

# The Chat

Vol. 82

Winter 2018

No. 1



The Quarterly Bulletin of the Carolina Bird Club, Inc.  
The Ornithological Society of the Carolinas

# THE CHAT

ISSN No. 0009-1987

Quarterly Bulletin of Carolina Bird Club, Inc.

1909 Lakepark Drive, Raleigh NC 27612

Vol. 82

Winter 2018

No. 1

General Field Notes Editors  
North Carolina  
South Carolina

Christina Harvey  
William Post

Briefs for the Files

Josh Southern

Editor

Steve Shultz  
2404 Bristers Spring Way  
Apex, NC 27523  
chat@carolinabirdclub.org

THE CHAT is published quarterly by the Carolina Bird Club, Inc., 9 Quincy Place, Pinehurst NC 28374. Subscription price \$30 per year.

Copyright © 2018 by Carolina Bird Club, Inc. Except for purposes of review, material contained herein may not be reproduced without written permission from the Carolina Bird Club, Inc.

## Articles

2016 Spring Migration Counts in North Carolina  
*Marilyn Westphal*..... 1

## Briefs for the Files

Fall 2017 *Josh Southern*.....28

## The Chat Goes Online

*Steve Shultz*.....47

Cover: Hudsonian Godwit, 12 Sep 17, Wake Co, NC  
Photo by Stacy Barbour

## 2016 Spring Migration Counts in North Carolina

---

Marilyn Westphal  
P.O. Box 1427  
Hendersonville, NC 28793  
[mjwestph@ret.unca.edu](mailto:mjwestph@ret.unca.edu)

Although Wake County discontinued its count this year, the addition of Pilot Mountain State Park kept the count areas at a total of twenty-one. Total species (242) was slightly lower than the past couple of years, but about average for the past six years when there were 20 to 22 count areas. Total individual bird numbers (89,352) was also about average for that period. Although species and individual totals were average, participation (429 participants) was lower than it has been since 2011, but total effort was still about average with 1349.55 team-hours (a.k.a. party-hours) tabulated, so teams made up for the loss of participation by putting in additional time.

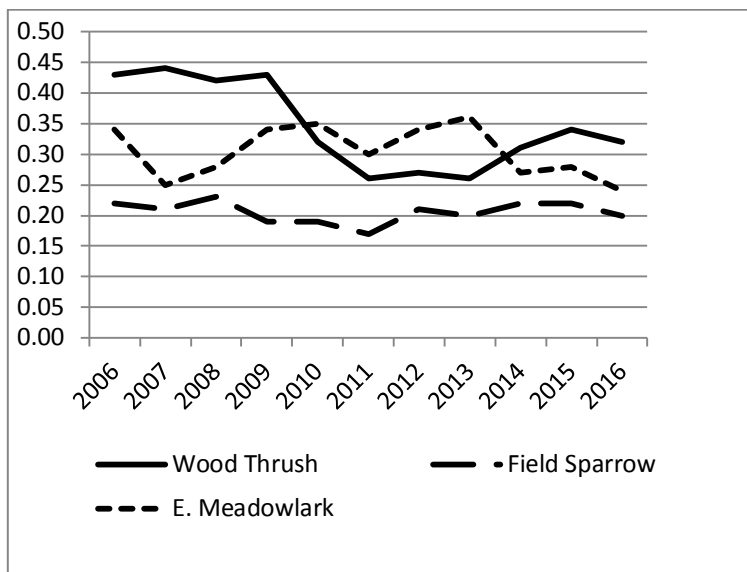
Some species that were located in only one count area included Connecticut and Nashville Warbler in Henderson County; American Pipit in Mecklenburg County; Bufflehead in Forsyth County; Lark Sparrow at Southern Pines; King Rail, Common Gallinule, and Rusty Blackbird at Chapel Hill; Lesser Scaup at Falls Lake; Common Merganser, Red-throated Loon, and Pacific Loon at Kerr Lake; and, being the only coastal count, many species in Onslow County. Some of the best coastal count species were Eared Grebe, Parasitic Jaeger, and White-rumped Sandpiper. Unlike the interesting showing of Mississippi Kites last year, none showed up for count day this year, and the massive showing of Pine Siskins on almost all of the counts in 2015 was also missing this year. Only a few counts outside of the mountain region, where they occur regularly, reported any siskins at all.

Most of the species that were found on every count are permanent residents throughout the state such as Mourning Dove, Downy Woodpecker, Eastern Phoebe, Blue Jay, American Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, Carolina Wren, American Robin, Brown Thrasher, American Goldfinch, Eastern Towhee and Northern Cardinal, but a few are migrants throughout all or most of the state including Chimney Swift, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Red-eyed Vireo, Wood Thrush, and Indigo Bunting. A couple are also largely migratory but also present in low to very low numbers in winter, especially in the mountains, such as Gray Catbird and Common Yellowthroat.

Most abundant species in NC, i.e. totals greater than 2000, were also for the most part species that are common throughout the state including Northern Cardinal (3886), American Robin (2869), American Crow (2741), European Starling (2570), Common Grackle (2400), Tufted Titmouse

(2106), Canada Goose (2106), and American Goldfinch (2025). The second most abundant species, however, was Double-crested Cormorant (3230), a species whose numbers dwindle quickly away from the coastal plain, but are extremely abundant along the coast.

There has been concern over the decline of certain species in the United States over the past few decades including some that are North Carolina breeding birds. The chart below shows three of these species, Wood Thrush, Field Sparrow, and Eastern Meadowlark, and how their numbers have fluctuated from 2006 to 2016 based on North Carolina Spring Count data. Data used are individuals per party-hour, which is calculated by dividing the total number of that species found divided by the total field hours for that spring count. This levels a playing field that might otherwise be affected by variations in observer participation, as teams spend different numbers of hours in the field from one year to the next.



As can be seen, Field Sparrow numbers have remained stable over this period, while Wood Thrush and Meadowlark numbers have fluctuated slightly. Wood Thrush numbers were at what was probably their all-time low to date on NC spring counts from 2011 to 2013 and have bounced back slightly since then. Meadowlark numbers seem to continue to be in decline. All three of these species exhibited far greater numbers in North Carolina in the 1960s based on spring count data. Of course North Carolina has changed considerably since then, and both woodland and open country birds have suffered from loss of habitat, but some species have been far more affected than others. It is good to see that at least numbers do seem to have stabilized somewhat over the past decade for some species.

Details of individual counts including names of compilers and participants, as well as count highlights and a list of species found exclusively on that count, follow.

### **Mountains**

**Transylvania County** – Count date May 1st, 122 species, 4239 individuals, 22 participants in 12 parties and 1 feeder-watcher, 84.00 party-hours. Elevation ranges from 2100 to 5600 ft. Weather: clear, little wind, weather variable with elevation, 30-60° F.

Compiler: Norma Siebenheller (sieb@citcom.net)

Participants: Marvin Barg, Michele Barg, Dick Blee, Sylvia Blee, Linda Cooper, Bruce Cox, Nancy Cowal, Susan Goldsworthy, May Goring, Al Hooper, Chris Jaquette, Mike Judd, Nora Murdock, Janie Owens, Michael Plauche, Bill Siebenheller, Norma Siebenheller, Mark Simpson, Simon Thompson, Charlie Threatte, Linda Threatte, Marilyn Westphal

Exclusives: none

Notes: Despite the fact that some of our regulars were unable to take part this year, this turned out to be one of our most successful counts ever in Transylvania. New birders joined us, while others from surrounding counties pitched in to help; the weather was pleasant; the birds were cooperative; and the end result was the third-highest total — 122 species — that we have achieved since the count began in 1973. Highlights included the first Greater Scaup for our list and the first Lincoln's Sparrow. We were delighted at the sighting of an immature Bald Eagle in Balsam Grove and two Northern Saw-whet Owls at a known breeding site along the Parkway. Twenty-five species of warblers were recorded, some of them in very good numbers. A singing Summer Tanager was a surprise. And the Great Blue Heron rookery continues to grow: 50 birds were counted at the Ecusta Pond site this year.

Of course, there are always disappointments — we missed Green Heron, American Kestrel, Wild Turkey, Purple Martin, and Eastern Screech-Owl...but that's the nature of this game. Someday everything will go right, and we'll reach the magic number of 130. But for now, we're happy with 122. It was a great day.

Norma Siebenheller

**Pisgah Ridge, Great Balsam and Plott Balsam Mountains IBA** – Count dates spanned from May 19-22 with teams selecting one of those days to do their section, 75 species, 2950 individuals, 25 participants in 11 parties, 84.00 party-hours. Elevation ranges for this count run from 3500 to 6100 feet.

Weather: mostly cloudy to clear, but cool with temperatures from 40 to 60°F and winds from 10 to 15mph.

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

Participants: Tim Carstens, Nancy Casey, Laura Eldridge, Robert Emmott, Tom Flagg, Kirk Gardner, Jamie Harrelson, Robert Johnson, Stacy Johnson, Gail Lankford, Charlie Lankford, Andrew Laughlin, Nora Murdock, Joseph Nolan, Naomi Otterness, Catherine Reid, Russell Roe, Mark Simpson, Tom Tribble, Lou Weber, Marilyn Westphal, Connie Wulcowicz and Stan Wulcowicz

Exclusives: none

Notes: A very cool May followed a very warm April, and the cool weather and somewhat windy conditions at times may have reduced birding activity. Species total was lower than average as were total individuals. There were no first time species for this count, but Red-winged Blackbird was found for only the second time. Although Red-winged Blackbirds are common in the valleys, they are rather rare at the elevations where this count largely occurs. Bald Eagle was found only for the fourth time. Peregrine Falcons returned to nest at Devil's Courthouse after several years' absence. Alder and Least Flycatchers were, once again, present in good numbers. Late migrants included a Cape May and a Bay-breasted Warbler.

Dark-eyed Junco (310), Eastern Towhee (278), and Chestnut-sided Warbler (275) were the most common species found, as is usually the case, followed by Blue-headed Vireo (198), Black-throated Green Warbler (168), Golden-crowned Kinglet (149), Canada Warbler (122), Veery (120), American Robin (114), and Black-throated Blue Warbler (105).

The most unusual miss was Barred Owl, although 3 Northern Saw-whet Owls were counted at known nesting sites. Numbers of most species were in the average range, but Rose-breasted Grosbeak numbers have been somewhat down the last couple of years.

Once again, despite the weather, everyone had a great time birding in this beautiful area. Many thanks again to all the participants.

Marilyn Westphal

**Henderson County** – Count date period from May 13<sup>th</sup> to May 16<sup>th</sup> (teams select which date to do their count), 105 species, 2799 individuals, 17 participants in 11 areas, 48.95 party-hours. Weather: no data

Compiler: Jim Neal (jlbjneal@gmail.com)

Participants: D Bauknight, Vicky Burke, Liz Fitts, Joyce Gray, Ginger Hadley, Shirley Hastings, Jill Heishman, Rich Leppingwell, Nora Murdock, Barbara Neal, Jim Neal, Janie Owens, Carol Palmer, Don Palmer, Cherie Pitillo, Mark Simpson and Marilyn Westphal

Exclusives: Connecticut Warbler, Nashville Warbler

Notes: The 105 species is somewhat higher than our low of 95 species set last year. The highest was in 2006 when 120 species were found in nine areas. The 2799 total birds are slightly above the midpoint between our low of 1612 in 2014 and the high of 3904 in 2012.

There were six species with more than 100 individuals. The Northern Cardinal at 143 was first followed by Eastern Towhee (139),

American Crow (135), Canada Goose (120), Song Sparrow (122), and Red-eyed Vireo (104). Cedar Waxwing was close with 97.

Normally we get around 20 species of warblers, and this year we found 21. Black-throated Green Warbler and Ovenbird tied for the most abundant at 58, followed closely by Hooded Warbler at 55. Black-and-white Warbler at 30 and Northern Parula at 26 completed the top five.

Other really good species found included Spotted Sandpiper, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Common Nighthawk, Acadian Flycatcher, Willow Flycatcher, Yellow-throated Vireo, Swainson's Thrush, Connecticut and Canada Warblers, and Bobolink. I want to thank all those who helped with the count, particularly the several new people, for an excellent job.

Jim Neal

**Buncombe County** – Count date centered on May 7<sup>th</sup>, 110 species, 4915 individuals, 22 participants in 9 parties, 65.50 party-hours. Weather: mostly cooler than average over the count period, cloudy to partly cloudy, windy at higher elevations.

Compiler: Tom Tribble (ttribble@gmail.com)

Participants: Tom Bush, Nancy Casey, Nancy Cowal, Robert Emmott, Jamie Harrelson, Doug Johnston, Gail Lankford, Herman Lankford, Nora Murdock, Janie Owens, Liz Payne, Cherrie Pitillo, J Rittenburg, Russell Roe, Steve Semanchuk, Mark Simpson, Liz Skiles, Emilie Travis, Tom Tribble, Marilyn Westphal, Jay Wherley, and Steve Yurkovich

Exclusives: Northern Harrier

Notes: none

**Black Mountains IBA** – Count period ran from May 26<sup>th</sup> to May 31<sup>st</sup> with teams selecting one of those days to complete their section, 68 species, 2299 individuals, 15 participants in 12 parties with some teams covering a second section on a different day, 45.60 party-hours. Weather: unusually pleasant weather over the count period, cool in the morning and warm in the afternoon, mostly calm and clear. Elevation range for this count is 3000 to 6684 ft. with most of the count area above 4000 ft. This count has been conducted since 2006 with 2008 missed because of road closures.

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

Participants: Luke Cannon, Laura Eldridge, Robert Emmott, Jamie Harrelson, Doug Johnston, Charlie Lankford, Gail Lankford, Andrew Laughlin, Nora Murdock, Steve Semanchuk, Mark Simpson, Liz Skiles, Simon Thompson, Marilyn Westphal and Yuri Woodstock.

Exclusives: none

Notes: Mount Mitchell spring weather can be very unstable, but this year participants were fortunate to experience some of the most pleasant weather ever during a count period. The great weather and excellent participation yielded the highest species count (68) thus far for this area. Only one new species for the count (Great Crested Flycatcher) was found, and the only first miss was Mourning Dove. Fourteen species had the highest number over the

ten years of this count while none of those regularly found were included in the lowest numbers.

Much of the area covered in this count is high elevation spruce/fir habitat and the most frequently found species are those common to that habitat. This year, as usual, the top ten species were largely dominated by spruce/fir specialists and included Dark-eyed Junco (314), Black-throated Green Warbler (181), Golden-crowned Kinglet (175), Blue-headed Vireo (148), Canada Warbler (134), Black-throated Blue Warbler (111), Veery (99), Red-breasted Nuthatch (84), American Robin (83), and Blackburnian Warbler (83).

No unusual species were found, but Alder and Least Flycatchers returned as did Yellow-rumped Warbler, all species that seem to breed in the area only sporadically. Thrush numbers were very good this year with a record 99 Veeries and 68 Hermit Thrushes. On the other hand, Swainson's Thrushes, which have been suspected of breeding in the area for the past nine or ten years, seem to be declining. Red Crossbills and Pine Siskins were present in good numbers this year. One male calling Northern Saw-whet Owl was heard, and another nesting female were excellent for the count.

Many thanks once again to all the participants. This count requires some significant hiking over sometimes steep and/or rocky trails, so their efforts are always greatly appreciated.

Marilyn Westphal

**Grandfather Mountain IBA** - Count date May 13<sup>th</sup>, 61 species, 604 individuals, 3 participants in 2 parties, 15.50 party-hours. Weather: mostly cloudy with intermittent light rain.

Compiler: Mickey Shortt Jr. (mickey@grandfather.com)

Participants: Miriam Avello, Robin Diaz, Mickey Shortt Jr.

Exclusives: none

Notes: We conducted the 2016 spring bird count under mostly cloudy skies and intermittent light rain. We counted on two routes: along the NC-105 corridor west of Grandfather Mountain and along the Grandfather Trail. The weather affected our count, and numbers of individuals were roughly half of the previous year's count for the same routes. Two other routes were not covered due to leaders being out of town.

NC-105 Corridor Route: This route begins at Church Road in Foscoe and continues along NC-105 until the intersection with Hwy-221, including the lower part of Profile Trail and parking area. It then follows 221 toward Grandfather Mountain SF and .75 miles along Old Yonahlossee Highway. Inside Grandfather Mountain SF, coverage is the main road, the museum and Black Rock parking areas and all available pull-off areas. After covering Grandfather Mountain SF, the route continues along 221 toward the Blue Ridge Parkway, with three stops at pull-off areas. The last stop is the Beacon Heights parking area and the opposite vegetation, as well as the lower part of the Beacon Heights Trail. The list from the last stop is shared



with Bob Cherry, who covers this area more thoroughly. Coverage for this route includes pull-off areas along the roads, bog and wet areas and accessible woods, such as those behind Lowe's Foods. Birds heard or seen during the drive are tallied.

