sparrow	66																													
White-th. Sparrow	7361	84	61	254	75	12	115	264	124	4	61	192	19	219	141	704	144	1215	911	364	607	313	119	216	12	103	239	247	542	
Fox Sparrow	286	21	1	18	6	*	47	5	7	*	4	45	2	11	6		8	79									11	2	3	*
Swamp Sparrow	782	135	3	82	89	5	70	8	6	6		27	2	2	7	20		108	178	5	*	11	1	3		5	14	3	*	
Song Sparrow	3685	135	11	112	99	13	51	52	18	6	1	100	14	37	132	221	14	697	663	50	436	85	11	5	7	140	312	212		
Lapland Longspur	1																													
Snow Bunting	2																													
<b>Total No. Species</b>	222	154	123	161	142	115	148	147	94	57	73	86	53	66	72	89	43	86	77	81	75	84	82	59	28	40	70	64	57	
<b>Total No. Ind.</b>	3,394,871	**	56,008	19,912	16,026	9,289	3,003	13,566	14,681	4,031	1,272	2,869	4,950	881	5,475	3,612	4,890	2,267	11,526	8,077	1,010,027	7,970	6,113	2,163,632	1,758	829	1,356	4,683	6,478	9,710
Field Observers	417	22	8	25	13	10	27	41	13	3	5	6	2	8	7	4	9	25	16	32	22	16	26	10	1	12	11	15	28	
Yard Observers	90	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	5	2	0	2	2	0	3	0	1	0	34	2	6	0	14	1	5	1	
Field Parties	159	8	4	10	6	3	8	13	5	1	2	4	1	4	3	2	1	10	10	8	10	6	10	3	1	4	4	5	13	
Party-hours	1465	83	33	110.5	51	26	62	108	41	10	24	48	10	27	31	22	9	78	57	60	81	77	50	87	9	32	85.5	59	94	
Party-miles	5623	279	125	373	193	140	257	460	146	80	172	248	48	146	289	170		187	148	262	388	193	205	76	15	24	226	376	397	

\*\*Seen in count area during count period but not on count day

\*\*\*Includes 740 "peep" sandpipers not listed in table

# CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT—1971

ELOISE F. POTTER

When CBC Christmas Bird Count observers tallied 215 species in 1965, someone who enjoys speculating about such things predicted that with good coverage as many as 230 species could be found in the Carolinas during a single count period. No one disagreed with the gentleman, but I seriously doubt anyone present expected to see his pipe dream come true. It hasn't yet, but the 1971 count comes very close with the record-breaking total of 222 species seen on count days plus three species seen in count areas during the count period.

Wilmington listed 161 species this year, followed by Bodie-Pea Island (154), Charleston (148), Hilton Head (147), and Southport (142). Greensboro and Charlotte with their blackbird roosts numbered over one and two million birds respectively, bringing the total individuals for all 28 count areas to about 3,400,000, less than half the number counted in 1960 when the huge roost was at Clemson.

Success of the 1971 Christmas count can be attributed to several factors: excellent coverage, a large number of capable observers working in small field parties adequately supplied with scopes, and the generally pleasant weather conditions that prevailed during the count period. Coverage was improved by the addition of four ecologically varied count areas. Southport and Litchfield-Pawley's Island fill the coastal gap that formerly existed between Wilmington and Charleston. At Roanoke Rapids four young people in two field parties and two yard observers found 89 species, only seven short of the record piedmont total set at Raleigh in 1966. Mount Mitchell (6,684 feet) is in the Yancey-McDowell count circle. Unfortunately cold temperatures (4 to 41 F) and high winds (gusts to 40 mph) kept the participants from finding many birds at the higher elevations, but the list of 70 species is remarkably good for the mountains in winter. Greensboro, Winston-Salem, and the Great Smoky Mountains also had unfavorable weather; thus 24 of the 28 count areas had moderately good to excellent field conditions with temperatures ranging at most places from well above freezing upward into the 60s or 70s with Dillon reporting a high of 80 F for the count day.

Comparison of the present count table with those of recent years indicates several bird population trends. 1) Red-tailed Hawks seem to be increasing while the Red-shouldered Hawks are decreasing. 2) Wintering Great Black-backed Gulls continue to increase in the Carolinas. 3) Golden-crowned Kinglets tend to be more abundant in relation to the number of Ruby-crowns in major northern finch invasion winters than in the off years. 4) More Evening Grosbeaks than ever before are in North and South Carolina this winter, but the unusually mild weather has made them slow to begin visiting feeders in large numbers. 5) Red-breasted Nuthatches, usually relatively abundant in major northern finch winters, are scarce this year with only 46 reported from 14 of 28 count localities compared to 417 from 25 of 28 localities in 1969. 6) House Finches are again present in the Carolinas, but they were reported from no new communities during the count period.

