

2010 Spring Migration Counts in North Carolina

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Twenty North Carolina count areas submitted data for the 2010 spring migration count, five from the mountains, fourteen from the piedmont/upper coastal plain, and one from the coast. Alamance County joined the count this year and Mecklenburg County rejoined the count after a long absence. The number of count areas in North Carolina has increased from 13 to 20 in the past decade. Additional count areas ensure that the entire state is well represented. The inclusion of several count areas that have consistently reported over several decades also provides important information on changing bird populations. Although counts with few years of data may not be able to use their data for finding trends for many years yet, future generations will be grateful for all the effort put into these counts now. The 2010 count period extended from 24 April through 23 May with the later counts taking place in the higher-elevation areas of the mountains where spring arrives much later.

A total of 421 participants counted 82,143 individual birds and 223 species in 1,278.64 party-hours, with a total of 64.24 birds per party-hour. Parties usually consist of one to five participants.

This was the largest number of count areas participating in North Carolina as well as the largest number of participants in the past decade, but the total number of species found (223) was lower than the average of 228 for the years since counts from all sections of the state were included. It was also the lowest number of birds per party-hour in the past decade. Many count compilers also noted a lower-than-average number of species found this year. Some compilers attributed this to lower participation for their counts as well as lower-than-average numbers of spring migrants, particularly those heading farther north.

Some good finds for the count included two Anhingas on the Raven Rock count, one American Bittern on the Greensboro count and one on the Durham count, three Merlins on the Onslow count, one Peregrine Falcon on the Transylvania count and one on the Onslow count, six King Rails on the Jordan Lake count, one Snowy Plover on the Onslow count, one White-rumped Sandpiper on the Alamance count, two Great Black-backed Gulls on the Onslow count, one Black-billed Cuckoo each on the Balsam Mountains, Black Mountains, and Forsyth counts, two Northern Saw-whet Owls each on the Balsam Mountains and Black Mountains counts, an unusually high count of 36 Alder Flycatchers on the Balsam Mountains count, three Blue-winged Warblers on the Wake count and one on the Chapel Hill count, one Nashville Warbler on the Kerr Lake count, one Saltmarsh Sparrow on the Onslow count, and 10 lingering Rusty Blackbirds on the Chapel Hill count.

Details of individual counts including names of compilers and participants as well as count highlights follow.

Count Area Details

Mountains

Transylvania County – count date 1 May, 115 species, 3,636 individuals, 36 participants, 68.00 party-hours.

Weather: Temperature 60–75° F, partly cloudy, occasional light showers in some areas, elevation range from 2100 to 5600 ft.

Compiler: Norma Siebenheller (sieb@citcom.net)

Participants: Dennis Allen, Kathryn Allen, Marvin and Michele Barg, Dorothy Bauer, Joan Beard, Pat Blaine, Dick Blee, Sylvia Blee, Pat Bohan, Elizabeth Galloway, Jerry Griggs, Jeanne Grimmenga, Richard Jackson, Louise Kempe, Rebecca Kindred, Joe Kotowski, Eleanor Kuss, Jim Kuss, Deynise Lau, Joan MacDonald, Jim McIntosh, Gary Miller, Carolyn Mills, Janie Owens, Carolyn Powell, Mary Sauerteig, Norma and Bill Seibenheller, Bill and Shirl Thomas, Charlie and Linda Threatte, Noel Thurner, Sam Woodruff, and Camille Ziegler

Exclusives: none

Compiler's notes: We were quite pleased with our results this year, given the cold, late spring and the count's very early date of May 1. At 115 species, we are in the mid-range of our possibilities, far better than the disappointing 109 we tallied last year. Most of the high-elevation specialties were present, and some hard-to-get warblers such as Swainson's and Kentucky were found at lower elevations. On the minus side, we located no Cerulean Warblers this year, and both Sharp-shinned and Cooper's Hawks were absent. Shorebirds, with the exception of the common Solitary and Spotted Sandpipers, were not present at all. However, with the help of many phone calls and some cooperative home observers, we were able to find all three of our common owls, and several Whip-poor-wills as well, so our nocturnal birds were well represented.

Norma Siebenheller

Great Balsam and Plott Balsam Mountains IBA – count date 15 May, 82 species, 3,288 individuals, 24 participants in 8 parties, 65.50 party-hours.

Weather: Mostly sunny and warm with strong, but short-lasting thunderstorms developing mid-day in the eastern portion of the count. Elevation range from 3500 to 6100 feet.

Compiler: Marilyn Westphal (mjwestph@ret.unca.edu)

Participants: Jamie Cameron, Sue Cameron, Tim Carstens, Nancy Casey, Bill Fisk, Tom Flagg, Sheila Gregor, Doug Johnston, Chris Kelly, Gail and Herman Lankford, Bob Olthoff, Esther and Len Pardue, Catherine Reid, Ray Sharpton, Mark Simpson, Tom Tribble, Lou Weber, Kendrick Weeks, Marilyn Westphal, Troy Wilson, Connie and Stan Wulkowicz

Exclusives: Alder Flycatcher, Least Flycatcher

Compiler's notes: The fifth annual Balsam Mountains IBA Spring Bird Count was held Saturday, 15 May with 24 participants in 8 groups. The count area covers the Blue Ridge Parkway from just northeast of the Pisgah Inn to the Great Smoky Mountains and also includes the Shining Rock and Middle Prong Wilderness areas. It was a perfectly gorgeous morning, sunny and calm, but in the afternoon turned partly cloudy to cloudy at the western and middle sections of the count area with thunderstorms and hail at the easternmost end of the count.

Most interesting finds were a Black-billed Cuckoo at the western end on Heintooga spur by Bob Olthoff and Doug Johnston (third year of five for finding Black-billed Cuckoo in that section), a record 36 Alder Flycatchers found by the teams in the Black Balsam and Shining Rock Wilderness sections, a record 24 Least Flycatchers found at several locations (five of the eight sections reported Least Flycatchers), a record 10 Hermit Thrushes, most along the highest section of the parkway between Devil's Courthouse and Richland Balsam, but also some in the Black Balsam/Shining Rock area, and four Ruby-crowned Kinglets, which is rather late for this species and always arouses suspicions about whether they might be sticking around for the summer. As has been the case in recent years the Black-capped Chickadee song dominated in all of the areas above 5,000 feet from Graveyard Fields west. What the DNA shows remains to be seen. Golden-crowned Kinglet numbers continue to decline. The first three years of this count they were always in the top six species in abundance on the count, but they fell to 11th last year and 12th this year. Also missing in action were the Peregrine Falcons who apparently have abandoned their nesting location at Devil's Courthouse this year.

Most abundant species on the count were: Dark-eyed Junco (354), Chestnut-sided Warbler (351), Eastern Towhee (303), Blue-headed Vireo (156), American Robin (148), Veery (141), Canada Warbler (138), Black-throated Green Warbler (136), Black-throated Blue Warbler (124), and Ovenbird (92).

Following a countdown dinner at the Pisgah Inn, Mark Simpson and I went off to look for Northern Saw-whet Owls to add to the count. We located two before the storms started rolling in again complete with lightning and thunder.

Thanks to the participants for another great count. This is a count that several participants have told me is one they always look forward to and is one of their favorite birding days of the year.

Marilyn Westphal

Henderson County – count date 8 May, 106 species, 2,240 individuals, 10 participants, 32.50 party-hours.

Compiler: Jim Neal (jlbjneal@gmail.com)

Participants: Nancy Cowal, Bill Fisk, Nora Murdock, Jim Neal, Frances Ogasawara, Janie Owens, Ed Peachey, Mark Simpson, Simon Thompson, and Marilyn Westphal

Exclusives: Willow Flycatcher

Notes: Saturday, May 8, 2010 was Spring Migration Count day in Henderson County, NC. Ten (10) people worked 8 areas in the county and found 106 species and 2,240 total birds. The count of 106 species ties 2005 for the second lowest of our 13 years collecting spring migration data, with the lowest being 103 species in 2001 and highest being 120 species in 2006. The 2,240 total birds are the third lowest ever. The lowest total of birds was 2,015 in 1999 when we had 14 people covering 8 areas and the highest was 3,705 in 2002 when we had 18 people covering 10 areas. The total of 10 participants ties last year for the smallest number in our 13 years and may have contributed to fewer species and birds. The 10 people formed four groups with each group covering an area in the morning and an area in the afternoon when birds are not as active.

In the past when areas that were worked in the afternoon had been worked in the morning, more birds were found, both species and quantity.