Notes: A Pine Siskin was observed making a nest on this route. A Magnolia Warbler was spotted at Beacon Heights singing; this is a fairly common occurrence in recent years. We continue to document singing Magnolia Warblers on Grandfather Mountain consistently.

Grandfather Trail Route: This route covered the Grandfather Mountain ridge on foot from the Top Shop parking area to the Boone Fork parking area on the Blue Ridge Parkway by way of the Grandfather, Cragway and Nuwati Trails. The beginning of the route is through a spruce-fir forest with high-elevation rocky outcroppings along the route. After Calloway Peak's Fraser Fir community, the route passes through a northern hardwood forest and eventually descends along heath to the Boone Fork stream. The route begins at over 5200 feet in elevation and crosses over Calloway Peak (5946 feet) before finishing around 3900 feet on the Blue Ridge Parkway.

Notes: After a really high count of Yellow-rumped Warblers last year, we didn't have any spotted along the Grandfather Trail route.

Mickey Short Jr.

**Hanging Rock State Park IBA** – Count date May 11<sup>th</sup>, 85 species, 899 individuals, 13 participants in 8 parties, 20.00 party-hours. Elevation range 1200-2400 feet. Weather: sunny

Compiler: Jean Chamberlain ([jchamberlain1@windstream.net](mailto:jchamberlain1@windstream.net))

Participants: Jean Chamberlain, Nita Colvin, Allison Gagnon, Brent Gearhart, Carol Gearhart, Lisa Gould, Elnora Gore, Derek Hudgins, Don Lendle, Ron Morris, Laura Phail, Cara Woods and Tony Woods.

Exclusives: none

Notes: We counted 85 species including 17 species of warbler. The most notable sighting was Swainson's Warbler for the second year in a row. The most notable species missed was Common Raven, probably because Cooks Wall was not covered.

Jean Chamberlain

## **Piedmont**

**Iredell County** – Count date April 24<sup>th</sup>, 94 species, 2360 individuals, 10 participants, 25.00 party-hours. Weather: 38-75° F, glorious sunny day, best one we have enjoyed in years. Count area: Circle centered on South Yadkin River Bridge - Chipley Ford Road in Northern Iredell County.

Compiler: Garnet Underwood ([guwood@gmail.com](mailto:guwood@gmail.com))

Participants: Debbie Birnley, Cynthia Dickerson, Bill English, Jack Greene, Lee Hollifield, Larry Marlin, Janice Powell, Garnet Underwood, Ron Underwood and Mark Whittaker

Exclusives: none

Notes: Notable birds included Pine Siskin, Yellow-throated Vireo, Cape May Warbler, Blackburnian Warbler, Yellow-breasted Chat, Worm-eating Warbler, but only one Northern Bobwhite.

Garnet Underwood

**Mecklenberg County** – Count date April 24<sup>th</sup>, 131 species, 6698 individuals, 28 participants, 86.15 party-hours.

Compiler: Jeff Lemons ([birdsalot@gmail.com](mailto:birdsalot@gmail.com))

Participants: Larry Barden, Louise Barden, Bill Blakesley, Laura Blakesley, Robert Bustle, Jan Fowler, Phil Fowler, Robert Gilson, Jim Guyton, Dennis Kent, Ken Kneidel, Lenny Lampel, Jeff Lemons, Kevin Metcalf, Martina Nordstrand, Jill Palmer, Taylor Piephoff, Lucy Quintilliano, Barry Rowan, Ian Ruppenthal, Tammy Sanders, Tom Sanders, John Scavetto, Don Seriff, Steve Tracy, Judy Walker, David Wright and Marcia Wright.

Exclusives: American Pipit

Notes: none

**Pilot Mountain State Park** – Count date May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 114 species, 1903 individuals, 6 participants, 26.10 party-hours. Surry County - Pilot Mountain is the count center. Weather: temperature 68°- 81°F, wind 2-7 mph, cloudy in morning, partly cloudy in afternoon with traces of precipitation throughout the day.

Compiler: Jesse Anderson ([jesse.anderson@ncparks.gov](mailto:jesse.anderson@ncparks.gov)) Participants: Jesse Anderson, Brian Bockhahn, Jean Chamberlain, Mike Conway, Cara Woods, Tony Woods

Exclusives: none

Notes: none

**Forsyth County** – Count date May 7<sup>th</sup>, 129 species, 5349 individuals, 52 participants in 12 teams, 100.50 party-hours. Weather: partly cloudy, temperature 55-73°F, light winds.

Compiler: Ron Morris ([ronmorris@triad.rr.com](mailto:ronmorris@triad.rr.com))

Participants: Mary Franklin Blackburn, Kim Brand, Malcolm Brown, Jean Chamberlain, Nita Colvin, Mike Conway, Doug Demerest, Sam Dempsy, David Disher, Cynthia Donaldson, Kerry Eckhardt, Dee Edelman, Nathan Gatto, Brent Gearhart, Carol Gearhart, Finn Geigengack, Lisa Gould, John Haire, Sven Halling, Elaine Hammond, John Hammond, Susan Hammond, Hop Hopkins, Royce Hough, Derek Hudgins, Don Kautz, Don Lendle, Chi Lo, Jim Martin, Craig McCleary, Marilyn McDonald, Heather Moir, Ron Morris, Ann Newsome, Laura Phail, Melanie Price, Jeremy Reiskind, Shelley Rutkin, Lee Salisbury, Gene Schepker, Lois Schneider, Jim Spencer, Philip Stewart, Bill Sugg, Chuck Thompson, Cindy Thompson, Andrew Thornton, Katherine Thorington, Gray Tuttle, Jay Wilhelmi, Cara Woods, and Tony Woods.

Exclusives: Redhead

Highlights: Yellow-crowned Night-Herons were absent for the first time in 25 years. A female Redhead at Archie Elledge Waste Water Treatment plant was the first for this count. A Marsh Wren at the Tanglewood wetland was the first in 21 years (1996). Red-shouldered Hawks tied last year's record of 21. Killdeer (15) were at the lowest number in this count history. Least Sandpipers (62) had the second highest count on record; the record is 78 in 2000. Barred Owls tied the record of 10 set in 2014. Downy Woodpeckers had the second highest number (46) after the record of 55 in 2005. Pileated Woodpeckers had the second highest number (8) after the record of 10 in 2005. Good numbers of flycatchers were recorded, with 18 Eastern Wood-Pewees, 7 Acadian Flycatchers, 33 Eastern Phoebes, 27 Great Crested Flycatchers, and 40 Eastern Kingbirds. White-eyed Vireos set a new record at 26; the previous record of 21 was set in 2004. Fewer than ten White-eyed Vireos are recorded in most years.

Red-eyed Vireos (117) broke the record of 108 set in 1996. In most years, fewer than 80 are reported. Purple Martins were reported in the highest number (47) in 13 years. Wood Thrushes were present in the second highest number (38) since 2005, when 47 were reported just prior to a sharp decline over the next several years. Gray Catbirds set a record with 96. A single Tennessee Warbler was only the third reported on this count in 25 years. Chestnut-sided Warblers tied the record of 18 set in 1993. Cape May Warblers (30) were present in the highest numbers since the early 1990s when 35-48 were reported three consecutive years. In most years, fewer than ten Cape Mays are found. Fifteen Black-throated Green Warblers were the most reported since 17 were recorded in 1992. Thirty-five American Redstarts were the most found since 53 were counted in 1992. Just three Louisiana Waterthrushes were reported, but that's still the second highest number for this species. Five Louisiana Waterthrushes were recorded in 2005. Forty-four Scarlet Tanagers were reported, with an impressive 24 on the Bethabara route alone. Grasshopper Sparrows set a new record at 16. Orchard Orioles broke the record with 24. House Sparrows (7) broke last year's record low of 12. This species continues a steady decline since 59 were recorded in 1992.

The ten most numerous species were Northern Cardinal (313), European Starling (282), American Robin (234), Chimney Swift (233), Common Grackle (218), Cedar Waxwing (208), Canada Goose (151), American Goldfinch (149), Barn Swallow (143), and Carolina Wren (139).

Ron Morris

**Rockingham County** – Count date May 5<sup>th</sup>, 100 species, 1144 individuals, 5 participants in 4 parties, 27.98 party-hours. Weather: a massive cold front came through with rain, clouds, light wind, and temperature 46-55°F.

Compiler: Brian Bockhahn ([birdranger248@gmail.com](mailto:birdranger248@gmail.com))

Participants: Penny Barham, Brian Bockhahn, Matt Wangerin, Cara Woods and Tony Woods.

Exclusives: Bufflehead, Merlin

Notes: The fourth Rockingham County spring count was held during horrid weather, but despite the conditions several good birds were found.

First count records include Bufflehead in the Dan River section, a Ruffed Grouse at the far north end of the circle that was a dawn surprise, a pre-dawn Common Nighthawk, and a single Merlin over the Mayodan Water Treatment Plant ponds. The plant also had a single Blue-winged Warbler and a single Cerulean Warbler. A lone singing Tennessee Warbler was found along Anglin Mill Road and posed for photos and video, and a single Dark-eyed Junco was seen near Deshazo Road at the waterfall parking area.

Second count records include Yellow-throated Warbler, which is harder to find in this “foothills” habitat, three Cape May Warblers around Mayo Mountain area, and a single singing Canada Warbler in the northern part of the circle off Smith Road in definite “foothills” habitat.

Misses include regular participant Martin Wall, who probably could have gotten all of our misses off a nest with a flashlight at night! Weather-related A-list misses include Northern Bobwhite, Double-crested Cormorant, Eastern Screech-Owl, Barred Owl, Chuck-will’s-widow, Cedar Waxwing, Yellow and Prairie Warbler, Summer Tanager, and Blue Grosbeak.

Many thanks to everyone who volunteered to count.

Brian Bockhahn

**Greensboro** – Count date April 24<sup>th</sup>, 133 species, 8552 individuals, 36 participants, 112.50 party-hours. Weather: high temperature 65°F, low 58°F, foggy, light, variable winds.

Compiler: Elizabeth Link ([elzlink@yahoo.com](mailto:elzlink@yahoo.com))

Participants: Nancy Adamson, Carolyn Allen, Diana Bowman, Dennis Burnette, Lynn Burnette, Frank Cashwell, Sue Cole, Rebecca Dellinger, Scott DePue, Jim Eldrett, Amy Hanson, Judy Hoag, Craig Lawrence, Jane Lawrence, Elizabeth Link, Henry Link, Clarence Mattocks, Ron Morris, Lynn Moseley, Jean Murdick, Lauren Murdick, Roberta Newton, Lane Oldham, Ann Presnell, Danny Royster, Wallace Sills, Jim Strickland, Ann Stieghner, Emily Talbert, Andrew Thornton, Emily Tyler, Ann Van Sant, Matt Wangerin, George Wheaton, Melissa Whitmire, and Peggy Young.

Exclusives: none

Notes: The weather for count day had been forecast to produce showers and thunderstorms in the afternoon, but fortunately those didn’t materialize. Instead we had a day of clouds, fog, and occasional drizzle, with variable light winds. Not a day that seemed very conducive to finding birds, but that nonetheless turned out to produce a very good count.

We found 133 species, close to our all-time high of 136, with ten additional count week birds. There were 8552 individual birds counted, above our average of about 7500.

Notables were a female Hooded Merganser, which has nested on the same retention pond for the last few years, and her 12 young. We did well with warblers, finding 24 species. We also did well with owls. The last

couple of years have seen a marked increase in the number of Barred Owls – for many years the number of Barred Owls on the count has been five or less, but last year we had 12, and this year we counted 17, along with a Great Horned Owl and our first screech owl since 2009. We also found an unusually large number of Wild Turkey, at 14.

Thirty-six people counted, about average for us, logging 112 party hours, which is below our average of 133.

Elizabeth Link

**Southern Pines** – Count date April 24<sup>th</sup>, 127 species, 3952 individuals, 30 participants in 11 teams, 88.17 party-hours.

Compiler: Susan Campbell ([susan@ncaves.com](mailto:susan@ncaves.com))

Participants: Jennifer Archambault, Rex Badgett, Doreen Blanchette, Carol Bowman, Jay Carter, Susan Campbell, Bob Ganis, Tina Ganis, Gabriella Garrison, Mike Green, Alicia Jackson, Charlie Jones, Linda Jones, Lu Ann Kinney, Marjorie Ludwig, Jeff Marcus, Jill McCloy, Mike McCloy, Carolyn McDermott, Bill Mullin, Dan Pieroni, Jon Rouse, Mike Stewart, John Watschke, Leslie Watschke, Michelle Wilcox, Dave Williamson, Nancy Williamson, Darryl Young and Shelley Young.

Exclusives: Mute Swan, Lark Sparrow

Notes: Count day was beautiful, and although we lacked coverage for a few sections of the circle, we did quite well. Lingering winter species were scarce (Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Winter Wren, White-throated Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Pine Siskin), and late migrants had yet to arrive. Unusual species for the count included Bonaparte's Gull, Caspian Tern, and Semipalmated Plover, all at Woodlake (the largest lake in the count circle).

Susan Campbell

**Chapel Hill** – Count date May 7<sup>th</sup>, 128 species, 7421 individuals, 33 field observers and 5 feeder watchers, 139.6 party-hours. Weather: low 51°F, high 74°F; wind 5-15 mph; partly cloudy, no rain

Compiler: Will Cook ([cwcook@duke.edu](mailto:cwcook@duke.edu))

Participants: Brian Bockhahn, Norm Budnitz, Chuck Byrd, Jim Capel, Jesse Cavenar, Sue Cavenar, Bob Chase, Carol Chelette, Cathy Cole, Will Cook, Maria deBruyn, Martha DeLong, Richard DeLong, Kent Fiala, Jim George, Mary George, Steve Graves, Perry Haaland, Bobbie Hahn, Jan Hansen, Dave Hart, Gene Kingsley, Mark Kosiewski, Edward Landi, Ken Lundstrom, David Murdock, Judy Murray, Lynn Ogden, Jane Oliver, Peter Perlman, Julia Shields, David Smith, Judy Smith, Pam Timmons, Ginger Travis, Frans Verhagen, Yiou Wang and Bruce Young.

Exclusives: King Rail, Common Gallinule, Rusty Blackbird

Notes: We had a fantastic Chapel Hill spring count this year in terms of total number of species, the second highest in the last 25 years. The weather was very pleasant on Saturday, May 7, 2016, which no doubt helped the count, though the night before was very rainy and several areas were inaccessible because of flooding. The species total of 128 is seven above the 10-year

average of 121, though the total number of birds, 7421, is far below the average of 8829 and the second lowest in the last 20 years. Effort on the count was above average with 139.6 party-hours (average 129.4), but the birds just weren't very active, so we had just 53.2 birds per party hour (average 68.2), the lowest since 1994. Perhaps it wasn't a great count after all.

The bird of the count this year was a Common Gallinule (formerly Common Moorhen) found by Bob Chase at a small pond near Southpoint Mall. This is only the third count record, and the first since 1975. Unfortunately it hasn't been seen since. Also good are a King Rail (Ginger Travis and party), which has been regular lately in the upper reaches of the Cub Creek arm of Jordan Lake. Other goodies included American Coot, Caspian, Common, and Forster's Terns (the first time we've ever had all three!), Eastern Screech-Owl (rare in spring), Bank Swallow, Palm Warbler, Rusty Blackbird, and a lingering Pine Siskin. Common and Caspian Terns are our first since 2003.

We set an amazing number of record highs this year, especially astounding considering that the overall count was below average: 11 Hooded Mergansers this year (including several young), besting the old count of eight, 120 Black Vulture (88 in 2003), 30 Osprey (25 in 2005), 40 Bald Eagle (second highest), 9 Cooper's Hawks (6 in 2012), 153 Northern Rough-winged Swallow (113 in 1997), 11 Magnolia Warbler (7 in 2006). Also in unusually high numbers: Red-tailed Hawk, Solitary Sandpiper, Least Sandpiper, Tree Swallow (highest since 1986), Bank Swallow, Swainson's Thrush, and Black-and-white Warbler.

There were no big misses, but we did set one record low: 13 House Sparrows (previous low 29 in 1973). Quite a few species were remarkably scarce: Canada Goose, Rock Pigeon, Red-headed Woodpecker, Purple Martin, White-breasted Nuthatch, Carolina Wren, Eastern Bluebird (lowest since 1975), Northern Mockingbird, European Starling (lowest since 1974), Yellow-throated Warbler (lowest since 1974), Yellow-breasted Chat (lowest since 1971), Scarlet Tanager, Red-winged Blackbird (lowest since 1958!), and Eastern Meadowlark.