Through 1970 the all-time CBC Christmas Bird Count list included 264 species, only two of these having been seen in the count period but not on a count day. The 1971 census adds seven species: Ross' Goose (Bodie-Pea Island), Golden Eagle (Charleston), Pomarine Jaeger (Bodie-Pea Island), Little Gull (Bodie-Pea Island), Blackpoll Warbler (Charleston), Orchard Oriole (Beaufort County, N. C.), and Lapland Longspur (Bodie-Pea Island). Thus far Pea Island NWR is the only place on the entire Atlantic seaboard that Ross' Goose has been reported, though the species occurs regularly in the Mississippi Valley. The Little Gull represents the second sight record for North Carolina, the first of the species having been found last winter by J. Merrill Lynch (see General Field Notes in this issue). The Blackpoll Warbler appears to be the first recorded winter visitor for the Carolinas. Details regarding these and other sightings of particular interest follow in the Compilers' Comments.

CBC CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT STATISTICS

	1971*	1937-1970
Total number species	222	217 (1970)
Total number individuals	3,394,871	7,636,868 (1960)
Number count areas	28	29 (1966)
Total number observers	507	458 (1970)
Field parties	159	154 (1966)
Party-hours	1,465	1,098 (1966)
Party-miles	5,623	4,927 (1966)
Highest number species:		
Coast	Wilmington, 161	Wilmington, 164 (1961)
Coastal Plain	Beaufort Co., 94	New Bern, 95 (1966)
Piedmont	Roanoke Rapids, 89	Raleigh, 96 (1968)
Mountain	Yancey-McDowell, 70	Great Smoky Mt., 71 (1965)
Highest number individuals	Charlotte, 2,163,632	Clemson, 5,504,288 (1960)

\*Does not include late report from Greenville, S. C.

COMPILERS' COMMENTS

COAST

BODIE-PEA ISLAND, N. C. (center: 2.7 miles SSE of Bodie Island Lighthouse).

30 December. The four *Red-necked Grebes* were seen on the water at 100 and 150 yards in good light with 25X and 30X scopes by observers familiar with the species, P. A. DuMont, P.G. DuMont, Earrand, and Kennedy. The birds were not in a flock; two together and a single bird were on Bodie Island while the fourth was on Pea Island. One grebe carefully studied in flight had stocky body, long gray neck, stout bill, and conspicuous white cheek. Immature Brown Pelican was flying along ocean 31 December (Carter, H. and E. LeGrand). R. H. Peake saw the immature *Great Cormorant* at about 100 yards as it flew parallel to shore on Bodie Island; slow wing beat and white belly were carefully noted. This is second sight record for North Carolina in as many years. Both *Yellow-crowned Night Herons* (C. L. and S. M. Gifford) were adults on Bodie Island. *Ross' Goose* was studied at 75 yards with 30X scope as it fed in field with Canada and Snow Geese on Pea Island. The bird was an adult in immaculate plumage; small size and stubby bill without grinning patch were noted. The right foot was deformed indicating that it is probably the same individual first reported by Buckley (*Auk*, 86:551) and seen off and on over the past several years. This winter it has been present since mid-December according to Refuge Manager John Williamson. *Common Teal* male was in North Pond on Pea Island 31 December (Carter, H. and E. LeGrand). *Long-billed Dowitchers* (E. LeGrand, both DuMonts) gave single call note when flushed, and several had extremely long bills. Number of *Sanderlings* (4,500) is extremely high for season. Immature *Pomarine Jaeger* (Paul DuMont) was ½ mile offshore at Pea Island. White wing patches, mottled under parts, chunky body, and method of flight were studied through scope. Observer is familiar with this and other jaeger species. *Parasitic Jaeger* (Sykes) was in light phase with a slender body and white wing patches. It was about the same size as the several Ring-billed Gulls it chased at Pea Island. The 1,233 *Great Black-backed Gulls*



are probably the most ever recorded in North Carolina. The *Little Gull* (Ake, Sonneborn) was seen at close range from the U. S. Coast Guard Patrol Boat. Small size and rounded wings were noted by observers familiar with species. Three parties saw *Black-legged Kittiwakes*, 7 being sighted from land and 24 from the boat. This is the second year in a row that kittiwakes have been found in the count area, indicating the species may well winter regularly off the North Carolina coast in some numbers. *Saw-whet Owl* (Ake, Sonneborn) was in a building at the U. S. Coast Guard Station at Oregon Inlet on the northern tip of Pea Island. *Red Crossbills* (R. H. Peake) were seen and heard flying overhead on Bodie Island. Peake saw the *Lapland Longspur* on ocean dunes on Bodie Island for about half a minute; black slightly notched tail with white outer rectrices, rusty nape, and facial markings noted. The compiler appreciates the cooperation of U. S. Coast Guard personnel who allowed a count party to accompany them on the patrol boat. This added greatly to the success of the census.—PAUL W. SYKES JR., P. O. Box 2077, Delray Beach, Florida 33444.

[Recently published evidence that Ross' Geese interbreed with Lesser Snow Geese (Trauger et al., *Auk*, 88:856-875, 1971) caused some concern that the Pea Island bird might be a hybrid. Several zoology students who are aware of the hybridization problem studied the bird carefully after the count day and are convinced that this individual is indeed a Ross' Goose. They are preparing a field note for *Chat* detailing their observations.—ED.]