We had a first for our spring migration counts—a Common Loon! We found the Great Egret, Least Sandpiper, Eurasian Collared-Dove, Common Nighthawk, Swainson's Thrush, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Blue Grosbeak and Bobolink, which are among those difficult to find and not found every year. This year there were only five species with more than 100 birds seen. The American Crow was tops at 162, then the Cedar Waxwing and Song Sparrow (122), followed closely by the Northern Cardinal (121), with the European Starling being last in the group (105). These were followed by four species in the 80s: Eastern Towhee (89), American Robin (88), Barn Swallow (86), and Mourning Dove (84). Nineteen species of warblers were seen, with the Common Yellowthroat, Ovenbird, Northern Parula, Black-throated Green, Hooded and Yellow-breasted Chat being the most plentiful. We missed a few birds that had been found on one or more previous counts, but overall it was a job well done! I want to thank all those who participated.

Jim Neal

Buncombe County – count date 9 May, 111 species, 4,693 individuals, 23 participants in 7 parties, 70.00 party-hours.

Weather: Cold and very windy in the morning, especially at the higher elevations, warmer and sunnier in the afternoon. Temperature 40–60° F, winds 10–25mph in the morning and 5–10mph in the afternoon.

Compiler: Marilyn Westphal (mjwestph@ret.unca.edu)

Participants: Nancy Casey, Jackson Evans, Peggy Franklin, Charlotte Goedsche, Jamie Harrelson, Gail and Herman Lankford, Alex Levine, Nora Livingston, Naomi Otterness, Janie Owens, Len and Esther Pardue, Kitti Reynolds, Steve Ritt, Steve Semanchuk, Mark Simpson, Liz Skiles, Jennifer Stanley, Aaron Steed, Simon Thompson, Tom Tribble, Lou Weber, Marilyn Westphal

Exclusives: Cerulean Warbler

Notes: The cold, windy early morning got things off to a slow start, but it cleared up and birding picked up later in the morning. Nevertheless, this was the lowest species count in this decade. Total birds and birds per party-hour

were about average for the decade. Warbler numbers were lower than average, probably as a result of the weather. Only three non-breeding warbler species were found, Magnolia, Cape May, and Blackpoll Warbler. Canada Goose numbers continue to increase and Turkey Vulture, Barn Swallow, Carolina Wren, and Hooded Warbler numbers were the highest in this decade. Unusually low numbers of Northern Parula, American Redstart, and Yellow, Black-throated Blue, Black-throated Green, Black-and-white, and Canada Warblers were found as well as low numbers of House and Winter Wren and Eastern Meadowlark. No particularly unusual species were found on the count this year.

Many thanks to those who participated in the count this year and we hope to see you again next year.

Marilyn Westphal

Black Mountains IBA – count date 23 May, 63 species, 1,438 individuals, 14 participants in 5 parties, 40.00 party-hours.

Weather: Mostly clear, temperature in the 50s and 60s, wind 5–10mph.

Compiler: Marilyn Westphal (mjwestph@ret.unca.edu)

Participants: Nancy Casey, Ron Clark, Robert Emmett, Bill Fisk, Bill Grow, Jamie Harrelson, Doug Johnston, Gail and Herman Lankford, Nora Murdock, Mark Simpson, Aaron Steed, Tom Tribble, and Marilyn Westphal

Exclusives: none

Notes: The weather was good for the fourth Black Mountains spring count, total species number was higher than average, and total birds were about average. This high-elevation area (almost entirely above 4500 feet) that includes Mount Mitchell State Park is limited in the number of species that can typically be found. High-elevation species predominate and the lack of ponds or lakes in the area largely eliminates the potential for waterfowl or other water-associated birds. The most common species found on this count are consistently Dark-eyed Junco and Golden-crowned Kinglet followed by Black-throated Green Warbler and Blue-headed Vireo, and that was the case this year as well. This year the number of Golden-crowned Kinglets continued to decline. The loss of hemlock trees from disease may be a significant factor, but continued monitoring is necessary.

Once again two Swainson's Thrushes were found in the area where breeding is suspected. Dawn, dusk, and evening birding produced a Woodcock at Stepp's Gap, a Barred Owl at Balsam Gap, and one Northern Saw-whet Owl each along NC 128 and along the Blue Ridge Parkway. A Black-billed Cuckoo was also heard calling downslope in the state park and one very late-departing White-throated Sparrow was seen.

Thanks again to the participants in this count who play an important part in surveying birds in this Important Bird Area.

Marilyn Westphal

Piedmont

Iredell County – count date 25 April, 87 species, 2,434 individuals, 10 participants, 29.00 party-hours.

Weather: Temperature 55 – 72° F. Heavy rain early then fair.

Compiler: Ron Underwood (rongto@earthlink.net)

Participants: Debbie Birnley, Sam Cathey, Cynthia Dickerson, Bill English, Jack Greene, Lee Holifield, Larry Marlin, Garnet Underwood, Marie Underwood, and Ron Underwood

Exclusives: White-crowned Sparrow

Notes: Our day started with torrential rain accompanied by thunder and lightning. Thankfully the bad weather did not last long and the day progressed to a delightful outing. Morning temperature was approximately 55 degrees and the high of the day was 72 degrees. After the thunderstorm passed there was no measurable wind to interfere with the almost fully grown tree leaves.

Our count location is centered on the South Yadkin River bridge crossing at Chipley Ford Road in Northern Iredell County North Carolina. GPS coordinates N 35.89663 W 80.8997

Ron Underwood

Hanging Rock State Park IBA – count date 6 May, 50 species, 285 individuals, 6 participants in 3 parties, 9.00 party-hours.

Compiler: Phil Dickinson (pdickins@triad.rr.com)

Participants: Jean Chamberlain, Phil Dickinson, John Mercier, Ron Morris, Laura Phail, and Liz Schmid

Exclusives: none

Notes: Six of us conducted a spring count at Hanging Rock State Park. Much thanks to Ron Morris, Laura Phail, Jean Chamberlain, Liz Schmid and John Mercier for taking part. Ron and Laura took the Indian Creek Trail; Jean and Liz did Hanging Rock and Wolf Rock Trails, and John and I birded along Hall Rd. and at the Tory's Den area.

With beautiful weather compared to last year's clouds, we bested last year's 44 species with a total count of 51, including 13 warbler species. Missing in action, however, was Wood Thrush. Last year's Philadelphia Vireo did not repeat, but we did have a Yellow-throated Vireo. Several Wild Turkeys were found including one at CC Camp Rd. near the park residences.

We also presented Park Ranger Jason Anthony with an NC Birding Trail sign donated by our chapter. Look for it the next time you visit this beautiful park.

Phil Dickinson

Mecklenburg County – count date 24 April, 112 species, 4,963 individuals, 25 participants in 10 parties, 71 party-hours.

Weather: no data

Compiler: Jeff Lemons (birdsalot@gmail.com)

Participants: Larry and Louise Barden, Robert Bustle, Ron Clark, Susan Ellerman, Jan and Phil Fowler and daughter, Sharon Freedman, Steve Hayes,

Carol Horton, Alan Kneidel, Ken Kneidel, Jeff Lemons, Jill Fowler, Taylor Piephoff, Tom and Tammy Sanders, Dean and Vivian Sprehe, Steve Tracy, Judy Walker, Harriett Whitsett, David and Marcia Wright

Exclusives: Green-winged Teal

Notes: none

Forsyth County – count date 8 May, 119 species, 4,956 individuals, 46 participants, 88.00 party-hours.

Weather: 60–79° F, winds W 10–15 mph with gusts to 25mph, cloudy changing to clear.

Compiler: John Haire (johnhaire@starpower.net)

Participants: Gene Berger, Stuart Boots, Kim Brand, Peg Cochrane, Nita Colvin, Phil Crisp, Carol Cunningham, Doug Demarest, Phil Dickinson, David Disher, Susan Disher, Cynthia Donaldson, Brent Gearhart, Carol Gearhart, Gardner Gidley, Margaret Gidley, Bill Gifford, John Haire, Sven Halling, Bill Hammond, Susan Hammond, John Hammond, Tom Haubert, Hop Hopkins, Royce Hough, Bill Jackson, Ann Listokin, Craig McCleary, Tom McKay, Terri Maness, Jim Martin, Linda Moore, Ron Morris, Ann Newsome, Laura Phail, Paul Powers, Lloyd Ramsey, Jeremy Reiskind, Shelley Rutkin, Gene Schepker, Lois Schneider, David Shuford, Bill Sugg, Chuck Thompson, Cindy Thompson, Katherine Thorington.

Exclusives: none

Notes: Compared to the averages from 1992–2009 (the years that count records are readily available in electronic archives of *The Chat*), the number of participants (46 vs. average of 47) and individual bird count (5,605; 5,648) were close to average, while party hours (97, 102) and species count (119, 126) were a little below average.

The most unusual species found this year included the second records (since 1992) of Ring-necked Duck and Caspian Tern, the fourth records of Great Egret and Black-billed Cuckoo, and the fifth record of Pectoral Sandpiper.