Team honors: Brian Bockhahn, covering the Stagecoach Road area, including a long rail-trail to Jordan Lake and the southwest Durham sewage plant, recorded 90 species and 750 individual birds, the highest for both.

Thanks to the 33 field counters and 5 feeder watchers for your help!

Charles W. "Will" Cook

**Jordan Lake** – Count date May 1<sup>st</sup>, 119 species, 7302 individuals, 42 participants in 20 parties, 100.58 party-hours. Weather: The day started off cool and overcast, and around 10:00 AM the skies opened and heavy rain ensued, including thunder and lightning. The rain ended around noon, the cloud cover broke up, and the weather moderated. Overall, the temperature ranged from 61°F in the morning to 76°F in the afternoon. Winds were

variable to about 10 mph, and the sky went from overcast to about 50% cloud cover

Compiler: Norm Budnitz ([nbudnitz@gmail.com](mailto:nbudnitz@gmail.com))

Participants: George Altshuller, Barbara Beaman, Elizabeth Bishop, Todd Bishop, Lucas Bobay, Brian Bockhahn, Betsy Bogle, Beverley Brown, Richard Brown, Steve Buczynski, Norm Budnitz, Chris Canfield, Carl Chelette, Carol Chelette, Shi Chen, Barbara Coffman, Patrick Coin, Will Cook, Russell Herman, Loren Hintz, Bo Howes, Julia Huff-Jerome, Gene Kingsley, Terry Korab, Mark Kosiewski, Tom Krakauer, Miao Fang Lin, Kerry MacPherson, Trish MacPherson, Jennifer Maher, Beth Mancuso, Marty McClelland, Frank McKeever, Kyle Mills, Mickey Mills, Judy Murray, Beverly Scalise, Josh Southern, Sterling Southern, Jerry Stanley, Ginger Travis and Margaret Vimmerstedt.

Exclusives: none

Notes: Forty-two observers (a little under our 10-year average of 44) in 20 parties participated. We counted 7302 individual birds (avg. 7995), 119 species (avg. 123) in 101 party hours (avg. 125). These numbers seem to indicate that the rain did, indeed, put a damper on things. It was difficult, if not impossible, to do any birding during the heavy downpour, and some parties called it a day at that point. That said, even under those circumstances, we set a few count records and turned up some unusual species.

Some of the record highs for this year included: Hooded Merganser, 9 (previous high was 5 in 2008); Wild Turkey, 26 (19 in 2009); Double-crested Cormorant, 733 (632 in 2000); Tree Swallow, 104 (90, way back in 1978); and Black-and-white Warbler, 82 (68 in 2015).

Some of the more unusual birds for our count included: Hooded Mergansers (found by Gene Kingsley); Lesser Yellowlegs (Marty McClelland, Ginger Travis); Least Sandpipers (Barbara Coffman, Kyle Mills, Mickey Mills, Beth Mancuso, Jenny Stanley); Forster's Tern (Brian Bockhahn); Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (Steve Buczynski, Bo Howes); Warbling Vireo (Brian Bockhahn); Blackburnian Warbler (Josh and Sterling Southern); and a lingering Pine Siskin (Josh and Sterling Southern).

Probably as a result of diminished 'effort,' we missed a number of species that we usually get in the spring including Sharp-shinned and Cooper's Hawks (we had one unidentified *Accipiter* sp.), Solitary Sandpiper, Rock Pigeon, Eastern Screech-Owl, Great Horned Owl, Veery, Magnolia Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, and Savannah Sparrow.

Brian Bockhahn found 77 species this spring, with Lucas Bobay hard on his heels with 76, and Steve Buczynski and Bo Howes with 74.

Carol Chelette has been our count coordinator, spring and Christmas for about 15 years. She has done a wonderful job wrangling people and parties, getting areas covered, teaming up new birders with experienced folks, but has decided it is now time to pass the lasso to someone else. She and her husband Carl still want to count birds, and she

assures us she will help a new person learn the ropes (this metaphor is getting tired). So if you are interested, please let us know.

Norm Budnitz

**Durham** – Count date April 24<sup>th</sup>, 117 species, 6,074 individuals, 15 participants in 11 parties, 60.00 party-hours. Weather: clear skies and warm temperatures.

Compiler: Brian Bockhahn ([birdranger248@gmail.com](mailto:birdranger248@gmail.com))

Participants: Brian Bockhahn, Vern Bothwell, Will Cook, Ed Corey, Norm Budnitz, Deborah Fowler, Bo Howes, Gene Kingsley, Tom Krakauer, Mark Kosiewski, Brian Murphy, Isabel Reddy, Edith Tatum, Scott Winton and Brad Wood.

Exclusives: none

Notes: The Durham Spring Bird Count was held on Sunday, April 24, 2016 under clear skies and warm temperatures. Fifteen observers in 11 parties tallied 117 species and 6074 total birds. Being a new compiler, I don't have the past data, but to compare with other area counts, the Falls Lake eleven-year average is 112 species and the Kerr Lake eleven-year average is 119.

Unusual species for the count included a single Greater Yellowlegs and a single Semipalmated Plover seen in a shorebird flock on properties along the Eno River. And probably a checklist oversight, several parties reported seeing or hearing lingering Pine Siskins.

Other goodies include American Bittern and Common Raven at Brickhouse Road, 3 Bank Swallows at Hickory Hill boat ramp, and two parties found single Rose-breasted Grosbeaks at Will Suitt and Quail Roost, very different habitats indeed!

Misses include Acadian Flycatcher (showed up a day or two later, so probably within count week if anyone was out), Swainson's Thrush (which showed up in good numbers after May 1), Cedar Waxwing (which must not be nesting in our area this year), Palm Warbler, and White-crowned Sparrow.

Many thanks to everyone who volunteered to count!

Brian Bockhahn

**Falls Lake** – Count date April 28<sup>th</sup>, 130 species, 4746 individuals, 15 participants in 9 parties, 55.67 party-hours. Weather: clearing skies, temperature 62-82°F.

Compiler: Brian Bockhahn ([birdranger248@gmail.com](mailto:birdranger248@gmail.com))

Participants: John Amaroso, Herb Amyx, Pat Amyx, Karen Bearden, Brian Bockhahn, Amy Corbally, Scott Crocker, Lena Gallitano, Deborah Robertson, Bill Swallow, Jeri Smart, Josh Southern, Sterling Southern, Deck Stapleton and Brian Strong.

Exclusives: Lesser Scaup

Notes: The Lucky #13th Falls Lake Spring Bird Count was held on April 28, 2016 under clearing skies and temperatures ranging from 62-82. Heavy rains and a cold front passed through overnight making for a decent fallout! Fifteen observers in eight parties tallied a record-smashing 130 species



(average 114 and previous record was 121!) and 4746 total birds (average 4057).

Most numerous birds were perennial leaders: 573 Ring-billed Gull, 361 Cliff Swallow and 199 Double-crested Cormorants.

First count records: A lone Lesser Scaup was seen and photographed in the center of the lake with a flock of Red-breasted Merganser, a Warbling Vireo was seen and heard well near Shinleaf/Holly Point, a seen and heard Least Flycatcher was a one-minute wonder at Sandling Beach, and a nearby Tennessee Warbler sang for hours and even posed for video! Further down the same shore a Grasshopper Sparrow was photographed hopping on a log in a grassy area along the lake, the bird must have literally dropped out of the sky to that spot!

Second count records: Two parties finding Hooded Merganser, 1 at Sandling and 3 at Rollingview; 3 Forster's Tern were loafing on the swim line at Sandling Beach; Common Nighthawk at Rollingview; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker at Holly Point/Shinleaf; two separate Blackburnian Warblers in mixed flocks at Sandling Beach.

Third count records: An amazing three parties found Ruddy Duck at Beaverdam, Sandling and Rollingview; Common Raven at Shinleaf/Holly Point; and two parties had Baltimore Oriole at Wake Forest and Shinleaf/Holly Point.

Two species were added during count week, the always count-elusive Sharp-shinned Hawk and Pine Siskin.

Misses: No A-list misses. Northern Bobwhite was missed for the 7<sup>th</sup> time, Broad-winged Hawk for the 6<sup>th</sup> time, Solitary Sandpiper and Great Horned Owl for the 3<sup>rd</sup> time.

Many thanks to everyone who volunteered to count!

Brian Bockhahn

**Kerr Lake** – Count date April 26<sup>th</sup>, 127 species, 4143 individuals, 12 participants in 7 parties, 57.30 party-hours. Weather: cloudy skies, light winds, mild temperatures.

Compiler: Brian Bockhahn ([birdranger248@gmail.com](mailto:birdranger248@gmail.com))

Participants: Jeff Blalock, Brian Bockhahn, Ann Brice, Adam D'Onofrio, Paul Glass, Fred Lobdell, Carol Mauzey, Grace McCrowell, David Spears, Evan Spears, Deck Stapleton and Clyde Wilson.

Exclusives: Common Merganser, Red-throated Loon, Pacific Loon

Notes: The 13<sup>th</sup> Kerr Lake Spring Bird Count was held under cloudy skies with light winds. Twelve observers tallied our third highest species count at 126 (average 119). We also tallied our second highest total birds at 4142 (average 3922) led by 475 Black Vultures, 315 Double-crested Cormorants, and 163 Northern Cardinals.

New to the spring checklist included a Pacific Loon that had been lingering around above the dam, and a seemingly injured male Common Merganser that had been at the tailrace below the dam all winter.

Second records included American Woodcock reported by two parties, a pair of Horned Larks photographed on a gravel road near Bullocksville, and two Swainson's Warblers near Satterwhite.

Third records include a Red-throated Loon at Satterwhite, a flyover Glossy Ibis, and 5 Wilson's Snipe at Dick Cross along with other shorebirds.

Fourth records include single Hooded Mergansers reported by two parties and a single Common Tern from Eagle Point.

Misses include nothing off the A-list, but shameless misses include Northern Bobwhite for the fifth time, Cooper's Hawk for the sixth time, Swainson's Thrush for the sixth time, Cedar Waxwing for the fifth time, Song Sparrow for the sixth time, and Baltimore Oriole for the third time.

Many thanks to everyone who volunteered to count!

Brian Bockhahn

**Raven Rock State Park** – Count date April 30<sup>th</sup>, 116 species, 4737 individuals, 13 participants, 74.50 party-hours. Weather: temperature 59-66° F; wind east at 0-15 mph.; water open. A.M. overcast; P.M. overcast. Count circle center at junction of NC210 and SR 1434.

Compiler: Erik R. Thomas (erthomas@ncsu.edu)

Participants: Angie DeLozier, David DuMond, Michael Fisk, Paul Hart, Tom Howard, Prudence Mainor, Tim McGreal, Jeff Mielke, Jeanine Reese, Mitch Reese, Mary Stevens, Erik Thomas and Amber Williams

Exclusives: none

Notes: Our total of 116 species was lower than our record-setting counts the past two years. The overcast weather made it harder to find raptors, but the recent rains seemed to have increased our warbler numbers. Key misses included Broad-winged Hawk and Grasshopper Sparrow. Although we had no truly unusual finds, three Swainson's Warblers by Michael Fisk, a Worm-eating Warbler by Paul Hart, and a Yellow Warbler by Tom Howard were species that are usually difficult on this count. Anhingas, observed by David DuMond, and Cliff Swallows, found by Jeff Mielke, have apparently become well established in the circle.

Erik R. Thomas

## Coast

**Onslow County** – Count date April 30<sup>th</sup>, 165 species, 6265 individuals, 12 participants in 6 teams, 52.50 party-hours. Weather: mostly cloudy, winds ENE at 6-12 knots, high 72°F.

Compiler: Andy Webb (andywebb2008@live.com)

Participants: Dick Barmore, Rich Boyd, Susan Boyd, Jim Craig, John Fussell, Barbara Gould, Gil Grant, Jeannie Kraus, Guy McGrane, Laura O'Donnell, Nikki Reiber and Andy Webb.

Exclusives: Eared Grebe, Clapper Rail, Sora, Black-necked Stilt, American Oystercatcher, Black-bellied Plover, Wilson's Plover, Piping Plover,

Whimbrel, Ruddy Turnstone, Red Knot, Stilt Sandpiper, Sanderling, Dunlin, White-rumped Sandpiper, Western Sandpiper, Willet, Parasitic Jaeger, Laughing Gull, Lesser Black-backed Gull, Great Black-backed Gull, Least Tern, Royal Tern, Sandwich Tern, Black Skimmer, Northern Gannet, Brown Pelican, Least Bittern, Snowy Egret, Little Blue Heron, Tricolored Heron, Black-crowned Night-Heron, White Ibis, Nelson's Sparrow, Saltmarsh Sparrow, Seaside Sparrow, Painted Bunting, Boat-tailed Grackle

Notes: The 21<sup>st</sup> annual Onslow County Spring Migration count was held Saturday April 30, 2016. There were 12 observers in six parties who tallied 6264 individual birds, a little below our average of 7170, and 165 species tied for our second highest with our average being 154. We logged 52.50 total field hours, 2.50 night hours and one feeder count hour, and we covered 303 miles. There was one species located that was a first for this count.

The one species that was new to the count was a lone Greater Scaup found by Guy McGrane, and seen by Andy Webb, Laura O'Donnell and Barbara Gould. The bird was located at the Jacksonville Water Treatment Plant in one of the spray lagoons. Other good finds included two Parasitic Jaegers located off the Seaview Pier at North Topsail by John Fussell, an American Bittern located at Ashe Island by John Fussell, and seen by Gil Grant and Nikki Reeiber, a White-rumped Sandpiper located by John Fussell and his group, and an Eared Grebe found by Guy McGrane, Andy Webb and Barbara Gould at the water treatment plant.

The most abundant species on the count was Laughing Gull (1558), which is not uncommon. High count species were seven Coopers Hawks, and 17 Seaside Sparrows. Other than that it was an average year count.

Some notable misses were Blue-headed Vireo and Common Moorhen (the 7th year in a row for both species). We had count lows for seven species, but this can be attributed to low coverage on the count this year. We did not have any parties covering the White Oak Township, and only ventured into the Camp Lejeune areas in search of birds missing after the count meeting.

The weather was awesome with temperatures about normal and a high temperature of 72 degrees for the day. The skies were mostly cloudy with no precipitation. The winds were out of the ENE at 6 to 12 knots. All in all it was a great day to be birding with a great team of birders.

Thanks for counting.