MOREHEAD CITY, N. C. (center: 0.7 mile NW of Crab Point in Newport River).

26 December. Increase in number of shorebirds is due to first Christmas Count coverage of Bird Shoal and Carrot Island just south of Beaufort. Bird Shoal is the roosting place for gulls and shorebirds as well as the carefully estimated 3,000 *Double-crested Cormorants*. Accuracy of the count-day estimate of 70 *Piping Plovers* was confirmed by careful study at Bird Shoal on 8 January. The number of Piping Plovers has been rather high at this location all fall with some increase after Thanksgiving. Both Semipalmated and Piping Plovers are rare elsewhere in the count circle in winter (Christmas to March). Eugene Pond reported three *Glossy Ibis* at Huntley's Impoundment regularly from late November to end of count period. The compiler saw the species there and elsewhere from 28 November through 9 January. These are the first winter records for area. The immature *Bald Eagle* (JF III) was sighted over Crab Point 1 January while it was being chased by Fish Crows. This is assumed to be the same individual Pond saw at Huntley's Impoundment 6 January. Over 500 *Laughing Gulls* were in count area on 19 December, but they left between 19 and 22 December in spite of warm weather, becoming very rare by 2 January. *Caspian Tern* at Huntley's Impoundment 2 January (JF III) was 3 to 4 weeks late, suggesting the possibility of wintering here.—JOHN O. FUSSELL III, Box 520, Morehead City, N. C.

WILMINGTON, N. C. (center: Myrtle Grove Junction)

18 December. *Black-legged Kittiwake* was seen by Frances Needham from a boat approximately 2 miles off Masonboro Beach with a flock of gulls. Harry Latimer III saw the *Swainson's Thrush* at Echo Farm; eye-ring seen distinctly in excellent light. Some other sightings unusual for the area at this season included *Whistling Swan* (Parnell), *Pigeon Hawk* (Carter), *Sandwich Tern* (Needham, Parnell), and *Eastern Kingbird* (Latimer).—FRANCES B. NEEDHAM, P. O. Box 204, Wrightsville Beach, N. C. 28480.

SOUTHPORT, N. C. (center: 33 deg. 54' N, 78 deg. 03' W).

19 December. *Least Bittern* was seen by Harry LeGrand—JAMES F. PARNELL, Route 3, Box 303F Wilmington, N. C. 28401.

LITCHFIELD-PAWLEY'S ISLAND, S. C. (center: entrance to North Litchfield Beach at US 17).

29 December. *Peregrine Falcon* (J. and M. Harrison) was wearing jesses and bells; compiler has seen one in area twice this fall. *Least Terns* (R. Probst) were feeding along

shore at Pawley's Island; observer knows species well, having raised one from downy to adult. *Short-eared Owl* (Clyde, Dabbs, McLean) flew in front of car and alighted to permit careful study. *Snow Buntings* (both Harrisons, F. Probst) at Murrell's Inlet were seen at close range through 40X scopes for about 30 minutes; all field marks checked.--FREDERICK PROBST, P. O. Box 386, Pawley's Island, S. C. 29585.

CHARLESTON, S. C. (center: 14 miles NE of Mt. Pleasant and ½ mile E of Hwy 17).

2 January. The *Golden Eagle* was an adult. This is an unusually late date for the *Blackpoll Warbler* in our area. The bird was in fall plumage, and M. T. Coleman studied it in good light at close range with an 8X50 binocular. Pine Warblers were in the immediate vicinity.--JULIAN R. HARRISON, Biology Department, College of Charleston, Charleston, S. C. 29401.

[The Blackpoll Warbler at Charleston appears to be the first winter record for the Carolinas. *South Carolina Bird Life* (1970) gives 14 November as the late date for fall migrants. In North Carolina a published record for November (Wingate and Baird, *Bird-Banding*, 36:192, 1965) comes from a bird captured on Bermuda in connection with a special study of Blackpoll migration. Banded as a juvenile on 11 October 1962, the warbler was found at Pembroke, N. C., in a decomposed condition in November 1963 (Wingate, pers. com.). Attempts to locate the lady who reported the band number to the Wildlife Protector have been unsuccessful, leaving the exact circumstances of the recovery in doubt. Apparently most Blackpolls migrate in fall directly across the western north Atlantic from New England and the middle Atlantic states to South America, thus by-passing the southeastern United States.--ED.]

HILTON HEAD ISLAND, S. C. (center: Spanish Wells Landing).

29 December. Caroline Newhall flushed the *Whip-poor-will* from a road at 5:35 AM. Davenport, McCaskey, and Newhall watched the *Common Merganser* fishing in a slough for several minutes. Orion and Alicia Hack and Alva Hines saw the *Barn Swallow*. Mature Bald Eagle was seen by Ann Dow; Grant and Elizabeth Simmons had sighted it earlier in count period.--ROBERT F. WHITNEY, Hilton Head, S. C. 29928.