Nine species registered their highest individual counts since 1992 including Wild Turkey (9 vs. 18-year average of 0.3), Black Vulture (19, 6), Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Eastern Phoebe, Eastern Kingbird, White-breasted Nuthatch, Common Yellowthroat, Eastern Towhee and Blue Grosbeak (28, 9). Unusually high counts also were recorded for Lesser Yellowlegs (20, 5) and Blackpoll Warbler (28, 10).

Three species were missed for the first time since 1992: Black-throated Green Warbler (average 6), Black-and-white Warbler (11) and White-throated Sparrow (50). Other unusual misses included Eastern Screech-Owl, Great Horned Owl, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, American Kestrel, Prothonotary, Worm-eating, Palm and Blackburnian Warblers.

Seven species registered their lowest individual counts since 1992 including the first three species mentioned in the preceding paragraph, and Northern Parula (6, 25), Yellow-rumped Warbler (2, 116), Scarlet Tanager (6, 28) and Rose-breasted Grosbeak (3, 19). Other low individual counts

included Solitary Sandpiper (12, 41), Ring-billed Gull (1, 55) and Cape May Warbler (1, 12).

Several factors may account for some of the misses and low counts. Most winter birds had departed before count day, the influx of migrants seemed slower than normal here this year, and it was very windy on count day.

Thirteen additional species were found during Count Week, bringing the species count for the period to 132, which is about average.

John Haire

Greensboro – count date 1 May, 110 species, 5,688 individuals, 22 participants, 81.70 party-hours.

Weather: Partly cloudy all day. Temperature 60–84°F, winds variable, 5–20 mph.

Compiler: Herb Hendrickson (hhendrickson@triad.rr.com)

Participants: Carolyn Allen, Joyce Bartlett, Jane Blackburn, Diana Bowman, Louise Brown, Sue Cole, Scott DePue, Judi Durr, Jim Eldrett, Lisa Hayes, Herb Hendrickson, Elizabeth Link, Henry Link, Lynn McCoy, Gregg Morris, Jean Murdick, Lou Skrabec, Emily Talbert, John Thielen, Emily Tyler, Ann Walter-Fromson, and Melissa Whitmire

Exclusives: none

Notes: Fewer participants and fewer parties compared to previous years seem to correlate with fewer species and fewer individual birds seen.

Herb Hendrickson

Alamance County – count date 24 April, 69 species, 1,285 individuals, 5 participants in 3 teams, 20.25 party-hours.

Weather: Partly cloudy, dry, temperature 60–74° F, winds 0–15 mph

Compiler: Harry Shoffner (hshoffner@triad.rr.com)

Participants: Bobby and Elizabeth Mize, Harry and Sandra Shoffner, Charles Tysinger

Exclusives: White-rumped Sandpiper

Notes: The first Alamance County Spring Bird Count was held on Saturday, April 24, 2010 under clear to partly cloudy skies and moderate temperatures. A total of five field participants in three parties recorded 69 species and 1,285 individual birds. Two unusual species were counted: a flock of Bobolinks and a White-rumped Sandpiper.

Harry Shoffner

Southern Pines – count date 25 April, 123 species, 5,969 individuals, 26 participants in 11 parties, 83.33 party-hours.

Compiler: Susan Campbell (susan@ncaves.com)

Participants: Rex Badgett, Jeff Beane, Carol Bowman, Susan Campbell, Jay Carter III, Nancy Esposito, John Finnegan, Scott Hartley, Stephanie Horton, Tom Howard, Alicia Jackson, Charlie Jones, Linda Jones, Matthew King, Marjorie Ludwig, David McCloy, Michael McCloy, Carolyn McDermott, Dan Pieroni, Todd Pusser, Bruce Sorrie, Lowell and Susan Strine, Rosalyn Walk, Leslie Watschke, Cassie Willis

Exclusives: Mute Swan

Notes: None

Chapel Hill – count date 1 May, 121 species, 8,227 individuals, 37 field and 9 feeder participants, 114.75 party-hours.

Weather: low 61°F, high 89°F; wind SW 10–15 mph; mostly cloudy.

Compiler: Will Cook (cwcook@duke.edu)

Participants: Sam Baron, Kenneth Blanton, Brian Bockhahn, Chuck Byrd, Chris Canfield, Will Cook, Anson R. Cooke, Dwayne Cooke, Tom Driscoll, Colyer Durovich, Kate Finlayson, Steve Foster, Lucy Gifford, Maurice Graves, Steven Graves, Susan Greenberg, Perry Haaland, Larry Haaland, Nancy Hinrichs, Loren Hintz, Bo Howes, Betty King, Mark Kosiewski, Laurie Kucharik, Robert Meehan, David Murdock, Judy Murray, Rienk Nieuwland, Lynn Ogden, Jane Oliver, Kevin Powell, Toni Rexrode, Bev Scalise, Mike Schultz, Doug Shadwick, Shelley Theye, Ginger Travis, Amalie Tuffin and Feeder Watchers: Bobbie Hahn, Lew Miles, Margaret Miles, Caroline Pederson, Harry Pederson, Joan Redman, Barbara Roth, Jerrold Walecka, and Joan Walecka.

Exclusives: Rusty Blackbird

Notes: The Chapel Hill spring count on May 1 was a fairly uneventful one, with 121 species (10-year average 124 species). Observer effort was the lowest in 14 years at 114.75 party-hours (average 158.1), and so the number of individual birds counted was a low 8227 (average 11,296), but the number of birds per party-hour was about as normal as you can get (71.7, average 71.5). Birders across the region noted a slow migration this spring, and our results fall right into line with those reports. We didn't find any outstanding rarities this year, but there were a few noteworthy birds, topped by 10 Rusty Blackbirds that Chuck Byrd saw in a swampy area off NC 54, the first in 12 years. Other goodies included one Hooded Merganser at Jordan Lake (Brian Bockhahn), six Yellow-crowned Night-Herons (Chuck Byrd found a new heronry of five near a lake in a suburban neighborhood off Garrett Road in Durham, Betty King's party found one at the NC 54 impoundments), Semipalmated Sandpiper at the Farrington Road wastewater plant (Bockhahn), Bank Swallow (Bockhahn), Blue-winged Warbler at Mason Farm (Will Cook's party), and two Cape May Warblers (Loren Hintz and Amalie Tuffin). In previous decades this would be a low count, but we were quite pleased to have a total of one Northern Bobwhite this year—the first in the last five counts! Because of the low number of counters this year, we didn't set any record highs. We had good counts for Bald Eagle (37, second only to last year's 54), Purple Martin (97 is the highest since 1988), Veery (10, highest since 1979), and Worm-eating Warbler (nine, average 2). Low counts were numerous. No big misses, but we set one record low, continuing a long trend: Field Sparrow (four, previous low 10 last year) and tied a low for Belted Kingfisher (one ties 1952 and 1966). Other unusually scarce species were Blue Jay (lowest since 1996), Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (1999), Wood Thrush (1996), American Robin (1987), Cedar Waxwing (2000), Common Yellowthroat (1971), Yellow-breasted Chat (1974), Indigo Bunting

(1984), Common Grackle (1974), House Finch (1998), American Goldfinch (1985), and House Sparrow (1973). Common Grackle is especially noteworthy in its decline: numbers have been slowly but steadily declining since their peak in the early 1980s and now are a quarter what they were then and a third what they were a decade ago. What's going on with the grackles? Team honors: This year Brian Bockhahn, covering some of the game lands near Jordan Lake, got the highest species count, with 89, followed by Will Cook's party of five at Mason Farm with 85. Tom Driscoll's group of six counted the most individual birds, 1556, far ahead of the runner-up, Will Cook's party, with 816.

Weather in brief: low 61° F, high 89° F; wind SW 10–15 mph; mostly cloudy with no rain.

Thanks to all of our 37 field counters and 9 feeder watchers!

Charles W. "Will" Cook

Jordan Lake – count date 2 May, 114 species, 6,767 individuals, 37 participants in 21 parties, 118.41 party-hours.

Weather: Low 72, high 92°F; wind light and variable, 10 mph, overcast early, partly cloudy in the afternoon, no precipitation.

Compiler: Norm Budnitz (nbudnitz@gmail.com)

Participants: David Anderson, Barbara Beaman, Elisabeth Bishop, Todd Bishop, Brian Bockhahn, Norm Budnitz, Chuck Byrd, Chris Canfield, Barbara Coffman, Patrick Coin, Will Cook, Anson Cooke, Dwayne Cooke, Tom Driscoll, Kate Finlayson, Martha Girolami, Mary Harbison, Charlotte Harbison, Susan Harbison, Russell Herman, Loren Hintz, Laurie Kucharik, Marty McClelland, Melinda Meade, Robin Moran, Judy Murray, Rick Payne, Lois Schultz, Mike Schultz, Brian Strong, Ginger Travis, Andy Upshaw, David Van Ness, Millicent Van Ness, Phil Warren, Carol Williamson, Rouse Wilson

Exclusives: King Rail

Notes: May 2, 2010, proved to be a warm spring day, with temperatures ranging from 72°F in the morning to 92°F in the afternoon. The skies were overcast early and partly cloudy in the afternoon with no precipitation. Winds were light and variable to 10 mph.