Andy Webb

Table 1. 2017 Spring Migration Counts in North Carolina

species	Trans 5/1	Bals 5/21	Hend 5/14	Bunc 5/7	Bl Mts 5/28	Grdfr 5/13	Hang 5/11	Ired 4/24	Meck 4/24	Pilot Mtn 5/3	Fors 5/7	Rock 5/5	Grbr 4/30	SoPl 4/24	ChHI 5/7	Jord 5/1	Durh 4/24	Falls 4/28	Kerr 4/26	RaRo 4/30	Onsl 4/30	total	mtne per party-hour	pled	coast
Canada Goose	114		120	128		7		15	237	27	151	95	347	195	117	106	97	81	75	111	83	2106	1.08	1.73	1.58
Mute Swan														9								9	0.00		
Wood Duck	1			2				5	36	27	13	1	39	21	29	44	19	9	9	41	14	310	0.01	0.31	0.27
American Black Duck																					9	10	0.00	0.17	
Mallard	21		35	49		15		1	154	2	75	5	162	42	40	39	16	13	12	19	13	713	0.35	0.61	0.25
Blue-winged Teal	1								10		1		6								3	21	0.00	0.00	0.06
Redhead											1		1									1	0.00		
Ring-necked Duck											1		1								1	2	0.00		
Greater Scaup	1																	1			1	2	0.00		0.02
Lesser Scaup																						1	0.00		
Bullhead												1										1	0.00		
Hooded Merganser			2										13		11	9		4	2			41	0.01		
Common Merganser																						1	0.00		
Red-breasted Merganser	1												3	3							5	27	0.00	0.00	0.10
Ruddy Duck											1										118	128	0.00	0.00	2.25
Northern Bobwhite									1					2						2	11	20	0.00	0.00	0.21
Ruffed Grouse	7							1	1			1									16	0.04	0.00		
Wild Turkey										8	9	3	14	13	6	20	9	6	6	5	22	210	0.23	0.12	0.42
Pied-billed Grebe													2	2							1	5	0.00	0.00	0.00
Eared Grebe																					1	1	0.00		
Rock Pigeon			7	17				17	131	3	30	18	77	8	11		41	20	4	18	44	446	0.07	0.40	0.84
Eurasian Collared Dove			1					2											1	1	5	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Mourning Dove			41	138	1	7		60	114	65	103	46	255	111	147	154	74	73	210	232	1971	0.82	1.53	4.42	
Yellow-billed Cuckoo			3	2					2	3	5	1	3	1	17	15	3	4	4	25	4	94	0.02	0.09	0.08
Black-billed Cuckoo																									
Common Nighthawk			3								1	1		5	1		1				2	14	0.01	0.00	0.04
Chuck-will's-widow									1		3			15	1	15		10	3	12	7	68	0.00	0.00	0.13

CW

species	Trans	Bals	Hend	Bunc	Bl Mts	Grdfr	Hang	Ired	Meck	Pilot Mtn	Fors	Rock	Grbr	SoPl	ChHl	Jord	Durh	Falls	Kerr	RaRo	Onsl	total	mtne	per party-hour	coast
Whip-poor-will	1																					49	0.01	0.00	0.06
Chimney Swift	43	27	31	76	32	8	21	16	166	21	233	12	229	35	142	93	46	33	7	104	11	1386	0.69	1.19	0.21
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	15	4	4	8	4	3	5	9	15	6	12	5	8	13	31	14	9	9	7	8	1	190	0.13	0.15	0.00
Clapper Rail																					4	4			0.06
King Rail															1						3	1	1		0.00
Sora																					3	3			0.06
Common Gallinule																					1	1			0.00
American Coot													1	2	1				2		9	15	0.00	0.17	0.17
Black-necked Stilt																					16	16			0.30
American Oystercatcher																					2	2			0.04
Black-bellied Plover																					16	16			0.30
Wilson's Plover																					1	1			0.02
Semipalmated Plover																					70	75			1.33
Piping Plover																					1	1			0.00
Killdeer																					23	23			0.44
Whimbrel																					10	10			0.19
Ruddy Turnstone																					9	9			0.17
Red Knot																					1	1			0.02
Stilt Sandpiper																					4	4			0.00
Sandpiper																					38	38			0.72
Dunlin																					80	80			1.52
Least Sandpiper																					222	414			4.23
White-rumped Sandpiper																					1	1			0.02
Semipalmated Sandpiper																					76	78			1.45
Western Sandpiper																					1	1			0.02
Short-billed Dowitcher																					108	109			2.06
Wilson's Snipe																					1	1			0.00
American Woodcock																					1	1			0.00
Spotted Sandpiper																					6	6			0.00
																					5	251			0.25
																					19	19			0.10

species	5/1	5/21	5/14	5/7	5/28	5/13	5/11	4/24	4/24	4/24	5/3	5/7	5/5	4/24	4/24	4/24	4/23	4/26	4/30	4/30	Onst	total	mtne	pled	coast
Trans	2																			430	176	0.01	0.18	0.04	
Bals		5/21	5/14	5/7	5/28	5/13														430	2	0.03	0.03	0.77	
Hend		5/14	5/14	5/7	5/28	5/13														430	2	0.03	0.03	0.77	
Bunc		5/7	5/14	5/7	5/28	5/13														430	2	0.03	0.03	0.77	
Bl Mts		5/28	5/13	5/7	5/28	5/13														430	2	0.03	0.03	0.77	
Grdfr		5/13	5/13	5/7	5/28	5/13														430	2	0.03	0.03	0.77	
Hang		5/11	5/11	5/7	5/28	5/13														430	2	0.03	0.03	0.77	
Ired		4/24	4/24	4/24	4/24	4/24														430	2	0.03	0.03	0.77	
Meck		4/24	4/24	4/24	4/24	4/24														430	2	0.03	0.03	0.77	
Pilot Mtn		5/3	5/3	5/7	5/28	5/13														430	2	0.03	0.03	0.77	
Fors		5/7	5/7	5/7	5/28	5/13														430	2	0.03	0.03	0.77	
Rock		5/5	5/5	5/7	5/28	5/13														430	2	0.03	0.03	0.77	
Grbr		4/30	4/30	4/24	4/24	4/24														430	2	0.03	0.03	0.77	
SoPl		4/24	4/24	4/24	4/24	4/24														430	2	0.03	0.03	0.77	
ChHl		5/7	5/7	5/7	5/28	5/13														430	2	0.03	0.03	0.77	
Jord		5/1	5/1	5/7	5/28	5/13														430	2	0.03	0.03	0.77	
Durh		4/24	4/24	4/24	4/24	4/24														430	2	0.03	0.03	0.77	
Falls		4/23	4/23	4/24	4/24	4/24														430	2	0.03	0.03	0.77	
Korr		4/26	4/26	4/24	4/24	4/24														430	2	0.03	0.03	0.77	
RaRo		4/30	4/30	4/24	4/24	4/24														430	2	0.03	0.03	0.77	
Onst		4/30	4/30	4/24	4/24	4/24														430	2	0.03	0.03	0.77	
Lesser Yellowlegs																				430	2	0.03	0.03	0.77	
Willet																				430	2	0.03	0.03	0.77	
Lesser Yellowlegs																				430	2	0.03	0.03	0.77	
Parasitic Jaeger																				430	2	0.03	0.03	0.77	
Ironparula's Gull																				430	2	0.03	0.03	0.77	
Laughing Gull																				430	2	0.03	0.03	0.77	
Ring-billed Gull																				430	2	0.03	0.03	0.77	
Herring Gull																				430	2	0.03	0.03	0.77	
Lesser Black-backed Gull																				430	2	0.03	0.03	0.77	
Great Black-backed Gull																				430	2	0.03	0.03	0.77	
Least Tern																				430	2	0.03	0.03	0.77	
Caspian Tern																				430	2	0.03	0.03	0.77	
Common Tern																				430	2	0.03	0.03	0.77	
Forsler's Tern																				430	2	0.03	0.03	0.77	
Royal Tern																				430	2	0.03	0.03	0.77	
Sandwich Tern																				430	2	0.03	0.03	0.77	
Black Skimmer																				430	2	0.03	0.03	0.77	
tern sp																				430	2	0.03	0.03	0.77	
Red-throated Loon																				430	2	0.03	0.03	0.77	
Pacific Loon																				430	2	0.03	0.03	0.77	
Common Loon																				430	2	0.03	0.03	0.77	
Northern Cormorant																				430	2	0.03	0.03	0.77	
Double-crested Cormorant																				430	2	0.03	0.03	0.77	
Aurora																				430	2	0.03	0.03	0.77	
Brown Pelican																				430	2	0.03	0.03	0.77	
American Baldpate																				430	2	0.03	0.03	0.77	
Least Bittern																				430	2	0.03	0.03	0.77	

species	Trans	Bals	Hend	Bunc	Bl Mts	Grdfr	Hang	Ired	Meck	Pilot Mtn	Fors	Rock	Grbr	SoPi	ChHl	Jord	Durh	Falls	Kerr	RaRo	Onsl	total	mtne	per party-hour	coast
	5/1	5/21	5/14	5/7	5/28	5/13	5/11	4/24	4/24	5/3	5/7	5/5	4/30	4/24	5/7	5/1	4/24	4/28	4/26	4/30	4/30	873	0.17	0.85	0.13
Great Blue Heron																					7	23	0.00	0.23	
Great Egret																					12	2	0.00	0.04	
Snowy Egret																					2	4	0.00	0.08	
Little Blue Heron																					3	3	0.00	0.06	
Tricolored Heron																					1	2	0.00	0.00	
Galle Egret																					11	79	0.01	0.07	0.21
Green Heron																					2	2	0.00	0.04	
Black-crowned N Heron																					25	18	0.00	0.48	
Yellow-crowned N Heron																					10	11	0.00	0.19	
White Ibis																					4	877	0.08	0.89	0.08
Glossy Ibis																					7	966	0.42	0.77	1.60
Black Vulture																					84	182	0.01	0.18	0.21
Turkey Vulture																					2	132	0.01	0.00	0.02
Osprey																					1	1	0.00	0.00	
Mississippi Kite																					7	55	0.02	0.00	0.13
Bald Eagle																					7	5	0.01	0.00	
Northern Harrier																					9	239	0.06	0.22	0.17
Sharp-shinned Hawk																					8	41	0.09	0.00	
Cooper's Hawk																					7	180	0.06	0.16	0.06
accipiter sp.																					5	12	0.00	0.00	0.00
Red-shouldered Hawk																					3	41	0.09	0.00	
Broad-winged Hawk																					8	180	0.06	0.16	0.06
Red-tailed Hawk																					5	12	0.00	0.00	0.00
Eastern Screech Owl																					1	21	0.01	0.00	0.04
Great-horned Owl																					2	91	0.01	0.00	0.00
Barred Owl																					4	7	0.02	0.00	
Northern Saw-whet Owl																					1	68	0.04	0.06	
Belted Kingfisher																					3	7	0.02	0.00	

species	Trans	Bals	Hend	Bunc	Bl Mts	Grdfr	Hang	Ired	Meck	Pilot Mtn	Fors	Rock	Grbr	SoPi	ChHl	Jord	Durh	Falls	Kerr	RaRo	Onsl	total	mtne	per party-hour	coast
	5/1	5/21	5/14	5/7	5/28	5/13	5/11	4/24	4/24	5/3	5/7	5/5	4/30	4/24	5/7	5/1	4/24	4/28	4/26	4/30	4/30	4/30	0.13	0.15	0.30
Red-headed Woodpecker								3	1				7	22	13	25	16	13	16	9	8	133	8	0.13	0.15
Red bellied Woodpecker	2/	6	20	34			17	93	10		77	14	113	64	134	80	85	35	33	81	16	940	9	0.86	0.30
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	4	4	2		1		1						1					1				15	0.03	0.00	
Downy Woodpecker	1/	3	17	13	2	1	17	74	4	4	46	6	57	14	62	32	21	22	12	19	5	455	5	0.20	0.40
Hairy Woodpecker	1	10	5	6	14	1		8	3	3	3	2	6	4	9	7	8	7	1	7	2	102	0.11	0.07	0.10
Rd cockaded Woodpecker																						6	0.00	0.04	
Northern (Y-s) Flicker	2	3	1	17	3	3	1	7	2	2	12	2	22	11	12	15	4	8	2	1	4	130	0.08	0.00	0.08
Pileated Woodpecker	19	9	14	22	4	12	3	7	3	3	8	2	7	25	19	27	13	13	18	16	9	250	0.23	0.17	0.17
American Kestrel				1		1		2					1	2								7	0.01	0.00	
Melbn																						1	0.00		
Peregrine Falcon	1	1																				2	0.01		
Eastern Wood Pewee	5	13	9	2	8	11	11		7	7	18	1	9	9	49	28	8	8	2	19	11	217	0.14	0.17	0.21
Acadian Flycatcher	32		21	10	8	21	21	2	2	2	7	1	3	2	56	19		5	2	20	4	215	0.27	0.12	0.08
AMer Flycatcher					3																	26	0.08		
Willow Flycatcher	1		6																			7	0.02		
Least Flycatcher	1	28			3																	33	0.09	0.00	
Eastern Phoebe	44	6	19	46	8	1	18	10	58	12	33	12	23	8	41	36	11	11	9	18	1	425	0.41	0.30	0.00
Great Crested Flycatcher	1		2	2	1	2	3	41	3	4	27	3	49	81	73	50	14	61	35	79	85	613	0.02	0.55	1.62
Eastern Kingbird	3			18		3	14	26	12	12	40	3	25	93	28	91	10	12	49	58	15	500	0.07	0.48	0.29
Loggerhead Shrike								1														14	0.00		
White-eyed Vireo	16		8	6				11	20	4	26	1	13	55	42	55	101	51	79	41	18	547	0.09	0.52	0.34
Yellow throated Vireo			1	1			3	1	1	5	4	4	ow	12	7	12	14	17	16	9	3	106	0.01	0.00	0.06
Blue-headed Vireo		94	25	83	148	19		2	4	4	1	4	3	5	5	4	9	8	4	2		622	1.65	0.06	
Warbling Vireo											2					1		1			4		0.00		
Red-eyed Vireo	90	53	104	124	55	9	58	29	96	73	117	21	103	32	149	133	130	124	108	73	5	1686	1.44	1.25	0.10
Blue Jay	62	25	63	175	21	5	22	64	74	31	96	18	152	105	93	75	115	34	103	79	20	1432	1.09	1.09	0.38
American Crow	175	51	135	201	14	2/	30	65	81	33	131	56	385	252	243	274	131	92	178	167	70	2741	1.85	2.14	1.33
Fish Crow							2	3	56	47	47	3	19	47	35	36	27	49	45	9	13	391	0.01	0.39	0.25



species	Trans	Bals	Hend	Bunc	Bl Mts	Grdfn	Hang	Ired	Meck	Pilot Mtn	Fors	Rock	Grbr	SoPi	Chill	Jord	Durh	Falls	Kerr	RaRo	Onsl	total	mtne	per party-hour	coast
	5/1	5/21	5/14	5/7	5/28	5/13	5/11	4/24	4/24	5/3	5/7	5/5	4/30	4/24	5/7	5/1	4/24	4/28	4/26	4/30	4/30				
Common Raven	7	21		10	10	3		5	1	3			1	20					2	8	1	63	0.15	0.00	
Crow sp.								1														23	0.00	0.00	
Horned Lark																						16	0.02	0.00	
Purple Martin	180		32	16				305	1	60	47	12	281	59	29	22	16	3	3	141	97	1124	0.14	1.03	1.85
Tree Swallow			62	61	8		2	3	11	4	18	13	108	8	125	104	16	13	8	11	15	770	0.91	0.46	0.29
N Rough-winged Swallow	/6		15	37	2	1		7	65	10	58	8	90	26	153	79	33	34	61	56	23	834	0.38	0.71	0.44
Bank Swallow													17		5	3	3	1			12	38	0.00	0.23	
Cliff Swallow			50					38	38	71	59	19			17	184	36	361	26	8	1	870	0.15	0.86	0.02
Barn Swallow			28	121		6	2	103	33	20	143	12	84	51	93	109	63	30	32	101	142	1386	1.08	0.92	2.70
Swallow sp	212	1	69	94	17	6	33	30	187	37	114	18	169	66	215	138	148	86	55	55	17	1	1	0.00	0.00
Carolina Chickadee	108	23																				10	0.03		0.32
Black-capped Chickadee	1	9																				22	0.06		
chickadee sp																						22	0.06		0.30
Tufted Titmouse	109	12	99	114	11	4	25	40	99	46	138	30	158	103	318	243	201	130	122	88	16	2106	1.09	1.80	0.30
Red-breasted Nuthatch	9	48	8	84	7	7	11	7	11	4	27	2	38	35	21	13	4	24	8	5	1	156	0.45	0.21	0.02
White-breasted Nuthatch	9	9	6	9	1	1	6	6	57	7	27	2	49	76	64	68	40	70	19	13	18	523	0.02	0.52	0.34
Brown-headed Nuthatch																						69	0.20		
Brown Creeper	3	21		4	38	3																194	0.16	0.15	
House Wren	26	2	7	13	4	2	1	5	31	2	27	2	20	2	40				1			105	0.30	0.00	0.06
Winter Wren	7	27		4	62	3																5	0.00	0.00	
Marsh Wren									1													3	5	0.00	0.06
Carolina Wren	90	7	76	175	1	3	24	42	187	28	139	15	178	81	235	149	127	69	89	104	63	1882	1.10	1.51	1.20
Blue Gray Gnatcatcher	32		19	46				28	159	35	91	20	92	101	192	173	351	154	117	115	38	1789	0.36	1.71	0.72
Golden-crowned Kinglet	16	149		14	175	19																373	1.09		
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	3		1					1	32	10	3	7	7	5	2	2	3	3	4	1		75	0.01	0.00	
Eastern Bluebird	49		48	86		2	32	57	64	37	88	41	135	87	111	130	61	59	49	124	57	1317	0.63	1.09	1.00
Veery	15	120		7	99	12			7	6	10	1	7	7	6				1			293	0.74	0.04	
Gray checked Thrush																						3	3	0.00	0.00