#### COASTAL PLAIN

BEAUFORT COUNTY, N. C. (center: where Upper Goose Creek enters Pamlico River).

2 January. *Barn Swallows* (Ken Seal) were sitting on a wire. *Wood Thrush* (Seal) was followed until all field marks could be seen. *Ovenbirds* (Seal) nested in a large planned brush pile near feeders and have remained in area since then. *Orchard Oriole* has visited Hugh Sterling's feeder for past month. It accompanies Baltimore Orioles but feeds apart from them. Identity confirmed by Ethel Barkley; bird has black throat of young male. *Osprey* and *Black-and-white Warbler* really aren't unusual here any more in winter.--GERALDINE COX, Route 1, Box 115, Merritt, N. C. 28556.

PAMLICO COUNTY, N. C. (center: in Florence at intersection of 1324 and 1329).

26 December.--MARVIN TURNAGE, Route 1, Box 25, Bayboro, N. C. 28515.

ROCKY MOUNT, N. C. (center: Battleboro).

1 January. *House Finches* are routine, being present for third consecutive winter. Evening Grosbeaks are back but as yet not in large numbers.--JOHN L. THOMPSON, 500 Evergreen Road, Rocky Mount, N. C. 27801.

SOUTHERN PINES, N. C. (center: 3 miles NE of Southern Pines at Niagara).

23 December. Adult *Whistling Swans* (JHC) are first December record for area. *House Wren* (H. LeGrand) is second local winter record. *Spotted Sandpiper* (Mrs. Laurence Davis) has been present at Whispering Pines much of December.--J. H. CARTER III, P. O. Box 891, Southern Pines, N. C. 28387.

DILLON, S. C. (center: Dillon).

28 December.--JOHN H. WILSON, Box 535, Dillon, S. C. 29536.

COLUMBIA, S. C. (center: intersection of Gill Creek and Bluff Road).

27 December. The unusual record was the absence of a number of species that should have been seen. Ducks were missing from several ponds where they have been in the past. Evening Grosbeaks are earlier than usual.--GILBERT BRISTOW, 2921 Blossom Street, Columbia, S. C. 29205.

AIKEN, S. C. (center: Couchton).

26 December. *Cattle Egrets* (Cooper, Zippler) were in a pasture adjacent to South Edisto River. One bird was perched on the back of a cow. Roosts formerly occupied by Robins, Starlings, Red-winged Blackbirds, and Brown-headed Cowbirds were almost deserted.--GERALD E. KNIGHTON, 304 Kirby Drive, North Augusta, S. C. 29841.

#### PIEDMONT

ROANOKE RAPIDS, N. C. (center: intersection of Seaboard Coastline RR tracks and Weldon city limits to include portions of Roanoke Rapids Lake, Roanoke River, Occoneechee Neck, Roanoke Rapids, Weldon, and Halifax).

31 December. This is a new count. Six observers found 89 species, and all the good spots were not visited for lack of time. Several other competent observers might boost our total to 100 species. The *Common Egret* (Lynch, Marsh) had been at a farm pond all month; first winter record for area. The 114 *Black Vultures* were counted as they left a roost in two flocks numbering 70 and 44 birds (Lynch, Marsh). The roost is located in a large swamp along the Roanoke River. The unusually large concentration of 66 *Common Snipe* was in the marshy borders of a single farm pond in Occoneechee Neck (Lynch, Marsh). Usually no more than 15 are found during winter in count area. The *Orange-crowned Warbler* was at Roanoke Rapids foraging in a water oak on 23 December.--J. MERRILL LYNCH, 539 Henry Street, Roanoke Rapids, N. C. 27870.

HENDERSON, N. C. (center: Henderson).

29 December. *House Finch* present for third consecutive winter.--Mr. and Mrs. A. W. BACHMAN, 111 Jeannette Avenue, Henderson, N. C. 27536.

RALEIGH, N. C. (center: Norfolk Southern RR and Lake Wheeler Road intersection).

1 January. Male *Red-breasted Merganser* (Collier, Hader, Marsh) was at Lake Benson. Four *House Wrens* (three parties) represent a good count for this late in the season. *Red-tailed Hawks* appear to be replacing the *Red-shouldered* in this area.--HARRY E. LeGRAND JR., 331 Yadkin Drive, Raleigh, N. C. 27609.

CHAPEL HILL, N. C. (center: intersection of Franklin and Columbia Streets).

2 January. Tallies of American Woodcocks, Water Pipits, Evening Grosbeaks, and Savannah Sparrows are double or more the highest in the previous 10 counts. Although there have been occasional winter records in recent years, our count of 9 *Yellowthroats* (3 parties) was unprecedented.--JAMES O. PULLMAN, Route 6, Box 149, Chapel Hill, N. C. 27514.

GREENSBORO, N. C. (center: Radio Station WBIG transmitter).

1 January. The Allens and Benjamin Lambeth estimated a million Starlings, Red-winged Blackbirds, Common Grackles, and Brown-headed Cowbirds entered a roost in the count area between 4:30 and 5:30 PM on the count day.--DONALD ALLEN, 2611 David Caldwell Drive, Greensboro, N. C. 27408.