Thirty-seven observers (much lower than our 10-year average of 49) in 21 parties (10-year average: 23) tallied 6,767 individual birds (avg. 8,397), 114 species (avg. 124), during 118 party hours in the field (avg. 143). Fewer observers in fewer parties and less cumulative time in the field probably resulted in the lower number of species and individual birds. However, other area compilers and observers have noted anecdotally that there seemed to be fewer non-resident migrants (birds that pass through our area but do not breed locally) this year. Is this ominous or just a result of the variability of natural occurrences? Perhaps time will tell.

Ginger Travis and Marty McClelland, birding by kayak, heard several rails (perhaps 6) calling from a swampy area in the upper reaches of the White Oak Creek arm of the lake. They were fairly certain they were hearing

King Rails. On June 16th, Ginger and I went out and stood on the Route 751 bridge that crosses White Oak Creek at about 5:30 AM. Just before the major commuting traffic picked up, we heard, very clearly, at least two King Rails calling to each other. We did not see the birds, but the calls were a series of single kik kik kik notes, delivered at a steady pace. (They were not the kidik kidik kidik notes of Virginia Rails. Nor did they change cadence like Clappers, which would not be this far inland.) Since these birds have been reported several times in proper habitat in recent years, and since they were still calling in mid-June, it seems quite possible that they are breeding here. Beavers have created quite a bit of the appropriate freshwater swampy habitat in the upper reaches of our local lakes. So if you find yourself in or near such places before dawn or at dusk, give a listen.

Another notable species this year was a Laughing Gull reported by Lois and Mike Schultz at Ebenezer Point. It was sitting on one of the pilings in the beach area near a couple of Ring-billed Gulls.

Perhaps as a result of fewer observers, we did not generate as many new high species counts as we sometimes do: Black Vultures, 146 (previous high was 85 in 2008); Red-headed Woodpeckers, 32 (30 in 2009); Fish Crows, 57 (40 in 2003); and Chipping Sparrows, 222 (218 in 2002). Misses this year included Great Horned Owl for the fourth year in a row. I suspect this is more a result of limited nocturnal birding effort rather than a reflection of the actual owl population.

Will Cook, with 78 species, had the highest species count, with Tom Driscoll and Laurie Kucharik (76) and Phil Warren (74) hard on his heels. From time to time I feel the need to stress that these counts are not a competition. Observers covering larger areas with more diversity of habitats are more likely to find more species. I continue to be impressed by so many of our stalwart, reliable observers who get out into the field, year in and year out, good weather and bad. To you all, I say, thanks for counting.

Norm Budnitz

Durham – count date 25 April, 118 species, 5,270 individuals, 23 participants in 15 parties, 75.20 party-hours.

Compiler: Mike Schultz (ross.gull@verizon.net)

Participants: Brian Bockhahn, Norm Budnitz, Will Cook, Tom Driscoll, Steve Foster, Bo Howes, Robert Howes, Dan Kaplan, Laurie Kuchavik, Robert Meehan, Judy Murray, Bill Reddy, Isabell Ready, Carl Rothfels, Michael Schultz, David Smith, Judy Smith, Matt Snider, Deck Stapleton, Lesley Starke, Amalie Tuffin, Edith Tatum, Johnny Wilson

Exclusives: none

Notes: none

Mike Schultz

Wake County – count date 8 May, 106 species, 3,725 individuals, 29 participants in 11 parties, 58.00 party-hours.

Weather: Temperature 65–88° F, mostly sunny, winds gusting to 20mph.

Compiler: John Connors (John.Connors@ncmail.net)

Participants: Jared Barnes, Joe Bearden, Karen Bearden, Erla Beegle, Pat Bost, Jerome Brewster, Halbert Carmichael, John Connors, Mary Lou Eyke, Jacob Folmer, Sue Harvey, Lily Ivanov, Mark Johns, Betsy Kane, Will Kimler, Dave Lenat, Adrienne Little, John Little, Gerry Luginbuhl, Jim Luginbuhl, Jim Mulholland, Michael Nediwek, Monica Nees, Clyde Smith, Julie Angerman-Stewart, Jeri Smart, Nathan Tarr, Erik Thomas, Mary Waller

Exclusives: none

Notes: Species numbers may be the lowest ever for a Spring Bird Count. Some interesting observations include: Pied-billed Grebe (1) at Richlands Pond near Schenck Forest; Great Egret (1) was found at Mid-Pine; Red-breasted Merganser (1) at Lake Benson; Ruddy Duck (2) at Yates Mill Pond and Richlands Pond; Caspian Tern (3) were seen at Lake Wheeler; Common Nighthawk (1) over downtown Raleigh; six Loggerhead Shrikes were recorded though some were nestlings; Warbling Vireo (1) heard at Yates Mill Pond; Tree Swallow (1) along Buckeye Trail; Veery (2); only 15 species of warbler were found including: Yellow Warbler (1), Magnolia Warbler (2), Black-throated Blue (14), Black-and-white (1), American Redstart (5), and Northern Waterthrush (1). The unharvested sections of wheat and alfalfa at Mid-Pines held some birds this spring. Twenty-two Bobolinks were seen as well as Grasshopper Sparrow (4), but Field Sparrow (2) remains rare across the area.

Significant misses include: Hooded Mergansers were not found at Yates Mill Pond; Ring-billed Gull was not found; Bobwhite were not found; Nightjars continue to be difficult to find; migrant warblers were scarce not just on count day, but for the season. Significant misses include: Prairie Warbler, Kentucky Warbler, and Yellow-breasted Chat. Falls Lake was not able to be counted again this year, which reduced our records of species and numbers from recent years.

Cliff Swallows continue nesting in northern Wake County along Neuse River bridges, and now appear to have colonized bridges adjacent to Anderson Point.

Great Blue Heron colonies seem to be thriving, though no active colonies are easily visible along count routes.

The Purple Martin colony at University Club is near capacity; the Prairie Ridge colony has increased; the colony at the NC Museum of Art was empty. The Anderson Point colony has not re-established.

The meadow habitat at Prairie Ridge and Anderson Point continues to progress; Field Sparrows have begun using both sites, and Eastern Meadowlarks are well established at Prairie Ridge.

Wake Audubon placed a number of Prothonotary Warbler boxes in habitat last spring at count sites. There are no definitive records yet, but they appear to be breeding at Anderson Point.

John Connors

Falls Lake – count date 27 April, 107 species, 2,856 individuals, 9 participants in 8 parties, 49.75 party-hours.

Weather: Cloudy and cool, 56–65° F, windy with a trace of rain in the afternoon.

Compiler: Brian Bockhahn (cbockhahn4@earthlink.net)

Participants: Herb Amyx, Karen Berry, Brian Bockhahn, Deborah Robertson, Jeri Smart, Josh Southern, Deck Stapleton, Brian Strong, Patty Tice

Exclusives: none

Notes: The seventh Falls Lake Spring Bird Count was held on April 27, 2010 under cloudy skies and cool temperatures, 56–65° F. The wind blew all day and there was a trace of rain in the afternoon. Nine observers in eight parties tallied 107 species including one count week bird and 2856 total birds. The weather no doubt accounted for being well below our average numbers of 109 species and 3882 birds. First records: Common Nighthawk from Sandling Beach, and an amazing three parties reporting Blue-winged Warbler from Durant Nature Park, Rollingview and Sandling Beach. Third count records: Herring Gull from Woodpecker Ridge and two parties reporting Green Heron from Beaverdam Lake and Woodpecker Ridge. Misses: Our A list misses were both Eastern Whip-poor-will and Chuck-will's-widow; B list: Yellow-billed Cuckoo and Great Horned Owl. Many thanks to everyone who volunteered to count!

Brian Bockhahn

Kerr Lake – count date 28 April, 118 species, 3,863 individuals, 15 participants in 9 parties, 69.25 party-hours.

Weather: mostly sunny and cool, low 50, high 64° F.

Compiler: Brian Bockhahn (cbockhahn4@earthlink.net)

Participants: Brian Bockhahn, Adam D'Onofrio, Bryce and Lori Fleming, Joe Foster, Paul Glass, Fred Lobdell, Carol Mauzey, Grace McCrowell, Paul Scharf, Peter Scharf, Harry and Sandra Shoffner, Clyde Smith, and Deck Stapleton

Exclusives: Nashville Warbler

Notes: The seventh Kerr Lake Spring Bird Count was held on April 28, 2010 under mostly sunny skies and cool temperatures, 50–64° F. We tied our record high with 15 participants finding a slightly-below-average 118 species and 3863 individuals. New to spring checklist: Common Raven and Nashville Warbler, both seen well at Henderson Point. Second records: two parties reporting Ring-necked Ducks, three at Dick Cross WMA and one at Eagle Point; Marsh Wren at Dick Cross; and two Purple Finches at a feeder in area 8. Yeah, feeder watchers! Third records: a single Veery below the dam and two parties reporting Bobolink in area 9 and at Dick Cross. Misses: A list of misses includes Yellow-billed Cuckoo and Rose-breasted Grosbeak. Many thanks to everyone who volunteered to count!