species	Trans 5/1	Bals 5/21	Hend 5/14	Bunc 5/7	Bl Mts 5/28	Grdftr 5/13	Hang 5/11	Ired 4/24	Meck 4/24	Pilot Mtn 5/3	Fors 5/7	Rock 5/5	Grbr 4/30	SoPi 4/24	ChHI 5/7	Jord 5/1	Durh 4/24	Falls 4/28	Kerr 4/26	RaRo 4/30	Onsl 4/30	total	mtne	per party-hour	coast
Swainson's Thrush	2																					74	0.03	0.07	
Hermit Thrush	1	22		5	68	1			1													100	0.28	0.00	0.00
Wood Thrush	29	16	20	42	4	2	21	12	19	19	38	20	42	5	42	37	8	27	9	14	4	430	0.39	0.31	0.08
American Robin	176	114	65	281	83	44	35	107	539	86	234	78	476	62	184	50	35	73	11	118	20	2889	2.33	2.15	0.38
Gray Catbird	58	82	22	34	23	15	5	5	63	18	96	4	140	32	78	58	9	49	6	42	11	850	0.70	0.63	0.21
Brown Thrasher	21	14	25	30	3	3	9	19	82	8	22	4	50	39	63	24	9	14	14	45	12	510	0.31	0.41	0.23
Northern Mockingbird	16		38	88			5	52	140	18	86	13	114	138	103	79	38	30	50	129	86	1203	0.37	1.04	1.64
European Starling	61	4	37	180		35	15	166	287	107	282	103	514	59	106	52	40	43	58	261	160	2570	0.97	2.18	3.05
Cedar Waxwing	68	84	97	156	32	17	5	2	307	85	288	103	103	9	89	132	8	8	10	58	5	1463	1.34	1.05	0.10
House Sparrow	5		3	14					8	2	7	5	27	6	13	26	3	29	10	21	26	245	0.06	0.21	0.50
American Pipit													170	47	113	23	35	20	3	50	32	889	0.36	0.75	0.61
House Finch	18	2	26	67		3	6	12	132	13	81	16										8	0.00		
Red Crossbill		2			10																	12	0.03		
Pine Siskin	17	2	2	5	45	28		1	2													122	0.29	0.00	
American Goldfinch	92	14	63	141	6	7	23	185	189	32	149	15	232	60	214	203	142	146	64	45	3	2025	1.01	1.76	0.06
Overbird	82	54	58	87	67	4	22	33	11	12	118	17	37	15	121	118	68	98	41	54	11	1010	1.09	0.88	0.21
Worm-eating Warbler	16		25	9	5	9	1	3	1													83	0.19	0.00	0.10
Louisiana Waterthrush	18		11	1	2	7	2	2	9	2	16	3	1									135	0.11	0.10	
Northern Waterthrush	7		2	1		1	1	8	3	3	4		4									69	0.03	0.00	
Blue-winged Warbler									6				1						1			11	0.00		
Black & White Warbler		24	30	42	32	11	12	29	10	11	10	4	21	26	35	82	26	40	17	43	3	589	0.65	0.36	0.06
Prothonotary Warbler										3	2		4	8	23	20	43	17	26	36	13	205	0.05	0.20	0.25
Swainson's Warbler	10		5				1							3					2	3	3	27	0.05	0.00	0.06
Tennessee Warbler			1				2				1											6	0.00	0.00	
Connecticut Warbler			1							1												1	0.00		
Orange-crowned Warbler																						1	0.00		
Nashville Warbler			1																			1	0.00		
Kentucky Warbler										2												51	0.01	0.05	0.06

species	Trans	Bals	Hend	Bunc	Bl Mts	Grdfr	Hang	Ired	Meck	Pilot Mtn	Fors	Rock	Grbr	SoPi	ChHl	Jord	Durh	Falls	Kerr	RaRo	Onsl	total	mtns	pld	coast	
	5/1	5/21	5/14	5/7	5/28	5/13	5/11	4/24	4/24	5/3	5/7	5/5	4/30	4/24	5/7	5/1	4/24	4/28	4/26	4/30	4/30					
Common Yellowthroat	41	57	17	5	5	5	3	19	33	20	49	7	79	36	125	92	102	53	50	61	12	871	0.39	0.76	0.23	
Hooded Warbler	84	19	55	88	9	6	14	6	15	6	3	2	19	25	31	38	24	25	22	35	15	535	0.80	0.26	0.29	
American Redstart	12	8	18	32	1		9	3	6	7	37	2	29	3	44	26	2	8	1	21		269	0.23	0.20		
Cape May Warbler	12	1	2		2			8	8	25	30	3	4									93	0.04	0.00		
Carolinian Warbler											1	1	cw								7	3	0.01	0.00		
Northern Parula	63	20	26	16	8		18	9	53	40	47	15	86	32	81	85	95	65	28	46		840	0.44	0.71	0.13	
Magnolia Warbler	5	1		1			3			9	4	1	2		11							39	0.03	0.00		
Bay-breasted Warbler	3	1																				4	0.01			
Blackburnian Warbler	28	23	3	45	83	5	2	1	11	2	13	12	1	5	7	10	6	2	4	1	1	195	0.55	0.00	0.00	
Yellow Warbler	4	7	4	7	7	7		2	4	4	18	3	3	3	4	4	6	6	4			436	1.19	0.00		
Chestnut-sided Warbler	64	275	5	24	34	7	1	2	2	4	14	8	72	7	97	48	11	43	10	7		45	0.04	0.00		
Blackpoll Warbler	6	9	2	4	2	2	1	2	51	20	52	8	72	7	7	2	3	2	1			825	1.16	0.45		
Black-throated Blue Warbler	79	105	16	50	111	30	6	11	18	1	1	1	1	4	2	3	2	1				47	0.01	0.05		
Palm Warbler	1			3																						
Pine Warbler	4		2				17	7	49	14	21	3	38	63	113	164	70	90	60	41	28	784	0.07	0.77	0.53	
Yellow-rumped Warbler	7						2	11	265	78	46	12	91	57	27	128	153	118	83	6	18	1142	0.06	1.16	0.34	
Yellow-throated Warbler	7		3	1			7	1	1	9	3	3	3	25	11	59	61	65	34	34	13	344	0.08	0.32	0.25	
Prairie Warbler	7						8	9	6	2	cw	21	21	32	18	44	60	19	38	24	32	313	0.02	0.29	0.61	
Black-throated Green Warbler	73	168	58	49	101	5	6	3	3	12	15	7	7			1	2	5	1		586	1.57	0.00			
Canada Warbler	35	122	3	31	134	16					cw	1	1	1							343	0.99	0.00	0.19		
Yellow-breasted Chat	2						3	1	3	5	4	1	14	1	13	36	2	4	14	29	10	142	0.01	0.00	0.00	
Least Towhee	202	278	139	194	68	25	7	26	129	7	102	5	145	103	153	127	77	45	43	35	29	1939	2.66	1.04	0.55	
Bachman's Sparrow												11		2								4	17	0.00	0.08	
Chipping Sparrow	33	3	27	47	2	9	2	29	107	27	28	19	76	134	148	163	55	161	156	120	4	1356	0.43	1.26	0.08	
Field Sparrow	9	13	16	17			2	33	55	12	9	2	19	2	12	21	17	14	13	10		274	0.17	0.23		
Lark Sparrow														3								3		0.00		
Savannah Sparrow			3				5	4			7	6	6	2	3				4	5	2	51	0.01	0.00	0.04	
Grasshopper Sparrow			1				28	2		5	16	1	14	1					14			88	0.00	0.00		

species	5/1	5/21	5/14	5/7	5/28	5/13	5/11	4/24	4/24	4/24	5/5	4/30	Grbr	SoPi	ChHI	Jord	Durh	Falls	Kerr	RaRo	Onsl	total
total species	130	75	113	110	76	69	93	102	131	131	108	133	133	135	128	127	125	138	135	116	165	242
total individuals	344167	343038	342831	344891	342443	340628	340907	342232	346570	341847	345325	341104	348472	343824	347397	347230	345946	344650	344031	344657	346185	728875
# participants	22	25	17	22	15	3	13	10	28	6	52	36	30	33	42	15	15	15	15	13	12	429
cwr: count week											8	10										
total party hours	84.00	63.50	48.95	65.50	45.60	15.50	20.00	25.00	86.15	26.10	100.50	112.50	88.17	139.60	100.58	60.00	55.67	57.30	74.55	52.50	31.00	1349.65
hours on foot	36.00	49.05	28.00	26.35	35.60		16.00	17.50	73.90	24.10	87.75	86.00	46.17	125.75	82.65	54.25	49.50	45.75	36.25	31.00	31.00	974.45
hours by car	48.00	14.45	20.95	39.15	10.00		4.00	7.50	12.25	2.00	5.75	26.50	39.00	6.85	13.43	5.75	6.17	11.55	31.30	21.50	21.50	331.20
hours by bicycle/scooter																						0.00
hours by canoe/kayak/boat																4.50				7.00		21.50
hours ATV																						0.00
total party miles	203.00	98.40	121.56	324.45	59.15	52.20	14.00	97.00	297.86	27.35	99.65	375.00	314.10	154.00	137.25	94.00	114.80	150.25	414.75	303.00	303.00	3576.87
miles on foot	24.00	42.90	20.36	21.95	40.65	8.20	10.00	14.00	69.36	12.35	48.15	51.50	21.35	81.00	70.15	53.50	40.00	28.10	27.85	7.00	7.00	697.47
miles by car	179.00	55.50	101.20	302.50	18.50	44.00	4.00	83.00	228.50	15.00	50.50	120.00	323.50	292.50	66.00	40.50	74.80	122.15	381.50	296.00	296.00	2861.75
miles by bicycle/scooter																						0.00
miles canoe/kayak/boat														0.25	7.00	4.00			5.40			16.65
miles by ATV																						0.00
hours night				0.50			3.00		4.30	2.75	5.50			4.25	4.00	3.75	0.50	2.00	3.50	3.00	2.50	41.55
miles night							2.00		2.85	6.50	1.00			8.45	4.00	1.00	1.50	3.10	10.25	7.00	7.00	49.65
feeder hours											1.50			6.50					1.00		1.00	37.00

Column Key for Table 1:

Trans	Transylvania County	Fors	Forsyth County
Bals	Balsam Mountains	Rock	Rockingham
Hend	Henderson County	Grbr	Greensboro
Bunc	Buncombe County	SoPi	Southern Pines
Bl Mts	Black Mountains	ChHi	Chapel Hill
Grdfr	Grandfather Mountain	Jord	Jordan Lake
Hang	Hanging Rock	Durh	Durham
Ired	Iredell County	Falls	Falls Lake
Meck	Mecklenburg County	Kerr	Kerr Lake
Pilot Mtn	Pilot Mountain	RoRa	Roanoke Rapids
		Onsl	Onslow County
mtns	mountains		
pied	piedmont		
coast	coast		



# BRIEFS FOR THE FILES

---

Josh Southern  
203 Hyannis Drive  
Holly Springs, NC 27540  
joshsouthern79@gmail.com

(All dates Fall 2017, unless otherwise noted)

---

*Briefs for the Files is a seasonal collection of uncommon-to-rare or unusual North and South Carolina bird sightings and events which do not necessarily require a more detailed Field Note or article. Reports of your sightings are due the 20th of the month after the end of the previous season.*

Winter	December 1–February 28	due March 20
Spring	March 1–May 31	due June 20
Summer	June 1–July 31	due August 20
Fall	August 1–November 30	due December 20

*Reports may be submitted in any format, but I prefer that you use email, list multiple sightings in taxonomic order (rather than by date or location), and type your report directly into the body of the email. If your sightings are in a file, please copy-and-paste the text into the body of the email, rather than sending an attachment.*

*Suitable reports for the Briefs include any sightings you feel are unusual, rare, noteworthy, or just plain interesting to you in any way! It is my responsibility to decide which reports merit inclusion in the Briefs.*

*Please be sure to include details of any rare or hard-to-identify birds.*

*I rely in part on sightings reported in Carolinabirds. Please don't, however, rely on me to pick up your sightings from Carolinabirds. Instead, please also send your sightings directly to me as described above.*

*If I feel that your sighting warrants a Field Note, I will contact either you or the appropriate state Field Notes editor. You may, of course, submit your Field Note directly to the editor without going through me.*

Abbreviations: **BRC** – Bird Records Committee, **Co** – County, **et al.** – and others, **Ft** – Fort, **Ln** – Lane, **m. obs.** – multiple observers, **NC** – North Carolina, **NWR** – National Wildlife Refuge, **Rd** – Road, **SC** – South Carolina, **SP** – State Park, **WTP** – Water Treatment Plant

**Ross's Goose:** This small goose, once very rare in the Carolinas, began arriving in mid-November, with five at the Mills River WTP, Henderson Co, NC, 9 Nov (Bob Butler); four around the pond where US-64 crosses over Beasley Rd in Washington Co, NC, 22 Nov (Ed Corey); up to two at Dobbins Farm, Anderson Co, SC, 22 Nov through 3 Dec (George McHenry, m. obs.); one at the Maggie Valley Golf Course, Haywood Co, NC, 26 Nov (Stan & Connie Wulkowicz, m. obs.); a high count of eight around the pond along Beasley Rd, 26 Nov (Jeff Lewis); and four at a pond along Shopton Rd in Mecklenburg Co, NC, 30 Nov through 3 Dec (Kevin Metcalf, m. obs.).

**Greater White-fronted Goose:** 19 photographed in the marsh on the south side of Mason Inlet, New Hanover Co, NC, 19 Nov (Ben Graham) was a fantastic count for that area. Other sightings included six at Bookhart Farm, Orangeburg Co, SC, 19 Nov (Donna & Harold Donnelly); up to three at Dobbins Farm, Anderson Co, SC, 22-26 Nov (George McHenry, Matt Johnson, m. obs.); and up to three around the pond where US-64 crosses over Beasley Rd in Washington Co, NC, 22 Nov into winter (Ed Corey, Jeff Lewis, m. obs.).

**Cackling Goose:** One seen and photographed with Canada Geese on Mulligan's Pond in Caldwell Co, NC, 1-11 Nov (Dwayne Martin, m. obs.) was the only one reported this fall.

**Eurasian Wigeon:** Wings Over Water Festival participants found drakes at three sites in coastal NC—on North Pond, Pea Island NWR, Dare Co, 20 Oct (Jeff Lemons, et al.) into winter; on the Salt Pond at Cape Point, Dare Co, 20-21 Oct (m. obs.); and in the Lake Landing section of Mattamuskeet NWR, Hyde Co, NC, where up to three were seen 21 Oct (Susan Campbell, et al.).

**King Eider:** A hen seen and photographed around the south end of the Bonner Bridge at Oregon Inlet, Dare Co, NC, 16-18 Nov (Catherine Bailey, Sharon Kearns, m. obs.) and briefly on nearby North Pond, 18 Nov (Jeff Beane, Stephanie Horton) was the first in North Carolina in eight years.

**Common Eider:** Sightings included a hen in flight off Jennette's Pier, Dare Co, NC, 5 Nov (Jeff Lewis, et al.); three around the Oceanana Pier, Carteret Co, NC, 17 Nov (Benjamin Murphy, et al.); a first-year drake around the pier at Myrtle Beach SP, Horry Co, SC, 19 Nov into Dec (William Kidwell, m. obs.); and an adult drake around the Folly Beach Fishing Pier, Charleston Co, SC, 23 Nov into Dec (Simon Harvey, m. obs.).

**Surf Scoter:** Inland sightings were made of individuals on Jordan Lake, Chatham Co, NC, 30 Oct (Mark Kosiewski, Matt Spangler); on a pond in Orangeburg Co, SC, 10 Nov (Julie Mobley); on Lake Townsend, Guilford Co, NC, 11 Nov (Matt Wangerin); and on Lake Gaston, Warren Co, NC, 26 Nov (George Neese, Paul Scharf).

**Long-tailed Duck:** Two at the Mills River WTP, Henderson Co, NC, 11 Nov (Ben & Carol Ringer, George Ivy, Wayne Forsythe) were

unusual for the mountain region. Five on Lake Townsend, Guilford Co, NC, 26 Nov (Henry Link, m. obs.) was a good count for a site in the Piedmont.

**Common Merganser:** Eight on the South Toe River near Celo, Yancey Co, NC, 4 Aug (*vide* Clifton Avery) probably summered in that area, as six were seen that same site 13 May (Travis Knowles, et al.).

**Red-necked Grebe:** One was seen and photographed on Lake Townsend, Guilford Co, NC, 17 Nov into December (Henry Link, m. obs.).

**White-winged Dove:** Individuals were photographed around the Old Coast Guard Station at the north end of Pea Island NWR, Dare Co, NC, 20 Sep (Jeff Lewis, et al.) and at a feeder in Davis, Carteret Co, NC, 27-29 Sep (Mark Piner, *vide* John Fussell).

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo:** One photographed along the south dike of North Pond, Pea Island NWR, Dare Co, NC, 6 Nov (Karen Lebing) was late to depart.

**Rufous Hummingbird:** An adult female banded at feeder in Woodford, Ashe Co, NC, 4 Nov (Dwayne Martin, et al.) was likely the same *Selasphorus* hummingbird that visited that feeder last fall.