WINSTON-SALEM, N. C. (center: intersection Silas Creek Pkwy and I-40).

2 January. *Tree Sparrow* (J. Shiffert) was studied carefully with Field Sparrows for comparison.--C. ROYCE HOUGH, 713 Lankashire Road, Winston-Salem, N. C. 27106.

STANLY COUNTY, N. C. (center: about 2 miles NW of Badin).

1 January. *Bald Eagle* was sighted by four people including Joe Ferrebee; bird had been in area since first week in December. The Goforths have been hearing the *Saw-whet Owl* in the Girl Scout area. Our 84 species are an all-time high for count area!--VIVIAN M. WHITLOCK, Box 219, Albemarle, N. C. 28001.

[The Saw-whet calling record is acceptable only because it does not change the known range of the species for the season of the year. On many occasions these owls and spring peepers can, according to Marcus B. Simpson Jr., sound confusingly alike.--ED.]

CHARLOTTE, N. C. (center: intersection of South Boulevard and Woodlawn Road).

31 December. Female *House Finch* has been present at Norwood feeder since 19 November. Sayward estimated the population of the Starling and blackbird roost at 2,160,000 birds. He found the *Brewer's Blackbirds* among the outbound flight from the roost on count morning. Familiar with the species from numerous trips to western states, he had good views of two individuals in his yard later in the day. Elizabeth Clarkson also noted *Brewer's Blackbirds* during the count period. Highest Christmas count in 29 years.--JOE AND BECKY NORWOOD, 1329 Goodwin Avenue, Charlotte, N. C. 28205.

GREENVILLE, S. C. (center: Hwy 29-291).

1 January. Weather cloudy and cold with sleet, wind 5 mph. Twelve observers in 3 parties; 27 party-hours; 70 party-miles. Total species, 47; total individuals, 4,017. [This report was received 27 January 1972, the day after Christmas count copy was taken to the typesetter.--ED.]

SPECIES: 1 Pied-billed Grebe, 7 Mallard, 15 Turkey Vulture, 2 Red-tailed Hawk, 1 Marsh Hawk, 2 Sparrow Hawk, 21 American Coot, 3 Killdeer, 42 Rock Dove, 9 Mourning Dove, 1 Belted Kingfisher, 5 Yellow-shafted Flicker, 2 Red-bellied Woodpecker, 1 Red-headed Woodpecker, 2 Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 1 Hairy Woodpecker, 5 Downy Woodpecker, 4 Eastern Phoebe, 4 Horned Lark, 60 Blue Jay, 56 Common Crow, 17 Carolina Chickadee, 11 Tufted Titmouse, 2 Brown-headed Nuthatch, 3 Brown Creeper, 6 Carolina Wren, 27 Mockingbird, 3 Brown Thrasher, 5 Robin, 4 Eastern Bluebird, 3 Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 60 Cedar Waxwing, 3 Loggerhead Shrike, 2,200 Starling, 1 Myrtle Warbler, 19 House Sparrow, 80 Eastern Meadowlark, 500 Red-winged Blackbird, 530 Common Grackle, 28 Cardinal, 5 Purple Finch, 32 American Goldfinch, 18 Rufous-sided Towhee, 170 Slate-colored Junco, 16 Field Sparrow, 25 White-throated Sparrow, 5 Song Sparrow.

OBSERVERS: Wilma Abrams, Mollie Cooper, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Daily (Junction City, Kansas), Ruth Gilreath, Gladys Hart, Lillie Hart, Rosa Lee Hart, Arnette Howell, John Howell, Martha Lawrence, May Puett.--ROSA LEE HART, Route 1, Travelers Rest, S.C. 29690.

ELKIN-RONDA, N. C. (center: 3 miles N of Elkin on US 21).

26 December. *Common Snipe* (J. Tysinger, Masten, Smith) is second Christmas sighting in 22 years.--LIN HENDREN, Box 148, Elkin, N. C. 28621.

NORTH WILKESBORO, N. C. (center: North Wilkesboro).

28 December. Scarcity of *Tufted Titmice* has no obvious cause. Last fall they seemed more common than usual, and on previous counts they have always been more numerous than Carolina Chickadees. I was surprised at the number of *Red-winged Blackbirds* on or close to the corn acreage used for feeding pigs. It contained a stand of great ragweed, the seeds of which blackbirds apparently eat with avidity.--WENDELL P. SMITH, 911 E Street, North Wilkesboro, N. C. 28659.

CALDWELL COUNTY, N. C. (center: Lenoir).

30 December.--HELEN MYERS, 310 Beall Street, Lenoir, N. C. 28645.

## MOUNTAIN

YANCEY-McDOWELL COUNTIES, N. C. (center: 2.3 miles S of Buck Creek Gap on NC 80).