Brian Bockhahn

Raven Rock State Park – count date 24 April, 112 species, 4,429 individuals, 15 participants in 10 parties, 64.50 party-hours.

Weather: Temperature 60–77° F, wind south 0–10mph, morning partly cloudy, afternoon cloudy, water open.

Count circle center at junction of NC 210 and SR 1434.

Compiler: Erik R. Thomas (ethomas@social.chass.ncsu.edu)

Participants: David Brown, Stephen Buczynski, David DuMond, Paul Hart, Scott Hartley, Tom Howard, Bobby Lutfy, Tim McGreal, Larry Rose, Karin Reese, Kevin Reese, Mitch Reese, Erik Thomas, Amber Williams, Ann Wilson.

Exclusives: Anhinga

Notes: The total of 112 species was lower than that of recent years. The early date of the count was a factor, as many transient species hadn't arrived yet. Good finds included single Anhingas by Stephen Buczynski and Scott Hartley.

Coast

Onslow County – count date 24 April, 164 species, 6,131 individuals, 24 participants in 12 parties, 63.75 party-hours.

Weather: Temperature 57–73° F, mostly cloudy, isolated showers late in the day, wind was southeast at 3–7 mph.

Compiler: Andy Webb (jwebb3@ec.rr.com)

Participants: Rich Boyd, Susan Boyd, Susan Cohen, Kerri Dikun, Megan English, Wade Fuller, John Fussell, Al Gamache, Chad Garber, Buddy Garrett, Barb Gould, Gil Grant, Martin Korenek, Jim O'Donnell, Laura O'Donnell, Steve Shaffer, Mark Shields, Bruce Smithson, Kelly Tingle, Tim Trott, Andy Webb, Kelly Zivicki, Elizabeth Zivicki, Sandra Zivicki

Exclusives: American Wigeon, Northern Shoveler, Merlin, Northern Gannet, Brown Pelican, Snowy Egret, Tri-colored Heron, Black-crowned Night Heron, White Ibis, Glossy Ibis, Clapper Rail, American Coot, Black-bellied Plover, Snowy Plover, Wilson's Plover, Semipalmated Plover, Piping Plover, American Oystercatcher, Willet, Whimbrel, Ruddy Turnstone, Red Knot, Sanderling, Western Sandpiper, Dunlin, Short-billed Dowitcher, Great Black-backed Gull, Royal Tern, Sandwich Tern, Common Tern, Forster's Tern, Least Tern, Black Skimmer, Saltmarsh Sparrow, Seaside Sparrow, Painted Bunting, Boat-tailed Grackle

Notes: The 16th annual Onslow County Spring Bird Count was held Saturday April 24, 2010. It was a very pleasant spring day, with great weather for birding. The temperatures ranged from a low of 57° F to a high of 73, which are the average temperatures for this date; the skies were mostly cloudy or partly sunny (depending on whether you see the cup half full or half empty) with some isolated light rain showers late in the day. The wind was from the southeast at 3 to 7 mph.

There were 24 observers in 12 parties who tallied 6,124 individual birds (10 year avg. 7,086), and a record 164 species, breaking the old record of

160 set back in 1998 (10 year avg. 152), during 63.75 party hours in the field. There were five species that were firsts for this count.

The party of John Fussell, Barbara Gould, and Tim Trott had three of the species new to the count: a Snowy Plover found at Bear Island, one of the three Merlins, and the Saltmarsh Sparrow. I am guessing that the Saltmarsh Sparrow just hasn't had a positive ID prior to this count, as they are not a rarity in coastal Onslow County. Gil Grant and Mark Shields had six write-in birds including two Merlins, Loggerhead Shrike, and Swamp Sparrow, which were all new to the count this year, as well as a Wilson's Snipe, Baltimore Oriole, and American Wigeon.

Most abundant species on the count were: Laughing Gull (457), Mourning Dove (273), and Dunlin (255), which were no surprise. It was a good year for ibises with 158 White and 30 Glossy which were count highs for these species. Jim O'Donnell had a high count of Ruddy Ducks with 92 still present at the water treatment plant. Some notable misses were Little Blue Heron, Common Moorhen, Common Nighthawk, Acadian Flycatcher, Blue-headed Vireo, and Kentucky Warbler.

There have been a number of participants that have been very faithful to this count including Rich & Susan Boyd who have not missed a year, Jim & Laura O'Donnell (Jim was the former compiler for this count), Buddy Garret, Gill Grant, Barbara Gould, John Fussell, Clancy Ballenger. All have tallied many a bird for this count. Chad Garber, wildlife biologist at Camp Lejeune, along with his staff provided much-needed coverage on the base, which encompasses a significant portion of the county. We could not have covered nearly as much ground if it were not for the support of friends and neighbors. Tim Trott has provided much-needed boat support, for which we are grateful, and Dr. Smith has provided access to private property that was formerly used as a wildlife impoundment. Thank you all for your support.

Andy Webb

Table 1. 2010 spring counts in North Carolina

	Trans	Bals	Hend	Burne	Bl Mt	Ired	Hang	Meck	Fors	Grbr	Alam	SoPl	ChH	Jord	Durh	Wake	Falls	Kerr	RaRo	Onsl	total	mins	picd	coast	
date	5/1	5/15	5/8	5/9	5/23	4/25	5/6	4/24	5/8	5/1	4/24	4/25	5/2	5/2	4/25	5/8	4/27	4/28	4/24	4/24		per party-hr			
Canada Goose	83		38	130		34	2	249	285	250	56	122	261	128	114	297	62	104	109	84	2408	0.91	2.21	1.32	
Mute Swan												5									5	0.00	0.01	0.00	
Wood Duck	1		9	7		4		7	13	5	8	11	56	45	18	2	9	8	19	12	234	0.06	0.22	0.19	
American Wigeon																					1	0.00	0.00	0.02	
American Black Duck						2															12	0.00	0.00	0.19	
Mallard	16	3	36	53		8		110	109	115	20	49	38	32	30	94	11	14	13	17	768	0.39	0.68	0.27	
Blue-winged Teal								2		2		1									17	22	0.00	0.01	0.27
Northern Shoveler																					3	3	0.00	0.00	0.05
Green-winged Teal								1													1	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Ring-necked Duck									1									4			5	0.00	0.01	0.00	
Hooded Merganser													1		1						2	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Red-breasted Merganser																1					9	10	0.00	0.00	0.14
Ruddy Duck																2					92	94	0.00	0.00	1.44
Duck sp.														1							1	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Northern Bobwhite			1	1		3			2	1		8	1					1	14	23	56	0.01	0.03	0.36	
Ruffed Grouse			7	3	2																12	0.04	0.00	0.00	
Wild Turkey	13	8	2	12	1	5	6		9	1		8	5	3	9		9	17	5	17	130	0.13	0.08	0.27	
Common Loon	1		1									4		3				2	3	13	27	0.01	0.01	0.20	
Pied-billed Grebe				1				2								1		2			5	11	0.00	0.01	0.08
Northern Gannet																					13	13	0.00	0.00	0.20
Brown Pelican																					79	79	0.00	0.00	1.24
Double-crested Cormorant	10							1	3	103	18	51	118	127	316	32	220	336	12	205	1552	0.04	1.42	3.22	
Anhinga																			2		2	0.00	0.00	0.00	
American Bittern										1					1						2	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Great Blue Heron	12	1	7			10		13	8	85	7	21	84	124	38	49	48	32	14	12	565	0.07	0.57	0.19	