**Rufous/Allen's Hummingbird:** *Selasphorus* hummingbirds not identified to species were photographed at feeders in Brevard, Transylvania Co, NC, 18 Oct into winter (Michael Plauché, m. obs.); in Boone, Watauga Co, NC, 6 Nov (Martha Cutler); in Carteret Co, NC, 2-20 Nov (Geneva Pigott); and in Hillsborough, Orange Co, NC, 16-17 Nov (Carol Tuskey).

**Calliope Hummingbird:** An immature male visited a feeder in Charlotte, Mecklenburg Co, NC, 27 Nov into December (Taylor Piephoff, m. obs.).

**Broad-billed Hummingbird:** Pending review by the NC BRC is the report of a female Broad-billed Hummingbird that visited a feeder in Southern Shores, Dare Co, NC, 30 Oct (Jeff Lewis, Joan Kutulas) into December (m. obs.). If accepted, this report will provide the fourth official record of the species in NC.

**Black Rail:** One was heard in the North River Marsh, Carteret Co, NC, 8 Sep (John Fussell). One was seen at the Bodie Island Lighthouse Pond, Dare Co, NC, 16 Oct (Peggy Eubank, Audrey Whitlock) and heard calling 21 Oct (Jeff Lewis).

**Clapper Rail:** A moribund individual found along Reedy Creek Rd in Raleigh, Wake Co, NC, 18 Sep (Jeff Beane) was unusual for a site away from the coast.

**King Rail:** One heard in a freshwater cattail marsh on the west end of Shackleford Banks, Carteret Co, NC, 30 Nov (John Fussell, Donna Goodwin) was very unusual for Cape Lookout NS, as suitable habitat for that species is very limited there.

**Sora:** Individuals along Hooper Ln in Henderson Co, NC, 6 Sep (Simon Thompson) and at Lake Junaluska, Haywood Co, NC, 4 Oct (Stan & Connie Wulkowicz) were somewhat unusual for the mountain region.

**Purple Gallinule:** Several pairs probably bred in an impoundment along the Great Pee Dee River in Plantersville, Georgetown Co, SC, this



year, as 11, including juveniles, were seen there 7 Aug (Chris Hill, John Hutchens). An immature bird at Donnelley WMA, Colleton Co, SC, 29 Nov (Pam Ford, Craig Watson) was late.

**Common Gallinule:** One heard in a freshwater cattail marsh on the west end of Shackleford Banks, Carteret Co, NC, 30 Nov (John Fussell, Donna Goodwin) was very unusual for Cape Lookout NS, because of the lack of suitable habitat.

**Sandhill Crane:** Two were seen in the Pungo Unit of Pocosin Lakes NWR, Washington Co, NC, 12 Nov (Ricky Davis) into December (m. obs.).

**American Avocet:** Individuals seen and photographed at Lake Townsend, Guilford Co, NC, 6 Aug (Elizabeth & Henry Link, m. obs.) and at the Super Sod farm along Hooper Ln in Henderson Co, NC, 12-13 Aug (Wayne Forsythe, Ron Selvey, m. obs.) were great finds for those inland sites. The latter sighting was also a first for Henderson County.

**Black-bellied Plover:** 11 at the Super Sod farm along Hooper Ln in Henderson Co, NC, 31 Aug (Wayne Forsythe, Bob Butler, m. obs.) was a great count for the mountain region.

**American Golden-Plover:** Sod farms hosting golden-plovers this fall were Super Sod in Henderson Co, NC, 20 Aug through 13 Sep, with a high count of 20 on 6 Sep (Wayne Forsythe, Bob Butler); Vandemark Farms in Nash Co, NC, 27 Aug through 2 Sep, with a high count of four on 2 Sep (Ricky Davis); Super Sod in Orangeburg Co, SC, 3-4 Sep, with a high count of two on 3 Sep (Julie Mobley, et al.); and Modern Turf in Sumter Co, SC, 24-28 Sep (m. obs.) with a high count of four on 28 Sep (Steve Patterson). Counts at other sites included two on the mudflats at the upper end of Jordan Lake, Chatham Co, NC, 30 Sep through 3 Nov (Mark Kosiewski, m. obs.); up to three at Pea Island NWR, Dare Co, NC, 30 Sep through 6 Nov (m. obs.); and seven on the spit at Ft Fisher, border of Brunswick Co and New Hanover Co, NC, 29 Oct (Jamie Adams, Sam Cooper).



*American Golden-Plovers, 29 Oct 2017,  
Brunswick Co, NC, Photo by Sam Cooper*

**Snowy Plover:** One continued from late July around Rich Inlet, New Hanover Co, NC, 4 Aug (Derb Carter) through 20 Aug (Ricky Davis).

**Wilson's Plover:** One on the west end of Shackleford Banks, Carteret Co, NC, 30 Nov (John Fussell, Donna Goodwin) was late, probably wintering in the area.

**Semipalmated Plover:** 9000 on the spit at Ft Fisher, New Hanover Co, NC, 25 Aug (David Weesner) was a remarkable total. 46 on the mudflats in the New Hope Creek arm of Jordan Lake, Chatham Co, NC, 3 Sep (Ricky Davis) and 17 at the Super Sod farm along Hooper Ln in Henderson Co, NC, 6 Sep (Wayne Forsythe, Bob Butler) were notable counts for those sites away from the coast.

**Piping Plover:** Rare inland, individual Piping Plovers on the mudflats in the Horsepen Creek arm of Lake Brandt, Guilford Co, NC, 2-5 Aug (Nate Swick, Andrew Thornton, m. obs.) and at the Super Sod farm along Hooper Ln in Henderson Co, NC, 12-15 Aug (Wayne Forsythe, Ron Selvey, m. obs.) were great finds.

**Upland Sandpiper:** This grasspiper was found in the grassy areas of two airports in coastal NC this fall—at the Wilmington International Airport, New Hanover Co, from late July through 14 Aug (Jurek Smykla), with a high count of four on 6 Aug (Jacob Farmer, et al.) and at the airport in Beaufort, Carteret Co, 16 Aug through 1 Sep (Martin Wall, m. obs.), with a high count of four on 24 Aug (Wall). One photographed at the Salt Pond at Cape Point, Dare Co, NC, 22 Aug (Michael Gosselin, Audrey Whitlock, et al.) was unusual for that site. The only site in SC that hosted this species this fall was the Super Sod farm in Orangeburg Co, where one was seen 6 Aug (Andy Harrison) through 26 Aug (Caroline Eastman).

**Long-billed Curlew:** Two were seen in Carteret Co, NC, this fall—one at the Rachel Carson Reserve, 13 Oct through 7 Nov (Jeannie Kraus, John Fussell, m. obs.) and one on the east end of Shackleford Banks, 20-22 Oct (Sheryl McNair, m. obs.). One photographed at Cape Lookout, 16 Nov (Benjamin & Carrie Murphy) was probably the same individual seen on nearby Shackleford Banks in October. In SC, two were seen at Cape Romain NWR, a traditional wintering site for the species, Charleston Co, 26 Oct (John Cox, et al), 19 Nov (Roger Smith), and 26 Nov (Ed Blicht, et al.).

**Bar-tailed Godwit:** An adult seen on the east end of Shackleford Banks, Carteret Co, NC, 24 Sep through 8 Oct (John Fussell, et al.) was probably the same individual seen at that site last fall.

**Hudsonian Godwit:** A total of 57, in two separate flocks of 38 and 19 birds, flying south over the ocean off Nags Head, Dare Co, NC, 18 Aug (John O'Brien, Michael O'Brien) was an amazing total and a new record high count for the Carolinas. The passage of Hurricane Irma resulted in two important sightings—two at the Super Sod farm along Hooper Ln in Henderson Co, NC, 12 Sep (Doug Johnston, Aaron Steed, Simon Thompson, m. obs.), only the second record for the mountain region, and 11 at Lake Wheeler, Wake Co, NC, 12 Sep (Stacy Barbour, Lucas Bobay, m. obs.), a new record high count for a site away from the coast. Individuals

photographed at the Super Sod farm in Orangeburg Co, SC, 9 Aug (Roger Smith) and on the east end of Shackleford Banks, Carteret Co, NC, 21 Aug (Martin Wall) were also good finds.



*Hudsonian Godwits, 12 Sep 2017, Wake Co, NC, Photo by Stacy Barbour*

**Ruddy Turnstone:** Individuals photographed at the Simpson Research Station, Anderson Co, SC, 6 Sep (George McHenry, et al.) and on mudflats at Lake Norman in Lincoln Co, NC, following the passage of Hurricane Irma, 12 Sep (Jeff Lemons, et al.) were good finds for those inland sites.

**Ruff:** Individuals were seen at the Beaufort Club golf course, Carteret Co, NC, 17-26 Sep (Clyde Atkins, m. obs.) and at Santee Coastal Reserve, Charleston Co, SC, 30 Sep (Pam Ford, et al.).

**Stilt Sandpiper:** 26 on the mudflats in the New Hope Creek arm of Jordan Lake, Chatham Co, NC, 3 Sep (Ricky Davis) was a good count for a site away from the coast.

**Sanderling:** Sanderlings were found at about a dozen inland sites this fall, primarily from late August to early September, with five at the Simpson Research Station in Anderson Co, SC, 6 Sep (Linda Montgomery, et al.) and four along Hooper Ln in Henderson Co, NC, 6 Sep (Wayne Forsythe) being the two highest inland counts.

**Dunlin:** 104 on the mudflats in the New Hope Creek arm of Jordan Lake, Chatham Co, NC, 3 Nov (Stacy Barbour) was an impressive count for

the Piedmont. Nine along Butler Bridge Rd in Henderson Co, NC, 12 Nov (Wayne Forsythe, Ron Selvey) was a notable count for the mountain region.

**Baird's Sandpiper:** Nine at the Super Sod farm along Hooper Ln in Henderson Co, NC, 2 Sep (Simon Thompson) was an amazing count for any site in the Carolinas. Two were seen on the mudflats in the New Hope Creek arm of Jordan Lake, Chatham Co, NC, 1 Sep (Mark Kosiewski, Matt Spangler). Individuals were seen at Vandemark Farms in Nash Co, NC, 2 Sep (Ricky Davis); at the Super Sod farm in Orangeburg Co, SC, 7-12 Sep (Kathy Woolsey, m. obs.); on the lawn in front of the Oregon Inlet Fishing Center, Dare Co, NC, 18-26 Sep (Audrey Whitlock, Jeff Lewis, m. obs.); at Huntington Beach SP, Georgetown Co, SC, 30 Sep (m. obs.); and at Santee Coastal Reserve, Charleston Co, SC, 30 Sep (m. obs.).

**White-rumped Sandpiper:** A few of the higher counts were ten at the Salt Pond at Cape Point, Dare Co, NC, 24-27 Aug (m. obs.); five in the New Hope Creek arm of Jordan Lake, Chatham Co, NC, 3 Sep (Ricky Davis); five along Hooper Ln in Henderson Co, NC, 12-13 Sep (Simon Thompson, m. obs.); and four at Santee Coastal Reserve, Charleston Co, SC, 1 Oct (Matthew Janson, Jack Rogers). One along Butler Bridge Rd in Henderson Co, NC, 12 Nov (Wayne Forsythe, Ron Selvey) was late to depart.

**Buff-breasted Sandpiper:** High counts at sod farms were two at Super Sod in Orangeburg Co, SC, 27 Aug (Pam Ford, et al.) through 14 Sep (m. obs.); nine at Super Sod in Henderson Co, NC, 1 Sep (Aaron Steed, Simon Thompson); three at Vandemark Farms in Nash Co, NC, 2 Sep (Ricky Davis); four at the farm along Laurel Rd in Carteret Co, NC, 6 Sep (Martin Wall); and eight at American Turf in Washington Co, NC, 10 Sep (Davis).

**Pectoral Sandpiper:** 220 at the Super Sod farm in Orangeburg Co, SC, 12 Aug (Pam Ford, Craig Watson) was the highest count made this fall. One seen and photographed along the Boone Greenway, Watauga Co, NC, 12-13 Sep (Guy McGrane, m. obs.) was unusual for the northern mountain region. One in the New Hope Creek arm of Jordan Lake, Chatham Co, NC, 19 Nov (Matt Spangler) was somewhat late.

**Western Sandpiper:** Eight at the Super Sod farm along Hooper Ln in Henderson Co, NC, following the passage of Hurricane Irma, 12 Sep (Doug Johnston, Aaron Steed, Simon Thompson) was a good count for the mountain region.

**Short-billed Dowitcher:** A few of the higher counts made at inland sites were 18 along Hooper Ln in Henderson Co, NC, 31 Aug (Wayne Forsythe, Bob Butler); 13 at Lake Wheeler, Wake Co, NC, 3 Sep (Ricky Davis); and 26 in the New Hope Creek arm of Jordan Lake, Chatham Co, NC, 13 Sep (Jeffrey Greco).

**Solitary Sandpiper:** One photographed at North River Preserve (limited access), Carteret Co, NC, 29 Oct (Martin Wall, et al.) was late to depart.

**Lesser Yellowlegs:** 108 on the mudflats in the New Hope Creek arm of Jordan Lake, Chatham Co, NC, 9 Sep (Jelmer Poelstra) was a notable count for the Piedmont.

**Willet:** Rare inland sightings were made of two at the Super Sod farm in Orangeburg Co, SC, 11 Aug (Chris Feeney) and two at the Simpson Research Station, Anderson Co, SC, 6 Sep (George McHenry, Linda Montgomery, et al.).

**Wilson's Phalarope:** Individuals were seen on the flooded lawn at Oregon Inlet Fishing Center, Dare Co, NC, 9 Aug (Audrey Whitlock); on the mudflats on the west end of Lake Wheeler, Wake Co, NC, 15-20 Aug (Lucas Bobay, Sam Jolly, m. obs.); at the Bodie Island Lighthouse, Dare Co, NC, 3 Sep (Whitlock, m. obs.); at McAlpine WTP (restricted access), Mecklenburg Co, NC, 6 Sep (Jeff Lemons, m. obs.); and again at Lake Wheeler, 12 Sep (Stacy & Natalie Barbour).



*Wilson's Phalarope, 15 Aug 2017, Wake Co, NC*  
*Photo by Stacy Barbour*

**Red-necked Phalarope:** The passage of Hurricane Irma resulted in multiple sightings—two off the west end of Kiawah Island, Charleston Co, SC, 11 Sep (Juliana Smith, Jake Zadik); 16 in the New Hope Creek arm of Jordan Lake, Chatham Co, NC, 12 Sep (Jeffrey Greco, m. obs.); five at Ft Fisher, New Hanover Co, NC, 12 Sep (Jamie Adams); three in the Horsepen Creek arm of Lake Brandt, Guilford Co, NC, 12 Sep (Matt Wangerin, m. obs.); one along Hooper Ln in Henderson Co, NC, 12 Sep (Simon Thompson, et al.); one at Archie Elledge WTP, Forsyth Co, NC, 12 Sep (David Disher, et al.); one at the Super Sod farm in Orangeburg Co, SC, 12 Sep (John Cox); one along Haywood Rd in Henderson Co, NC, 13 Sep (Thompson); and two along Hooper Ln, 13 Sep (Michael Robertson, m. obs.).

**South Polar Skua:** One was seen on a pelagic trip out of Hatteras, Dare Co, NC, 25 Aug (Brian Patteson, et al.).

**Pomarine Jaeger:** Rarely seen from shore, a Pomarine Jaeger was seen off Cape Point, Dare Co, NC, 20 Oct (Andrew Thornton, et al.) and two were seen off Pea Island NWR, Dare Co, NC, 21 Oct (Ricky Davis, Jeff Pippen).

**Parasitic Jaeger:** Pending review by the SC BRC was the report of a dark-morph individual seen near the dam on J. Strom Thurmond Reservoir in McCormick Co, SC, following the passage of Hurricane Irma, 12 Sep (Matt Malin, Mark Vukovich). One over the Rachel Carson Reserve and adjacent Taylor Creek, Carteret Co, NC, following the passage of Hurricane Nate, 9 Oct (Martin Wall, et al.) was unusual for a site away from the ocean. 12 off Pea Island NWR, Dare Co, NC, 21 Oct (Ricky Davis, Jeff Pippen) and six off Coquina Beach, Dare Co, NC, 3 Nov (Lucas Bobay, et al.) were good counts.

**Long-tailed Jaeger:** Pending review by the SC BRC is the report of an injured individual found on the beach on Hilton Head Island, Beaufort Co, SC, during the passage of Hurricane Nate, 8 Oct (Emily Davis, fide Matthew Campbell).

**Dovekie:** One in the surf off Cape Point, Dare Co, NC, 23 Oct (Brian Patteson) was incredibly early, possibly the earliest ever seen in the Carolinas.