18 December. This is a new count area with elevations ranging from 1,223 to 6,684 feet. High winds and a temperature range from 4 to 9 F made birding on Mt. Mitchell unbearable. Only two species and six individuals were observed there—4 Ravens and 2 Slate-colored Juncos.—ROBERT C. RUIZ, 300 Wilson Avenue, Swannanoa, N. C. 28778.

BUNCOMBE COUNTY, N. C. (center: 300 Wilson Avenue, Swannanoa).

31 December. *Common Snipe* (Penford) was again found at Warren Wilson College. Large increase seen in the bluebird population in the mountains. Eight *White-crowned Sparrows* including both adults and young of year, were near Juvenile Evaluation Center, Swannanoa (Holland, S. Merrick, RCR).—ROBERT C. RUIZ, 300 Wilson Avenue, Swannanoa, N. C. 28778.

GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK, N. C.-TENN. (center: Bullhead).

2 January. This is the first time in last 12 years that *Turkeys* have been seen on the count. The numbers of *Robins* (5,004) and *Evening Grosbeaks* (726) are the largest ever recorded for these species on this count.—RICHARD C. ZANI, Route 2, Box 181, Gatlingburg, Tenn. 37738.

## OBSERVERS

BODIE-PEA ISLAND, N. C.: Robert L. Ake, Micou M. Browne, J. H. Carter, Paul G. DuMont, Philip A. DuMont, John Earrand Jr., Wavell W. Fogleman, Clay L. Gifford, Samuel M. Gifford, Robert S. Kennedy, Edmund K. LeGrand, Harry E. LeGrand Jr., Edward Merkle, Henry Merkle, Dwight E. Peake, Richard H. Peake Jr., H. Douglas Pratt, David W. Sonneborn, Paul W. Sykes Jr., Bill Williams, John Williamson, Mark A. Williamson.

MOREHEAD CITY, N. C.: John Fussell II, John Fussell III, Will Hon, Charles Lincoln, Bob Simpson, Mary Simpson, Dick Williams, Doris Williams.

WILMINGTON, N. C.: Mrs. Cecil Appleberry, Bobby Austin, J. H. Carter III, Frank Chapman, Bill Collier, Evelyn Dabbs, Dot Earle, Keith Farmer, Haskell Hart, Patrick Hunt, Kitty Kosh, Harry Latimer III, Edmund LeGrand, Harry LeGrand, J. Merrill Lynch, Chris Marsh, Polly Mebane, Prissy Mebane, Frances Needham, Carl and Mary Newhous, James F. Parnell, Mrs. Lenwood Roberts, Elizabeth and Robert Teulings, Mrs. J. M. Waggett.

SOUTHPORT, N. C.: Jay Carter, Bill Collier, Edmund LeGrand, Harry LeGrand, Merrill Lynch, Chris Marsh, Franklin McBride, Frances Needham, James Parnell, Frederick Probst, Elizabeth Teulings, Robert Teulings, John Wright.

LITCHFIELD-PAWLEY'S ISLAND, S. C.: Calvin Clyde, Evelyn Dabbs, Dennis Forsythe, Julian Harrison, Margaret Harrison, David McLean, Perry Nugent, Frederick Probst, Renee Probst, Ann Townsend.

CHARLESTON, S. C.: William D. Anderson, Roy E. Baker, Edwin L. Blitch, David M. Cline, Calvin Clyde, Mrs. R. H. Coleman, M. Teague Coleman, Ernest A. Cutts, John Henry Dick, Kenneth A. Dodds, Mrs. D. L. Fleischmann, Melanie Fleischmann, Dennis M. Forsythe, Julian R. Harrison, S. C. Langston, Peter Manigault, Isaac S. H. Metcalf, John S. Metcalf, Thomas E. Metcalf, Anne-Marie C. Noe, Perry E. Nugent, Frederick M. Probst, Waddell F. Robey, C. S. Farley Smith, Nelson W. Taylor, Rufus W. Watkins, Arthur M. Wilcox.

HILTON HEAD ISLAND, S. C.: Charles Atherton, Peter Ballantine, Gordon Benford, Seward and Doris Bowers, Nancy Butler, Alice Chapman, Lester Davenport, Dorothy Dorsey, Anne Dow, Marjorie Fowler, Orion and Alicia Hack, Billie Hack, John and Mabs Hannold, David and Virginia Harrall, Alva Hines, Isabel Hurst, Charlotte and Edith Inglesby, Jack and Betty Jordan, Bruce King, Henry and Mildred Lawrence, Helen Lorient, Imogene Lowden, Glen McCaskey, Violet McIntosh, Caroline

Newhall, Helene Parry, Keith and Berrl Pitcairn, Anne and Marie Reddy, Grant Simmons, Mary Smith, Robert and Elizabeth Whitney.

BEAUFORT COUNTY, N. C.: John Althouse, Ethel Barkley, Mary Emily Brown, Geraldine Cox, Roger Greene, Ethel Jensen, Bobby MacKenzie, Toddy MacKenzie, James McLaurin, Mary McLaurin, Polly Rowlett, Louise Satterthwaite, Bea Seal, Ken Seal, Mary Lee Smith, Elizabeth Sterling, Hugh Sterling, Marvin Turnage, Mary Wilson.