	Trans	Bals	Hend	Bunc	Bl Mt	Ired	Hang	Meck	Fors	Gthr	Alam	SoPi	CHH	Jord	Durh	Wake	Falls	Kerr	RaRo	Onsl	total	mins	plid	coast	
Great Egret																6				29	37	0.00	0.01	0.45	
Snowy Egret																				12	12	0.00	0.00	0.19	
Tricolored Heron																				5	5	0.00	0.00	0.08	
Cattle Egret																1				5	6	0.00	0.00	0.08	
Green Heron	1		7	3		2		3	7	4		2	11	2	7	3		2	5	7	68	0.04	0.05	0.11	
Black-crowned Night-Heron																				1	1	0.00	0.00	0.02	
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron								3	6	4			6								19	0.00	0.02	0.00	
White Ibis																				158	158	0.00	0.00	2.48	
Glossy Ibis																				30	30	0.00	0.00	0.47	
Black Vulture	4		10	2		7	3	75	19	17	10	5	34	146	28			16	89	6	3	474	0.06	0.48	0.05
Turkey Vulture	19	20	26	58	5	15	11	22	57	47	4	97	83	195	56	42	25	96	54	77	1009	0.46	0.86	1.21	
Osprey	1			1				9	1	8	2	5	16	43	10	1	18	23	5	19	162	0.01	0.15	0.30	
Bald Eagle								1		6		2	37	31	7	5	15	14	1	6	125	0.00	0.13	0.09	
Northern Harrier												1								2	3	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Sharp-shinned Hawk			1		1				1			3	1		1		2	2	2		14	0.01	0.01	0.00	
Cooper's Hawk			2	3	1	2		5	7	9		1	4		2	1	1	1	2	3	44	0.02	0.04	0.05	
<i>Accipiter</i> , sp.												1		1						2	2	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Red-shouldered Hawk	2		2	5		5		10	9	11	4	11	15	16	22	20	8	7	15	12	174	0.03	0.16	0.19	
Broad-winged Hawk	1	4		2	7	4	2	1	1			2		2					3		29	0.05	0.02	0.00	
Red-tailed Hawk	6	1	6	8		11		10	22	13	2	13	18	15	8	10	5	10	12	5	175	0.08	0.16	0.08	
<i>Buteo</i> , sp.							1														1	0.00	0.00	0.00	
American Kestrel	1		2					1		1		1		1	1	1			9	2	20	0.01	0.02	0.03	
Merlin																				3	3	0.00	0.00	0.05	
Peregrine Falcon	1																			1	2	0.00	0.00	0.02	
Clapper Rail																				6	6	0.00	0.00	0.09	
King Rail														6							6	0.00	0.01	0.00	
American Coot																				12	12	0.00	0.00	0.19	
Black-bellied Plover																				97	97	0.00	0.00	1.52	
Snowy Plover																				1	1	0.00	0.00	0.00	

	Trans	Bals	Hend	Bunc	Bl Mt	Ired	Hang	Meck	Fors	Grbr	Alam	SoPi	ChHI	Jord	Durh	Wake	Falls	Kerr	RaRo	Onsl	total	mins	pled	coast
Wilson's Plover																				38	38	0.00	0.00	0.60
Semipalmated Plover									cw											5	5	0.00	0.00	0.08
Piping Plover																				8	8	0.00	0.00	0.13
Killdeer	1		4	5		36		49	41	30	4	33	50	27	23	16	19	36	68	62	504	0.04	0.46	0.97
American Oystercatcher																				8	8	0.00	0.00	0.13
Spotted Sandpiper	3		2	6		2		3	12	16		22	26	9	11	10	7	17	5	7	158	0.04	0.15	0.11
Solitary Sandpiper	2		15	1		3		16	12	39	2	2	6	5	8	13			3	1	129	0.07	0.12	0.02
Greater Yellowlegs			2						5											70	77	0.01	0.01	1.10
Willet																				106	106	0.00	0.00	1.66
Lesser Yellowlegs			2					4	20	2										11	39	0.01	0.03	0.17
Whimbrel																				33	33	0.00	0.00	0.52
Ruddy Turnstone																				7	7	0.00	0.00	0.11
Red Knot																				10	10	0.00	0.00	0.16
Sanderling																				62	62	0.00	0.00	0.97
Semipalmated Sandpiper								6	cw				1							7	14	0.00	0.01	0.11
Western Sandpiper																				6	6	0.00	0.00	0.09
Least Sandpiper			1					6	12	1			6		1				15	9	51	0.00	0.04	0.14
peep sp.																				12	12	0.00	0.00	0.19
White-rumped Sandpiper											1										1	0.00	0.00	0.00
Pectoral Sandpiper									1	1											2	0.00	0.00	0.00
Dunlin																				255	255	0.00	0.00	4.00
Short-billed Dowitcher																				140	140	0.00	0.00	2.20
Wilson's Snipe								1				2			1					2	6	0.00	0.00	0.03
American Woodcock					1										1						2	0.00	0.00	0.00
Laughing Gull										cw				1						457	458	0.00	0.00	7.17
Bonaparte's Gull																		12		60	72	0.00	0.01	0.94
Ring-billed Gull						5		48	1	28		30	2	5	112		84	88		66	469	0.00	0.43	1.04
Herring Gull																				111	112	0.00	0.00	1.74
Great Black-backed Gull																				2	2	0.00	0.00	0.03
Least Tern																				148	148	0.00	0.00	2.32
Caspian Tern									1						6	3	3	7			20	0.00	0.02	0.00

	Trans	Bals	Hend	Bunc	Bl Mt	Ired	Hang	Meck	Fors	Gthr	Alam	SoPi	ChHI	Jord	Durh	Wake	Falls	Kerr	RaRo	Onsl	total	mins	pled	coast	
Common Tern																				3	3	0.00	0.00	0.05	
Forster's Tern																				46	46	0.00	0.00	0.72	
Royal Tern																				146	146	0.00	0.00	2.29	
Sandwich Tern																				42	42	0.00	0.00	0.66	
Black Skimmer																				21	21	0.00	0.00	0.33	
Rock Pigeon	1		6	26		4		36	58	57	7	1	7	5	7	105	17	14	63	50	464	0.12	0.41	0.78	
Eurasian Collared-Dove			1			3													5	5	14	0.00	0.01	0.08	
Mourning Dove	99	26	84	101	1	136	7	181	116	131	82	336	134	204	96	104	68	113	205	273	2497	1.13	2.04	4.28	
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	1	5	5				5	2	7	4		1	11	22	3	10			3	4	83	0.04	0.07	0.06	
Black-billed Cuckoo		1			1				1												3	0.01	0.00	0.00	
Eastern Screech-Owl	1											1		4					2	13	21	0.00	0.01	0.20	
Great Horned Owl	3			1		1							1		2			1	2	3	14	0.01	0.01	0.05	
Barred Owl	2	3			1	4		7	1	3		4	13	5	12	3	5	5	5	3	76	0.02	0.07	0.05	
Northern Saw-whet Owl		2			2																4	0.01	0.00	0.00	
Common Nighthawk			3						1	cw		17				1	1				23	0.01	0.02	0.00	
Chuck-will's-widow									cw	1		20		2				3	3	26	55	0.00	0.03	0.41	
Eastern Whip-poor-will	3			1					3	cw		11	16	3				2	5	6	50	0.01	0.04	0.09	
Chimney Swift	13	33	31	100	20	22	2	111	145	152	27	38	73	64	46	63	10	26	81	46	1103	0.71	0.92	0.72	
Ruby-throated																									
Hummingbird	39	9	5	9	4	2		6	13	13	1	3	46	14	7	11	9	14	1	3	209	0.24	0.15	0.05	
Belted Kingfisher	8		2			1		12	7	6	1	5	1	1	7	7	6	5	7	2	78	0.04	0.07	0.03	
Red-headed Woodpecker						1		13	cw	18		14	19	32	7		15	4	6	20	149	0.00	0.14	0.31	
Red-bellied Woodpecker	41	10	18	30	2	22	6	67	60	90	17	51	174	82	62	71	35	33	55	37	963	0.37	0.88	0.58	
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker		2						5													7	0.01	0.01	0.00	
Downy Woodpecker	10	10	6	10	1	7	2	29	24	27	2	17	58	30	14	31	11	12	7	9	317	0.13	0.29	0.14	
Hairy Woodpecker	3	20	3	3	3		1	4	3	5		6	11	3	3	3	2	5	1	2	81	0.12	0.05	0.03	
Red-cockaded																									
Woodpecker												7									11	18	0.00	0.01	0.17
Northern Flicker	8	5	3	12	1	1		11	20	14	1	18	17	11	9	13	7	6	7	16	180	0.11	0.14	0.25	
Pileated Woodpecker	32	16	6	14	2	10	2	1	1	4		27	21	18	12	8	14	9	13	21	231	0.25	0.15	0.33	
Eastern Wood-Pewee	1	22	4	26	3				2	1		3	15	38	4	7	3	4	2	9	144	0.20	0.08	0.14	