**Black-legged Kittiwake:** Pending review by the NC BRC is the report of an immature bird photographed on Lake Hickory on the border of Alexander Co and Catawba Co, NC, 17 Nov (Dwayne Martin, Lori Owenby). If accepted, this report would provide the second record of this species in the NC Piedmont.

**Sabine's Gull:** Sightings, all made in NC, included a juvenile at Cape Point, Dare Co, 13 Sep (Brian Patteson); two juveniles photographed on Lake Townsend, Guilford Co, 15 Sep (Henry Link, m. obs.); five juveniles off Cape Point, 15 Sep (Andrew Thornton); one juvenile over the Neuse River in New Berm, Craven Co, 2 Oct (Wade Fuller); and a juvenile at Cape Point, 10 Oct (Patteson).

**Little Gull:** An adult bird at Jordan Lake, Chatham Co, NC, 25 Nov (Gordon Brown) through 6 Dec (Kevin Hudson) was a great find for a site in the Piedmont.

**Laughing Gull:** Several were reported at inland sites after the passage of tropical storms, the farthest inland of which were individuals photographed on Lake Hartwell in Anderson Co, SC, following Hurricane Irma, 12 Sep (Joel Ludlam, m. obs.) and on Lake Brandt, Guilford Co, NC, following Hurricane Nate, 9 Nov (Henry Link, m. obs.). Up to 3000 lingered around Atlantic Beach, Carteret Co, NC, in late November (John Fussell, Martin Wall, m. obs.) because of commercial shrimping activity in that area.

**Iceland Gull:** One was seen in flight over North Pond, Pea Island NWR, Dare Co, NC, 15 Nov (Christine Stoughton-Root, et al.).

**Lesser Black-backed Gull:** 45 near the Cedar Island Ferry Terminal, Carteret Co, NC, 25 Sep (Martin Wall) and 25 on Waites Island, Horry Co, SC, 29 Sep (Chris Hill, David Williams, et al.) were good counts for those sites.

**Great Black-backed Gull:** One photographed on Lake Norman in Mecklenburg Co, NC, following the passage of Hurricane Irma, 12 Sep (Jeff Lemons, et al.) was a great find for a site so far inland.

**Brown Noddy:** Three individuals were seen and photographed along the Carolina coast following the passage of Hurricane Irma, 12 Sep—over the surf off Oak Island, Brunswick Co, NC, (Robert Meehan); on the beach near the jetty at Murrells Inlet, Georgetown Co, SC, (Paul Laurent); and on the beach on the Isle of Palms, Charleston Co, SC, (Emily Davis, *fide* Matthew Campbell). The two reports from SC are pending review by the SC BRC.

**Sooty Tern:** Multiple sightings were made associated with the passage of Hurricane Irma, with ten off Seabrook Island, Charleston Co, SC, 11 Sep (David Gardner) being the highest count. Ten moribund or injured Sooty Terns, mostly found in Charleston Co and Georgetown Co, SC, were reported to the Avian Conservation Center in Awendaw, SC, 12-16 Sep, including one at an inland site in Orangeburg Co, SC, 13 Sep (Emily Davis, *fide* Matthew Campbell). Sightings made in the western half of the Carolinas included one at the dam on Lake Murray, Lexington Co, SC, 12 Sep (Irvin Pitts); one on Lake Hartwell, Anderson Co, SC, 12 Sep (Scott Davis, et al.); one on Lake Norman at the border of Iredell Co, Lincoln Co, and Mecklenburg Co, NC, 12-14 Sep (Jeff Lemons, et al.); and at least five on J. Strom Thurmond Reservoir, McCormick Co, SC, 12 Sep (Mark Vukovich, m. obs.). Pending review by the NC BRC were reports of individuals at two sites in the NC mountains—along Hooper Ln in Henderson Co, 12-13 (Doug Johnston, Aaron Steed, Simon Thompson, m. obs.) and at Lake Julian, Buncombe Co, 12 Sep (Johnston, Thompson, Jay Wherley).

**Bridled Tern:** A juvenile photographed on a dock on Store Creek, Edisto Island, Charleston Co, SC, 11 Sep (Sidney Gauthreaux) was our only hurricane-related sighting.

**Least Tern:** An immature Least Tern lingered around the Cedar Island Ferry Terminal, Carteret Co, NC, until the late date of 6 Oct (Martin Wall, m. obs.).

**Caspian Tern:** Locally unusual were four at Lake Julian, Buncombe Co, NC, 6 Sep (Simon Thompson); two at W. Kerr Scott Reservoir, Wilkes Co, NC, 6 Sep (Guy McGrane); and one along Hooper Ln in Henderson Co, NC, 12 Sep (Wayne Forsythe, Bob Butler). One at Lake Crabtree, Wake Co, NC, 8 Nov (Eddie Owens, m. obs.) was late for a site in the Piedmont.

**Black Tern:** 650 on the spit at Ft Fisher, New Hanover Co, NC, 6 Sep (Greg Massey, Harry Sell) was a notable count. One seen from the Knotts Island Ferry, Currituck Co, NC, 17 Oct (Steve Ritt) was quite late.

**Roseate Tern:** One was photographed resting amongst other terns at Cape Point, Dare Co, NC, 18 Sep (Brian Patteson).

**Common Tern:** Three at W. Kerr Scott Reservoir, Wilkes Co, NC, 6 Sep (Guy McGrane) were locally unusual. Sightings over inland lakes following the passage of Hurricane Irma included three at Lake Julian, Buncombe Co, NC, 12 Sep (Simon Thompson, et al.) and six at Lake Norman, Mecklenburg Co, NC, 14 Sep (Jeff Lemons, et al.).

**Sandwich Tern:** 35 flying west off the Oceanana Pier in Atlantic Beach, Carteret Co, NC, 23 Nov (John Fussell, et al.) was a good count for that later date.

**Black Skimmer:** Peak counts were 1100 flying north off Litchfield Beach, Georgetown Co, SC, 25 Oct (Paul Serridge, et al.) and 1200 at Mason Inlet, New Hanover Co, NC, 18 Nov and 3 Dec (Sam Cooper).

**White-tailed Tropicbird:** An adult was seen on a pelagic trip out of Hatteras, Dare Co, NC, 26 Aug (Brian Patteson, et al.).

**Red-throated Loon:** A juvenile photographed on Oak Hollow Lake in Guilford Co, NC, 14 Nov (Andrew Thornton) was a good find for an inland site.

**Northern Fulmar:** There was an influx of this species off the NC coast in early October, with 24 seen on a fishing trip off Ocracoke Island, Hyde Co, 7 Oct (Jesse Anderson, Ed Corey) and moribund individuals found on the beaches of Ft Fisher, New Hanover Co, 10 Oct (Jamie Adams) and Figure Eight Island, New Hanover Co, 15 Oct (Derb Carter).

**Trindade Petrel:** One was seen on a pelagic trip out of Hatteras, Dare Co, NC, 11 Aug (Brian Patteson, et al.).

**Fea's Petrel:** One was seen on a pelagic trip out of Hatteras, Dare Co, NC, 25 Aug (Brian Patteson, et al.).

**Cory's Shearwater (Scopoli's):** Injured individuals were found on Hilton Head Island, Beaufort Co, SC, following the passage of Hurricane Irma, 13 Sep, and on the Isle of Palms, Charleston Co, SC, following the passage of Hurricane Nate, 10 Oct, but unfortunately did not survive rehabilitation (Emily Davis, *vide* Matthew Campbell).

**Great Shearwater:** From the summer period, The Avian Conservation Center in Awendaw, SC, received reports of ten individual Great Shearwaters found on beaches in Charleston Co and Beaufort Co, SC, 19 Jun through 27 Jun, around the same time there was an influx of the species along the NC coast (Emily Davis, *vide* Matthew Campbell).

**Wood Stork:** Post-breeding dispersal resulted in multiple sightings in the Triangle area of NC—one in the New Hope Creek arm of Jordan Lake, border of Durham Co and Chatham Co, 13-22 Aug (Matt Spangler, m. obs.); one at Lake Wheeler, Wake Co, 27 Aug (Lynn Erla Beegle) through 3 Sep (Ricky Davis); five in the New Hope Creek arm of Jordan Lake, 12 Sep (Jeffrey Greco, m. obs.); and one in the Ellerbe Creek arm of Falls Lake, Durham Co, 6-15 Oct (Tom Driscoll, m. obs.). 58 at Neuseway Park in Kinston, Lenoir Co, NC, 2 Sep (Dana Miller, et al.) was a good count for that area. Peak counts at sites along the coast were 117 in Sunset Beach,



Brunswick Co, NC, 31 Aug (Maria Smith, David Weber) and 550 on Murphy Island, Charleston Co, SC, 10 Oct (Felicia Sanders).

**Magnificent Frigatebird:** A juvenile over Seabrook Island, Charleston Co, SC, 5 Aug (Judy Morr) was the only one reported this period.

**Brown Booby:** Immature individuals were photographed resting on the Oceanic Pier, after reportedly colliding with it, in Wrightsville Beach, New Hanover Co, NC, 5 Aug (Sheila Wakefield, m. obs.) and in Charleston Co, SC, 8 Aug (Meghan Galipeau). Following the passage of Hurricane Irma, a juvenile was seen off the pier at Myrtle Beach SP, Horry Co, SC, 12 Sep (Scott Hartley) and an injured individual found on Hilton Head Island, Beaufort Co, SC, 14 Sep, was collected by a wildlife rehabilitator, later recovered, and was transported to Florida for release (Emily Davis, *vide* Matthew Campbell).

**Great Cormorant:** One on Lake Townsend, Guilford Co, NC, 29 Nov through 15 Dec (Henry Link, m. obs.) was a great find for an inland site.

**Anhinga:** One on Lake Townsend, Guilford Co, NC, 24 Aug through 8 Oct (Andrew Thornton, m. obs.) was unusual for a site so far from the coast.

**American Bittern:** Individuals at Lake Conestee Nature Park, Greenville Co, SC, 31 Oct (Gary Harbour) and at the Super Sod farm along Hooper Ln in Henderson Co, NC, 11-17 Nov (Wayne Forsythe) were good finds for those areas.

**Reddish Egret:** Two continued on the east end of Shackleford Banks, Carteret Co, NC, from late summer through 8 Oct (John Fussell, et al), with a high count of three seen 11-26 Aug (Jesse Anderson, m. obs.). Two were seen on the east end of Sunset Beach, Brunswick Co, NC, 11 Aug (Sam Cooper) and 20 Aug (Ricky Davis). A rare white-morph individual was seen on Bulls Island, Cape Romain NWR, Charleston Co, SC, 11 Aug and 24 Aug (David McLean).

**Green Heron:** One at Lake Junaluska, Haywood Co, NC, 23 Nov (Stan & Connie Wulkowicz) was quite late for a site in the mountain region.

**Glossy Ibis:** Nine at Lake Crabtree, Wake Co, NC, 13 Sep (Eddie Owens, m. obs.) was a notable count for a site in the Piedmont.

**Roseate Spoonbill:** Very rare in the Piedmont with only four previous records, immature spoonbills were seen and photographed at three sites in the greater Triangle area of NC this fall—in the New Hope Creek arm of Jordan Lake, border of Durham Co and Chatham Co, 16-27 Aug (Matt Spangler, m. obs.); in the Beaverdam Creek arm of Falls Lake in Granville Co, 8 Sep (Dan Edwards, et al.); and in the Morgan Creek arm of Jordan Lake, Chatham Co, 17-24 Sep (Spangler, m. obs.). Did these sightings represent three different individuals, or, more likely, did one individual simply move between the three sites? Four where NC-179B crosses the Calabash River near Sunset Beach, Brunswick Co, NC, 12 Aug (Mark Vukovich) through 20 Aug (Ricky Davis) was a good count for NC.

The high count in SC was 95 at Bear Island WMA, Colleton Co, 19 Oct (Ann Truesdale).



*Roseate Spoonbill, 17 Sep 2017, Chatham Co, NC*  
*Photo by Matt Spangler*

**Turkey Vulture:** 482 passing through Carvers Gap at Roan Mountain, Mitchell Co, NC, during the span of one hour, 10 Nov (Rick Knight) was a notable concentration.

**Swallow-tailed Kite:** Post-breeding dispersal resulted in sightings over agricultural fields in the western part of the Carolinas again this year. Those sightings included seven along US-76 in southeast Laurens Co, SC, 3 Aug (Marion Clark, et al.); four near Smyrna, York Co, SC, 7 Aug (*vide* Doug Pratt); two along NC-200 in Union Co, NC, 17 Aug (Martina Nordstrand); two along Steele Creek Rd in Mecklenburg Co, NC, 11-15 Aug (Kevin Metcalf, m. obs.); two along SC-418 in Laurens Co, SC, 23 Aug (Miles Groff); one in northwest Jackson Co, NC, 23 Aug (Tim Lewis); and four along SC-292 near Inman, Spartanburg Co, SC, 24 Aug (Susan Campbell).

**Mississippi Kite:** The peak count at the annual post-breeding congregation over the agricultural fields near Exit 75 on I-40 in McDowell Co, NC, was 23 on 21 Aug (Sage Church). Other sightings made in the NC mountains included six over Ferguson Fields, Swain Co, 21 Aug (Mark & Shelley McNeill); two along Hooper Ln in Henderson Co, 2 Sep (Simon Thompson); four over the Mahogany Rock Overlook along the BRP in Alleghany Co, 9 Sep (Jim Keighton); and one along Ben Miller Rd in Watauga Co, 10 Sep (Guy McGrane).

**Broad-winged Hawk:** 2081, 1800 of which were seen in the span of 45 minutes, over Riverbend Park, Catawba Co, NC, 25 Sep (Dwayne Martin) was the largest kettle of migrants reported this fall.

**Rough-legged Hawk:** Two, a light-morph bird and a dark-morph bird, were seen over Pond Mountain Game Land, Ashe Co, NC, 15 Nov (Clifton Avery, Guy McGrane).

**Golden Eagle:** Immature individuals were seen on Roan Mountain, Mitchell Co, NC, 2 Nov (Rick Knight) and over Coy Ham Rd in Ashe Co, NC, 20 Nov (Jesse Anderson).

**Snowy Owl:** One photographed in an urban area of Winston-Salem, Forsyth Co, NC, 16 Nov (Greg Ciener) was a harbinger of the mini-irruption that came later in Dec.

**Short-eared Owl:** Individuals along Hooper Ln in Henderson Co, NC, 19 Oct and 11-12 Nov (Wayne Forsythe, Ron Selvey, m. obs.); at Pond Mountain Game Land, Ashe Co, NC, 15 Nov (Clifton Avery, Guy McGrane); and at Dobbins Farm, Anderson Co, SC, 22 Nov (George McHenry, Andy Norris) were good finds.

**Red-headed Woodpecker:** One migrating over Round Bald on Roan Mountain, Mitchell Co, NC, 10 Nov (Rick Knight) was rather late for that high-elevation site.

**Olive-sided Flycatcher:** About half a dozen individuals were seen in the Carolinas this fall, all in the western half of NC, 22 Aug through 18 Sep (m. obs.).

**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:** This species was well-reported in the Carolinas this fall, with over a dozen sightings made 2 Sep through 4 Oct (m. obs.). Though most sightings were made at sites in Piedmont, individuals along Burnt Mill Creek in Wilmington, New Hanover Co, NC, 8-11 Sep and 23 Sep (Sam Cooper, m. obs.) and at Huntington Beach SP, Georgetown Co, SC, 29 Sep (Simon Thompson, et al.) were unusual for the coast.



*Say's Phoebe, 16 Oct 2017,  
Beaufort Co, NC  
Photo by Martin Wall*

**Alder Flycatcher:** One seen and heard calling in the Sandhills Game Land in Richmond Co, NC, 20 Aug (Alan Krakauer, et al.) was unusual for that area.

**Willow Flycatcher:** One seen and heard calling along Burnt Mill Creek in Wilmington, New Hanover Co, NC, 5-16 Sep (Jamie Adams, m. obs.) was unusual for a site along the coast.

**Say's Phoebe:** Individuals were seen at the Voice of America site in the northwest corner of Beaufort Co, NC, 16 Oct through 5 Dec (Martin Wall, m. obs.) and at the intersection of Canal C Rd and Lake Rd in Washington Co, NC, 24-27 Nov (Don Rote, m. obs.).

**Vermilion Flycatcher:** A female was seen in Georgetown, Georgetown Co, SC, 23 Nov (Ritch Lilly, et al.) into winter, ending a five year drought of sightings in the Carolinas.

**Ash-throated Flycatcher:** Pending review by the NC BRC is the report of one photographed at Randolph Middle School in Mecklenburg Co, NC, 18 Nov (Ken Kneidel). If accepted, this sighting would provide the first photographic documentation of the species in the Piedmont region.