PAMLICO COUNTY, N. C.: Geraldine Cox, Roger Greene, Marvin Turnage.

ROCKY MOUNT, N. C.: Joyce Bennett, Stephen Bennett Sr., Sarah A. Speight, E. Carr Speight, Estelle Thomas, Harvey Thomas, John L. Thompson, Mrs. M. J. Warner.

SOUTHERN PINES, N. C.: Eleanor Carter, J. H. Carter III, Mrs. Laurence Davis, Edmund LeGrand, Harry LeGrand, Frances Parnell, James F. Parnell, Mary K. Wintyen, Lura Williams, Ethel Wotton, John Wright.

DILLON, S. C.: Lois McCallum, Rick McCallum, John Wilson, Johnny Wilson.

COLUMBIA, S. C.: Gilbert Bristow, William Bunch, Miriam Davis, Frank Hill Jr., Helen Kendall, Jeanette MaHoney, Robert Overing, Emma Walker.

AIKEN, S. C.: Jeannine Angerman, Jack Cooper, Helen Mary Fenninger, John Hatcher, M. Ray Holzworth, Gerlad Knighton, Tom Rial, Dennis Villemain, Calvin Zippler.

ROANOKE RAPIDS, N. C.: Marjorie Cannon, Bill Collier, Louise Hutchinson, J. Merrill Lynch, Chris Marsh, Louise Parker.

HENDERSON, N. C.: Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Bachman, Ruth Carter, Mrs. Walter Dallas, Walter Dallas Jr., Mrs. S. R. Harris, Karen Spivey, Dr. and Mrs. Paul Stewart.

RALEIGH, N. C.: Mike Browne, Ella Chalfant, Bill Collier, Charlotte Hilton Green, R. J. Hader, Jeanne Halsey, Ray Halsey, Margaret Hobgood, Roberta Horton, Mabel Jones, David Knapp, Kenneth T. Knapp, Janice Lee, Joshua A. Lee, Edmund LeGrand, Harry LeGrand, Chris Marsh, Marilyn Middleton, Mrs. Ben Smith, Elizabeth Teulings, Robert Teulings, Gwenn Turbiville, Melynda Turbiville, Gail Whitehurst, Michael Wilcox, Pamela Wilcox, Ida Lee Winkler, Ray L. Winstead.

CHAPEL HILL, N. C.: Pauline Butler, Louise Crumpacker, Alexander Hull, Elinor Irvin, J. Logan Irvin, Edwin Lappi, Nellie Lappi, Simon Lappi, Edmund LeGrand, Harry LeGrand, Gertrude London, Mrs. Paul Payne, James O. Pullman, Wilma Stuart, Elizabeth Teulings, Robert Teulings, Eleanor Wagstaff.

GREENSBORO, N. C.: Carolyn Allen, Donald Allen, Rose Avery, Mrs. W. Locke Bell, Fred Berry, Mrs. David Cason, Inez Coldwell, Larry Crawford, Charlotte Dawley, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Fish, Dorothy Garrett, Jean Gertz, Mrs. Al Groves, Sidney Holmes, Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Lambeth, Jean McCoy, Ethel McNairy, Ida Mitchell, Donald Nelson, Elizabeth Ogburn, Cora Parsons, Mrs. G. W. Perrett, Etta Schiffman, Virginia Seawell, Mrs. W. F. Smyre, Thomas Street, Marjorie Tays, William Tays, Daphne Weisner, Maude Williams, Helen Zuk.

WINSTON-SALEM, N. C.: Fran Baldwin, William Boice, Charles Frost, Gardner Gidley, Margaret Gidley, Thomas Gossett, Bill Hammond, Ruth Hill, Royce Hough, Wayne Irvin, Joyce Isom, Dwight Lee, Polyanna Lee, Ann Listokin, Paul Nifong, Jackie Shelton, Dorothy Shiffert, Jerry Shiffert, Ramona Snavely, C. Sommer, Edith Spinks, Robert Witherington.

STANLY COUNTY, N. C.: Edwin C. Clarke, Margaret Crawley, Barrett Crook, Vera Crook, Mary Crump, Pauline Culp, Richard Culp, Nelle Dotson, Mary Jane Dyer, Nina Eudy, Joe Ferrebee, Virginia Foglio, Naomi Goforth, Terry Hahn, Louise Hammill, Edward Harris, Lectie Harwood, Anne Hatley, Bill Hatley, Frances Hinson, Nelle Hinson, Jean Honeycutt, Annette Isenhour, Maxine Isenhour, Mike Isenhour, Myrtle Isenhour, Ruth Kearns, Vera Littleton, Cindy Lowder, Fisher Maner, Wilmetta Maner, Susan Manley, Gladys Mason, Vera Mason, Doris Mauney, James Mauney, Lela McJunkins, Annie Misenheimer, Grace Morris, Harold Morris, Anne Olsen, Spencer Plyler, Jennie Ruth Plyler, Louise Rice, Nana Sweacker, Ethel Trantham, John Trantham, Addie Thompson, John Whitlock, Vivian Whitlock.