	Trans	Bals	Hend	Bunc	Bl Mt	Ired	Hang	Meck	Fors	Gbr	Alan	SoPl	ChH	Jord	Durh	Wake	Falls	Kerr	RaRo	Onsl	total	mins	pled	coast	
Acadian Flycatcher	1	4	3	4	9		3	1	4	3		1	35	6	3	16	1	1	5		97	0.08	0.08	0.00	
Alder Flycatcher		36																			36	0.13	0.00	0.00	
Willow Flycatcher			3						cw												3	0.01	0.00	0.00	
Least Flycatcher		24																			24	0.09	0.00	0.00	
Eastern Phoebe	34	8	14	42	4	15	12	41	40	22	11	29	29	47	12	22	20	11	31		444	0.37	0.36	0.00	
Great Crested Flycatcher	9	2	5	6			4	9	18	26	1	113	58	67	15	60	28	33	46	96	596	0.08	0.51	1.51	
Eastern Kingbird	10		12	15		6		8	49	19	4	96	26	50	5	31	25	63	57	25	501	0.13	0.47	0.39	
Loggerhead Shrike												4				6				11	1	22	0.00	0.02	0.00
White-eyed Vireo	9		15	5		5		21	6	3	9	51	35	32	39	9	22	43	41	31	376	0.11	0.34	0.49	
Yellow-throated Vireo		2		5			1	3	cw			17	19	11	7	1	11	16	4	20	117	0.03	0.10	0.31	
Blue-headed Vireo	44	156	5	64	98	1	3	1	2	1		8	8	7	11		7	9	cw		425	1.33	0.06	0.00	
Warbling Vireo				3												1					4	0.01	0.00	0.00	
Red-eyed Vireo	93	88	50	167	33	38	35	41	57	60	12	51	245	183	133	72	64	128	91	20	1661	1.56	1.29	0.31	
Blue Jay	65	35	49	99	9	52	2	39	101	94	41	120	121	113	118	51	31	46	85	54	1325	0.93	1.08	0.85	
American Crow	214	50	162	224	25	128	9	96	137	160	53	270	250	263	153	78	107	168	202	89	2838	2.45	2.21	1.40	
Fish Crow						2		17	14	33		59	64	57	74	43	16	39	20	24	462	0.00	0.47	0.38	
Common Raven	2	10		7	3				8	1								1			32	0.08	0.01	0.00	
Crow sp.												9		3					7	1	20	0.00	0.02	0.02	
Horned Lark												10							8	3	21	0.00	0.02	0.05	
Purple Martin	40		16	6		36		3	12	401		83	97	128	14	65	3	77	123	142	1246	0.22	1.11	2.23	
Tree Swallow	179		44	27					3	8		1	15	15	20	1	37	19		3	372	0.91	0.13	0.05	
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	32	4	61	55		5		52	47	20	2	49	34	38	28	35	19	90	33	20	624	0.55	0.48	0.31	
Bank Swallow			3					4	cw	cw		2	1							20	30	0.01	0.01	0.31	
Cliff Swallow			7					15	30	cw			4	172	1	10	60	20		5	324	0.03	0.33	0.08	
Barn Swallow	119	1	86	125		62	1	24	113	41	16	68	64	79	31	112	42	43	82	57	1166	1.20	0.83	0.89	
Carolina Chickadee	89	11	48	84	2	27	4	130	98	105	18	105	287	144	114	84	66	64	61	38	1579	0.85	1.39	0.60	
Black-capped Chickadee	3	28																			31	0.11	0.00	0.00	
Tufted Titmouse	125	34	45	90	7	38	19	85	117	114	38	173	348	238	132	101	77	103	64	32	1980	1.09	1.75	0.50	
Red-breasted Nuthatch	11	47		10	69																137	0.50	0.00	0.00	
White-breasted Nuthatch	24	7	8	15		8	3	15	35	24	3	26	52	13	11	21	9	5	4	12	295	0.20	0.24	0.19	

	Trans	Bals	Hend	Bunc	Bl Mt	Ired	Hang	Meck	Fors	Gbr	Alan	SoPl	CHH	Jord	Durh	Wake	Falls	Kerr	RaRo	Onsl	total	mins	pied	coast
Brown-headed Nuthatch				2		2		48	16	30									20	33	474	0.01	0.47	0.52
Brown Creeper	2	21		4	18																45	0.16	0.00	0.00
Carolina Wren	69	3	51	137	2	65	9	173	138	122	33	173	418	273	206	136	53	78	112	63	2314	0.95	2.12	0.99
House Wren	45	3	7	6	1	4		17	41	23	2	5	45	3	34	8				2	254	0.22	0.20	0.03
Winter Wren	3	32		1	73																109	0.39	0.00	0.00
Marsh Wren																		1		10	11	0.00	0.00	0.16
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	19	2	24	24		29		92	36	38	19	167	233	149	202	70	77	73	67	41	1362	0.25	1.33	0.64
Golden-crowned Kinglet	7	87		12	155																261	0.95	0.00	0.00
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	1	4				1		16	cw	2		18	4		15		3	2			66	0.02	0.06	0.00
Eastern Bluebird	60	1	36	84		133	3	34	64	126	54	215	177	179	65	84	75	99	176	70	1735	0.66	1.58	1.10
Veery		141		5	30				2				10	1	1	2	1	1			194	0.64	0.02	0.00
Swainson's Thrush			1		2			3	16	3			17	3		3	cw	1			49	0.01	0.05	0.00
Hermit Thrush		10		1	22			1	1						2				1		38	0.12	0.01	0.00
Wood Thrush	16	18	6	33	4	13		17	16	19	12	15	52	43	33	38	14	17	7	9	382	0.28	0.32	0.14
American Robin	173	148	88	258	19	153	9	513	409	359	77	76	209	60	254	133	23	22	112	32	3127	2.49	2.57	0.50
Gray Catbird	20	69	11	56	20	2		22	51	58		18	92	29	62	14	13	11	9	13	570	0.64	0.41	0.20
Northern Mockingbird	33		37	55		84		127	73	118	38	125	170	134	63	40	33	60	176	91	1457	0.45	1.32	1.43
Brown Thrasher	27	5	21	26	1	11	1	56	29	41	4	30	62	49	26	14	9	33	38	21	504	0.29	0.43	0.33
European Starling	95	8	105	191		139	2	271	281	252	132	194	179	122	86	85	39	72	220	176	2649	1.45	2.21	2.76
Cedar Waxwing	37	25	122	180	22	53		191	380	242	2	158	51	35	22	60			9	1	1591	1.40	1.28	0.02
Blue-winged Warbler										cw							3				4	0.00	0.00	0.00
Nashville Warbler										cw								1			1	0.00	0.00	0.00
Northern Parula	61	23	8	2	4	3	1	18	6	21	7	40	136	66	58	18	27	29	20	41	589	0.36	0.48	0.64
Yellow Warbler	13		3	7				1	6			2	9	4	1	1	2	8	1		58	0.08	0.04	0.00
Chestnut-sided Warbler	38	351		30	47		1		2	2					1						472	1.69	0.01	0.00
Magnolia Warbler		2	1	2					4							2					11	0.02	0.01	0.00
Cape May Warbler		2	2	1				3	1	3			2								14	0.02	0.01	0.00
Black-throated Blue Warbler	16	124	1	48	76		20	1	11	25		10	76	21	15	14	11	4	cw	1	474	0.96	0.22	0.02
Yellow-rumped Warbler	18	1		5		12	6	217	2	66	35	104	77	33	111	2	134	133	64	21	1041	0.09	1.06	0.33