CHARLOTTE, N. C.: Genevieve Barber, Sue Bell, Elsie Brewer, Elizabeth B. Clarkson, Flo Cobey, Adrain and Beth Dykema, Susan Ennett, Jack Fehon, Gwen Fenninger, Lucius Gage Jr., Jack Hamilton, Bowman Kelly, Irene Kittinger, Brem Mayer, Elizabeth Millwee, Joe and Becky Norwood, Mary Nowlin, Sam Parker, Shuford and Katherine Peeler, Doug Pratt, Al Ross, Bill Sayward, Bill Smith, Hallam Walker, Polly Weathers (Mecklenburg Audubon Society).

ELKIN-RONDA, N. C.: J. H. Beeson, Alex Biggs, T. R. Bryan, H. F. Cochrane, Sidney Fletcher, Lin Hendren, Ola Hendren, Tom Hendren, Clara Henderson, E. M. Hodel, Fred Masten Jr., Lewis Petree, Wendell P. Smith, Bobby Tysinger, Jerry Tysinger, Jim Ulbrick.

NORTH WILKESBORO, N. C.: Wendell P. Smith.

CALDWELL COUNTY, N. C.: Nancy Alexander, Miriam Bachar, Mrs. Glen Barnes, Isabel Bernhardt, Mrs. Murray Bruner, Mrs. Horace Craig, Iolita Ersland, Lois Gossler, Mary Greer, Mrs. Mason Hollifield, Mrs. Ben Howard, Mr. and Mrs. Garvin Hughes, Lois Laxton, Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Manchester, Mr. and Mrs. Fred May, Helen Myers, Thomas Parks, Mrs. Carl Prestwood, Mrs. C. S. Warren, Joyce Whitman, Ann Wilcox, (Miss) George Wilcox, Mrs. Jim Wood.

YANCEY-McDOWELL COUNTIES, N. C.: Marjorie Davis, Bill Duyck, John Hall, Joseph Hall, Joy Hall, Joyce Hall, Mark Hall, Walter Hall, Blaine Ray, Robert Ruiz, Peter Sargent, Roland Sargent.

BUNCOMBE COUNTY, N. C.: T. J. Enright, John Hall, Joseph Hall, Joy Hall, Joyce Hall, Mark Hall, Walter Hall, Walter Holland Jr., Daniel McKay, Gordon Mahy, Mrs. E. T. Merrick, Sue Merrick, Ellen Penford, William Penford, Betty Ruiz, Robert Ruiz, Doris Sargent, Roland Sargent, Thomas Wood, Keith Wright.

GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK, N. C.-TENN.: Fred J. Alsop III, James M. Campbell, Mary F. Davidson, Dave Hassler, Robbie Hassler, Tony Koella, Betty Lewelling, Joe Lewelling, Terri McCown, Murial Monroe, Robert Monroe, Andy Morton, Cynthia Muffley, Gary Muffley, Chuck Nicholson, Louise Nunnally, Mrs. Sterling Ryder, A. Boyd Sharp Jr., Mary Sharp, Johnetta Smith, Louis F. Smith Jr., Jerry Spangler, James T. Tanner, Bill Williams, Irene Williams, Mrs. Clarence Wodtke, George R. Wood, Hedy L. Wood, Richard C. Zani.

## BRIEFS FOR THE FILES (Continued from page 37)

- INDIGO BUNTING: Harry LeGrand noted rather late individuals at Raleigh on 27 October and at Pea Island on 30 October.
- DICKCISSEL: One was present at Mrs. P. M. Hunt's feeder in Wilmington, N. C., on 27 October, fide Dot Earle.
- HOUSE FINCH: A single male was a regular visitor, usually in the company of House Sparrows, at Susan and Bill Hammond's backyard feeder in Winston-Salem from 17 May through 6 July. No female was seen.
- GRASSHOPPER SPARROW: One was unusually late at Raleigh on 12 November, Harry and Edmund LeGrand.
- LARK SPARROW: One was seen by several groups of observers at Bodie Island lighthouse on 25 September, and another was seen at the north end of Pea Island on 10 October by Robert Ake and party. Elsewhere, one was sighted at Orton Plantation in Brunswick County, N. C., on 28 August by Jay Carter and Frances Needham.
- BACHMAN'S SPARROW: A rare local occurrence was recorded at Chapel Hill, N. C., where a single bird was carefully studied by James Pullman at Mason Farm on 16 October.
- LINCOLN'S SPARROW: A specimen was found dead at Wrightsville Beach on 24 October by Jay Carter. Another fall occurrence was noted on the coast at Bodie Island where a single bird was seen on 10 October by Robert Ake and party. Inland, one was seen at North Wilkesboro, N. C., on 12 October by Wendell Smith.
- SNOW BUNTING: Jay Carter and Frances Needham sighted two at Wrightsville Beach, N.C. on 17 November.