	Trans	Bals	Hend	Bunc	Bl Mt	Ired	Hang	Meck	Fors	Ghr	Alan	SoPi	ChHI	Jord	Durh	Wake	Falls	Kerr	RaRo	Onsl	total	mins	pled	coast
Black-throated Green Warbler	27	136	8	31	133		13		cw	cw			2		1			1			352	1.21	0.02	0.00
Blackburnian Warbler	5	47		35	33																120	0.43	0.00	0.00
Yellow-throated Warbler	14		1	3		1		1	1		1	44	24	42	26	4	16	33	13	13	237	0.07	0.22	0.20
Pine Warbler	4		1	5		7	13	20	18	33	3	76	169	175	89	72	61	49	36	38	869	0.04	0.87	0.60
Prairie Warbler						5		4	1	5		49	34	67	32		19	25	44	43	328	0.00	0.30	0.67
Palm Warbler	1							1		1		1	1	1	5		2	6			19	0.00	0.02	0.00
Blackpoll Warbler	1		1	4				1	22	5			5	1				1			41	0.02	0.04	0.00
Cerulean Warbler				7						cw											7	0.03	0.00	0.00
Black-and-white Warbler	9	68	2	53	12	1	14	1		4	1	22	25	33	21	1	17	11	13	1	309	0.52	0.17	0.02
American Redstart	3	5	4	17	1		2	1	12	9	1	9	36	18	9	5	2	2	5		141	0.11	0.12	0.00
Prothonotary Warbler									cw	5		16	45	31	11	3	7	14	27	33	192	0.00	0.17	0.52
Worm-eating Warbler	7		1	11			1	1		cw		5	9		2		2	1		11	51	0.07	0.02	0.17
Swainson's Warbler	2																		1	5	8	0.01	0.00	0.08
Ovenbird	23	92	9	105	18		11	6	3	3	4	45	141	107	51	30	37	61	28	12	786	0.89	0.56	0.19
Northern Waterthrush	3		3						1	1			8	1	6	1	6		1		31	0.02	0.03	0.00
Louisiana Waterthrush	10		1					1	cw			7	13	5	9	5	1	1	11	1	65	0.04	0.06	0.02
Kentucky Warbler	2		1	5			1		1			2	8	1	1						22	0.03	0.01	0.00
Common Yellowthroat	21	49	22	5	2	21		6	60	37	15	54	72	52	89	35	31	37	26	32	666	0.36	0.57	0.50
Hooded Warbler	61	28	7	95	1		5	2	2	1		39	49	32	20	6	14	17	16	12	407	0.70	0.22	0.19
Canada Warbler	9	138		27	61		1		2												238	0.85	0.00	0.00
Yellow-breasted Chat	4		6	3		2			5			4	30	46	1		3	13	2	5	124	0.05	0.11	0.08
Eastern Towhee	201	303	89	178	69	42	2	142	106	103	23	133	205	138	178	54	36	23	42	62	2129	3.04	1.31	0.97
Bachman's Sparrow												3								8	11	0.00	0.00	0.13
Chipping Sparrow	28	7	13	40	1	30	4	94	7	37	20	220	206	222	77	38	76	105	129	41	1395	0.32	1.35	0.64
Field Sparrow	18	6	26	10		36		9	11	16	4	13	4	16	10	2	13	15	19		228	0.22	0.18	0.00
Savannah Sparrow			4	1				3	3			11	3	1	15		15	13	17	9	95	0.02	0.09	0.14
Grasshopper Sparrow			2			13			11	1	1	5				4		3	7		47	0.01	0.05	0.00
Saltmarsh Sparrow																				1	1	0.00	0.00	0.00
Seaside Sparrow																				3	3	0.00	0.00	0.05
Song Sparrow	184	16	122	258	9	24		50	42	99	17	1	50	4	52	6	4		10	3	951	2.13	0.38	0.05

	Trans	Bals	Hend	Bunc	Bl Mt	Ired	Hang	Meck	Fors	Gthr	Alan	SoPl	ChHl	Jord	Durh	Wake	Falls	Kerr	RaRo	Onsl	total	mins	pied	coast
Swamp Sparrow																					22	0.00	0.02	0.00
White-throated Sparrow	4			1	1	34		124	cw	24	25	79	27	5	222	3	28	23	60	7	667	0.02	0.70	0.11
White-crowned Sparrow						2															2	0.00	0.00	0.00
Dark-eyed Junco	27	354		55	199										4						639	2.30	0.00	0.00
sparrow sp.														6							6	0.00	0.01	0.00
Summer Tanager						2		7	3	4	1	44	74	114	18	43	24	24	20	19	397	0.00	0.40	0.30
Scarlet Tanager	18	49	6	58	6	1	2	2	6	7		2	56	46	4	3	10	8	1		285	0.50	0.16	0.00
Northern Cardinal	144	7	121	185		127	10	192	223	328	47	324	650	352	281	212	118	124	192	174	3811	1.66	3.39	2.73
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	8	40	1	21	1				3	1		1	3			1					80	0.26	0.01	0.00
Blue Grosbeak	3		2			4		2	28	5		26	41	57	12	19	20	17	18	8	262	0.02	0.27	0.13
Indigo Bunting	29	70	55	115	64	13		6	101	43	2	10	101	138	48	41	28	28	20	8	920	1.21	0.62	0.13
Painted Bunting																					17	0.00	0.00	0.27
Bobolink	13		1	25		117			6	40	18	2		20	2	22		11	26	20	323	0.14	0.28	0.31
Red-winged Blackbird	105		57	112		39		50	57	41	8	96	76	32	93	56	25	23	142	116	1128	0.99	0.79	1.82
Eastern Meadowlark	10		6	5		55		1	13	14	24	89	18	33	17	15	14	13	71	20	418	0.08	0.40	0.31
Rusty Blackbird													10								10	0.00	0.01	0.00
Common Grackle	51		25	84		179	3	338	316	342	130	222	144	158	240	172	77	126	323	206	3136	0.58	2.95	3.23
Boat-tailed Grackle																					103	0.00	0.00	1.62
Brown-headed Cowbird	38	2	34	15		19	3	145	74	69	6	139	149	133	93	57	35	69	90	82	1252	0.32	1.15	1.29
Orchard Oriole	1	1	13	6				9	14	5		49	28	32	5	13	5	11	14	15	221	0.08	0.20	0.24
Baltimore Oriole	1			9			1		13	8			2	2				1		1	38	0.04	0.03	0.02
Purple Finch	1					1												2			4	0.00	0.00	0.00
House Finch	17		14	35		12		72	50	98	8	44	121	45	54	72	28	16	36	19	741	0.24	0.70	0.30
Pine Siskin		5		1	6																12	0.04	0.00	0.00
American Goldfinch	221	31	54	183	7	95	1	73	123	279	19	66	190	123	107	100	95	97	44	7	1915	1.80	1.50	0.11
House Sparrow	7		14	33		53		29	14	12	3	30	33	31	31	13	11	4	39	29	386	0.20	0.32	0.45
Total species	115	82	106	111	63	87	50	112	119	110	69	123	121	114	118	106	107	118	112	164	223	1.73	1.56	2.49
Total individuals	3636	3288	2240	4693	1438	2434	285	4963	4956	5688	1285	5969	8227	6767	5270	3725	2856	3863	4429	6131	82143	55.42	64.67	96.06
# participants	20	24	10	23	14	10	6	25	46	22	5	26	38	37	23	29	9	15	15	24	421			

cw: count week

Column key for Table 1:

Trans Transylvania
Bals Balsam Mountains
Hend Henderson County
Bunc Buncombe County
Bl Mt Black Mountains
Ired Iredell County
Hang Hanging Rock
Meck Mecklenburg County

Fors Forsyth County
Grbr Greensboro
Alam Alamance County
SoPi Southern Pines
ChHl Chapel Hill
Jord Jordan Lake
Durh Durham
Wake Wake County

Falls Falls Lake
Kerr Kerr Lake
RaRo Raven Rock
Onsl Onslow County
mtns mountains
pied piedmont
coast coast

Table 2. Summary of party hours and miles

	Party hours						
	total	on foot	by car	by bicycle	canoe/ kayak/ boat	night	feeder watch
Transylvania	68.00	25.00	43.00				58.00
Balsam	65.50	33.50	15.00			1.50	
Henderson	32.50	14.75	17.75				
Buncombe	70.00	32.00	42.25			0.25	
Black Mts	40.00	30.50	9.50			1.00	
Iredell	29.00	9.50	19.50			3.00	11.00
Hanging Rock	3.75	3.50	0.25				
Mecklenburg	83.00	71.00	12.00			1.50	
Forsyth	88.00	72.25	15.75			4.00	
Greensboro	81.70	66.20	15.50				
Alamance	20.25	12.75	7.50				
Southern Pines	83.33	38.25	45.08			5.00	6.00
Chapel Hill	114.75	82.75	21.00	5.00	6.00	2.00	15.00
Jordan Lake	118.41	87.66	25.75		5.00	1.75	
Durham	75.20	69.50	5.70				
Wake County	58.00	50.00	6.00	2.00		2.00	
Falls Lake	49.75	41.25	8.50			1.50	
Kerr Lake	69.25	55.00	14.25			1.25	2.00
Raven Rock	64.50	31.00	33.50			1.50	
Onslow	63.75	28.50	34.25			5.25	
total	1278.64	854.86	392.03	7.00	11.00	31.50	92.00

	Party miles						
	total	on foot	by car	by bicycle	canoe/ kayak/ boat	night	
Transylvania	266.00	22.00	244.00				
Balsam	141.00	31.00	111.50			5.00	
Henderson	136.55	9.25	127.30				
Buncombe	296.60	20.50	279.60				
Black Mts	59.00	29.00	30.00			6.00	
Iredell	177.00	10.00	167.00			3.00	
Hanging Rock	16.00	8.00	8.00				
Mecklenburg	260.70	57.00	203.70			0.25	
Forsyth	188.75	44.25	134.50	10.00		0.50	
Greensboro	302.10	41.60	260.50				
Alamance	68.80	11.00	73.00				
Southern Pines	483.80	26.60	457.20				
Chapel Hill	192.00	56.00	121.00	9.00	6.00	1.25	
Jordan Lake	291.50	74.90	212.60		4.00	9.00	
Durham	99.65	54.45	45.20				
Wake County	152.00	43.50	105.50	3.00		1.00	
Falls Lake	130.50	35.75	94.75			0.50	
Kerr Lake	198.25	38.25	160.00				
Raven Rock	417.15	22.75	394.40			10.00	
Onslow	387.00	25.00	352.00		10.00	40.00	
total	4264.35	660.80	3581.75	22.00	20.00	76.50	