**Great Crested Flycatcher:** One photographed at Ft Fisher, New Hanover Co, NC, 18 Nov (Bruce Smithson) was incredibly late.

**Western Kingbird:** Individuals were seen at Airlie Gardens, New Hanover Co, NC, 15 Sep (Jamie Adams); at Ft Fisher, New Hanover Co, NC, 10 Oct (Adams, Bruce Smithson, David Weesner) and 11 Oct (Weesner); and on Seabrook Island, Charleston Co, SC, 13-16 Nov (David Gardner, m. obs.).

**Eastern Kingbird:** 80+ in flight over Hooper Ln in Henderson Co, NC, 1 Sep (Simon Thompson, et al.) was a notable concentration of migrants.

**Gray Kingbird:** One photographed at Garris Landing, Charleston Co, SC, 30 Sep (Stephen Thomas) was the only one reported this fall.

**Scissor-tailed Flycatcher:** Two distinct individuals were seen and photographed in southeast NC in late November—a relatively short-tailed bird at Ft Fisher, New Hanover Co, 18-19 Nov (Mark Jones, m. obs.) and a much longer-tailed bird in Ocean Isle Beach, Brunswick Co, 24 Nov (Jennifer Shockley, et al.).

**Bell's Vireo:** Two reports, both pending review by the NC BRC, were made in NC this fall—one seen and audio-recorded near the aquarium at Ft Fisher, New Hanover Co, 8 Oct (Jelmer Poelstra) and one seen and photographed on the grounds of Warren Wilson College, Buncombe Co, 14-16 Nov (James Poling, m. obs.). The latter report is the most interesting because most previous records are from sites along the coast, and, if accepted, this sighting would provide the first record from the mountain region.

**Philadelphia Vireo:** This species was well-reported again this fall, with the peak of passage occurring in late September. Two at Cape Lookout, Carteret Co, NC, 29 Sep (Jamie Adams, David Weesner) were unusual for that area.

**Warbling Vireo:** Individuals at Huntington Beach SP, Georgetown Co, SC, 22 Aug (Sam Miller); in Wilmington, New Hanover Co, NC, 27 Aug (Sam Cooper); along the boardwalk in Duck, Dare Co, NC, 12 Sep and 29 Sep (Jim Gould); and at Mingo Point, Charleston Co, SC, 16 Sep (Jake Zadik, Juliana Smith) were good finds for those sites along the coast.

**Tree Swallow:** 4200 around Ecusta Pond in Transylvania Co, NC, 20 Sep (Michael Plauché) was a notable count for the mountain region.

**Northern Rough-winged Swallow:** One near Coinjock, Currituck Co, NC, 24 Nov (Steve Ritt) was late to depart.

**Cave Swallow:** Sightings, all made at sites along the NC coast, included six around the Salt Pond at Cape Point, Dare Co, 21 Oct (Andrew Thornton, et al.); one in North Topsail Beach, Onslow Co, 26 Oct (Gilbert Grant); 12 in Waves, Dare Co, 26 Oct (Karen Lebing); two at the Cedar Island Ferry Terminal, Carteret Co, 30 Oct (Martin Wall); 12 at Mason Inlet, New Hanover Co, 31 Oct (Jamie Adams); one off Coquina Beach, Dare Co, 1 Nov (Nathan & Sarah Gatto); two at the north end of Pea Island NWR, Dare Co, 3 Nov (Lucas Bobay, et al.); and one at Mattamuskeet NWR, Hyde Co, 11 Nov (Derb Carter). As usual, most Cave Swallows were found amongst large flocks of Tree Swallows.

**American Pipit:** One seen in the New Hope Creek arm of Jordan Lake, Chatham Co, NC, 17 Aug (Will Cook) was incredibly early.

**Sprague's Pipit:** One seen and photographed on the east end of Kiawah Island, Charleston Co, SC, 18-19 Oct (Hannah Conley, Kristen Oliver, Mattie VandenBoom, m. obs.) was the Carolina's first sighting in six years.

**Lapland Longspur:** Individuals were found in the company of Horned Larks in agricultural areas in the Pungo Unit of Pocosin Lakes NWR in Washington Co, NC, 12 Nov (Ricky Davis) and where US-64 crosses over Beasley Rd in Washington Co, NC, 25 Nov (Lucas Bobay, et al.).

**Snow Bunting:** After one was first photographed on the large rocks on the south side of Oregon Inlet, Dare Co, NC, 18 Nov (Mark McShane), four were seen there 24-29 Nov (Brian Murphy, m. obs.).

**Clay-colored Sparrow:** At least 19 individuals were seen, many photographed, in the Carolinas this fall, 8 Sep through 12 Nov. One at Clark's Creek Nature Preserve, Mecklenburg Co, NC, 30 Sep through 4 Oct (Barry Rowan, m. obs.) was notable for being the only sighting made outside of the coastal plain.

**Lark Sparrow:** Individuals were seen at Ft Macon SP, Carteret Co, NC, 8-10 Sep (Chandra Biggerstaff, Martin Wall); in Buxton Woods, Dare Co, NC, 14 Sep (Megan Baker, Michael Gosselin) and 19 Oct (Marcia Lyons, et al.); and at Coquina Beach, Dare Co, NC, 21 Sep (Maggie Peretto).

**Lincoln's Sparrow:** This species began passing through the NC mountains in late September, and by the end of the period sightings had been made at dozens of sites across the Carolinas. Five at Warren Wilson College, Buncombe Co, NC, 18 Oct (Aaron Steed) and four along Canal D Rd in the Pungo Unit of Pocosin Lakes NWR in Washington Co, NC, 12 Nov (Ricky Davis) were the two highest counts. Locally unusual were individuals along the Fourteen Mile Creek Trail, Lexington Co, SC, 19-21 Oct (Irvin Pitts, m. obs.); at Lynchburg Savanna Heritage Preserve, Lee Co, SC, 5 Nov (Andy Harrison); and on Roanoke Island, Dare Co, NC, 22 Nov (Jeff Lewis).

**White-throated Sparrow:** An adult photographed in Chapel Hill, Orange Co, NC, 2 Sep (Casey Girard, Karen Hogan) was very early.

**White-crowned Sparrow:** An immature bird photographed at Umstead SP, Wake Co, NC, 20 Sep (Neil Skoog) was somewhat early.

**Yellow-headed Blackbird:** An immature female seen on the lawn in front of the Oregon Inlet Fishing Center, Dare Co, NC, 12 Aug (Jeff Lewis) may have been the same immature female seen around the Salt Pond at Cape Point, Dare Co, NC, 22-27 Aug (Michael Gosselin, m. obs.). Another individual, either an adult female or immature male, was seen in a yard on Ocracoke Island, Hyde Co, NC, 17 Oct (Peter Vankevich).

**Bobolink:** One at North River Preserve (limited access), Carteret Co, NC, 9 Nov (John Fussell, Martin Wall, et al.) was somewhat late.

**Worm-eating Warbler:** One lingered along the Woodland Trail at Charleston Southern University, Charleston Co, SC, until 23 Oct (Charles Donnelly).

**Golden-winged Warbler:** Rare along the coast, two Golden-winged Warblers at Huntington Beach SP, Georgetown Co, SC, 29 Sep (Simon Thompson, et al.) were notable.

**Swainson's Warbler:** One caught at a banding station on Kiawah Island, Charleston Co, SC, 14 Oct (Brandon Connare, et al.) was somewhat late.

**Tennessee Warbler:** One seen at Huntington Beach SP, Georgetown Co, SC, 7 Nov (Paul Serridge) was late.

**Nashville Warbler:** One at Swann WTP in Forsyth Co, NC, 18 Aug (Derek Hudgins) was rather early, while one photographed at Patriot's Point, Charleston Co, SC, 4 Nov (Takayuki Uchida) was rather late. Dozens of sightings were made across the Carolinas in September and October.

**Connecticut Warbler:** A first-year bird photographed at Mason Farm Biological Reserve, Orange Co, NC, 3 Oct (Jan Hansen, Jelmer Poelstra) was the only one reported in the Carolinas this fall.

**Mourning Warbler:** Individuals were seen at Beaver Lake, Buncombe Co, NC, where photographed, 10 Sep (Jay Wherley, m. obs.) and in east Mecklenburg Co, NC, 10 Sep (Taylor Piephoff).

**American Redstart:** Late to depart were individuals in Gloucester, Carteret Co, NC, where photographed, 7 Nov (Geneva Pigott) and on Bulls Island, Cape Romain NWR, Charleston Co, SC, 24 Nov (Carl & Cathy Miller, David McLean).

**Kirtland's Warbler:** A first-year bird was captured at a banding station on Big Bald Mountain, border of Unicoi Co, Tennessee and Yancey Co, NC, 3 Oct (Evan Buck, Mark Hopey, et al.). Hopey notes that this Kirtland's Warbler was "the first and only in 41 years of migration banding at Big Bald." This record is pending review by the NC BRC.



*Kirtland's Warbler, 3 Oct 2017,  
Yancey Co, NC  
Photo by Evan Buck*

**Cape May Warbler:** One photographed in Huntersville, Mecklenburg Co, NC, 10 Nov (Eric Keith) was late to depart.

**Bay-breasted Warbler:** One seen at Ninety Six National Historic Site, Greenwood Co, SC, 6 Nov (Irvin Pitts) was late to depart.

**Yellow Warbler:** One photographed at Magnolia Gardens, Charleston Co, SC, 5 Nov (Takayuki Uchida) was late to depart.

**Chestnut-sided Warbler:** One seen along the boardwalk in Duck, Dare Co, NC, 23-28 Sep (Jeff Lewis, m. obs.) was unusual for a site on the Outer Banks. Four at Huntington Beach SP, Georgetown Co, SC, 29 Sep (Simon Thompson, et al.) was a good count for a site along the coast.

**Yellow-rumped Warbler (Audubon's):** A western race Yellow-rumped Warbler was seen and photographed in a yard in Lexington Co, SC, 19-23 Nov (Irvin Pitts).

**Black-throated Green Warbler:** One at Lake Conestee Nature Park, Greenville Co, SC, 3 Nov (Simon Harvey) was late.

**Wilson's Warbler:** This species was well-reported this fall, with a couple dozen sightings made in September and October. One photographed at the WTP in Conway, Horry Co, SC, 30 Nov (Chris Hill, John Hutchens) was quite late.

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak:** 150 at Ridge Junction, along the BRP in Yancey Co, NC, 25 Sep (Cynthia Donaldson, et al.) and 145+ at Roan Mountain, Mitchell Co, NC, 27 Sep (Rick Knight) were impressive totals. 16 in north Wake Co, NC, 27 Sep (Kyle Kittelberger) was a notable count for the Piedmont. One at the north end of Pea Island NWR, Dare Co, NC, 5 Nov (Ricky Davis) was late to depart.

**Blue Grosbeak:** Late to depart were immature individuals at Ft Macon SP, Carteret Co, NC, 9-10 Nov (Martin Wall) and at Lake Wilson, Wilson Co, NC, 19 Nov (Tedi McManus, Mark Hopey).

**Indigo Bunting:** Late to depart were individuals photographed in Columbia, Tyrrell Co, NC, 17 Nov (Jeff Beane, et al.); at the Clemson Aquaculture Facility, Pickens Co, SC, 17 Nov (Scott Davis); and at a feeder in Williston, Barnwell Co, SC, 23 Nov (Julia Sitler).

**Painted Bunting:** An adult male caught during a banding event at Prairie Ridge Ecostation, Wake Co, NC, 18 Nov (John Gerwin, Pam Diamond, et al.) was very unusual for the Piedmont, especially in late fall. From the Spring 2017 period, an adult male visiting a feeder just east of Greenville, Pitt Co, NC, 2-5 Apr (Veronica Pantelidis) was unusual for a site in the inner coastal plain.



*Painted Bunting, 18 Nov 2017, Wake Co, NC  
Photo by Pam Diamond*

**Dickcissel:** There were about 20 Dickcissels reported in the Carolinas this fall, eight of which were seen at sites in Dare Co, NC, 19 Aug through 14 Oct (m. obs.). One lingered from summer at the breeding site along Howerton Rd in Guilford Co, NC, until 27 Sep (Andrew Thornton). Two seen together at Clark's Creek Nature Preserve, Mecklenburg Co, NC, 3-8 Oct (Dennis Kent, John Scavetto, m. obs.) were noteworthy, as most fall sightings are of individuals.



---

## ***The Chat Goes Online***

---

Steve Shultz

After eighty years as a tangible periodical, *The Chat* joins the ranks of publications published solely online, beginning with Volume 81. Individual members may access current and previous calendar year editions of *The Chat* by logging on at <https://www.carolinabirdclub.org/>.

Library subscription access to the restricted issues will be controlled via IP address. Library and organization members may contact the web editor, Kent Fiala, at [webeditor@carolinabirdclub.org](mailto:webeditor@carolinabirdclub.org) to confirm which IP address(es) are eligible for access.

Issues since 1971 are already available online and all are open access, except for the current and previous calendar years, which are available only by membership or subscription.

Online publications allows for several benefits, including the ability to easily search back issues using an index that spans Volumes 35-80 (1971 to 2016). Visit <https://www.carolinabirdclub.org/chat> for the index, searchable database covering Briefs for the Files and Bird Record Committee reports, and explore forty years of full issues from the leisure of your device.

In addition to being accessible via the Carolina Bird Club website, *The Chat* is now an official part of the international Biodiversity Heritage Library (BHL). BHL is a consortium of natural history and botanical libraries that cooperate to digitize the legacy literature of biodiversity held in their collections and to make that literature available for open access and responsible use as a part of a global “biodiversity commons.” The BHL consortium works with the international taxonomic community, rights holders, and other interested parties to ensure that this biodiversity heritage is made available to a global audience through open access principles. In partnership with the Internet Archive and through local digitization efforts, the BHL has digitized millions of pages of taxonomic literature, representing over 120,000 titles and over 200,000 volumes. Back issues of *The Chat* may be found at:

<https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/bibliography/120122#/summary>

# CAROLINA BIRD CLUB

[www.carolinabirdclub.org](http://www.carolinabirdclub.org)

The Carolina Bird Club is a non-profit organization which represents and supports the birding community in the Carolinas through its official website, publications, meetings, workshops, trips, and partnerships, whose mission is

- To promote the observation, enjoyment, and study of birds.
- To provide opportunities for birders to become acquainted, and to share information and experience.
- To maintain well-documented records of birds in the Carolinas.
- To support the protection and conservation of birds and their habitats and foster an appreciation and respect of natural resources.
- To promote educational opportunities in bird and nature study.
- To support research on birds of the Carolinas and their habitats.

Membership is open to all persons interested in the conservation, natural history, and study of wildlife with particular emphasis on birds. Dues, contributions, and bequests to the Club may be deductible from state and federal income and estate taxes to the extent allowable. Pay dues or make donations at <https://carolinabirdclub.org/dues>. Make change of address at <https://www.carolinabirdclub.org/members/profile>. Send correspondence regarding membership matters to the Headquarters Secretary. Answers to questions about the club might be found at <https://carolinabirdclub.org/about.html>.

## ANNUAL DUES

Individual or non-profit.....	\$30.00
Family.....	\$35.00
Student.....	\$15.00
Sustaining and businesses.....	\$30.00
Patron.....	\$50.00 and up
Life Membership (payable in four consecutive \$100 installments) .....	\$500.00
Associate Life Membership (in same household as life member).....	\$100.00

## ELECTED OFFICERS

President	Christine Stoughton-Root, Merritt NC	<a href="mailto:cssrbdr@gmail.com">cssrbdr@gmail.com</a>
NC Vice-Presidents	Steve Tracy, Gastonia NC Sherry Lane, Wilmington NC	
SC Vice-President	Teri Bergin, Mt. Pleasant SC	
Secretary	Jeri Smart, Rolesville NC	
Treasurer	Paul Dayer, Durham NC	
NC Members-at-Large	Lester Coble, Ernul NC Karyl Gabriel, High Point NC Katherine Higgins, Wilmington NC Marilyn Westphal, Hendersonville NC	
SC Members-at-Large	Lewis Burke, Columbia SC Steve McInnis, Columbia SC	

## EX-OFFICIO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chat Editor	Steve Shultz, Apex, NC	<a href="mailto:chat@carolinabirdclub.org">chat@carolinabirdclub.org</a>
Newsletter Editor	Vivian Glover, Orangeburg, SC	<a href="mailto:newsletter@carolinabirdclub.org">newsletter@carolinabirdclub.org</a>
Website Editor	Kent Fiala, Hillsborough, NC	<a href="mailto:webeditor@carolinabirdclub.org">webeditor@carolinabirdclub.org</a>
Immediate Past President	Irvin Pitts, Lexington, NC	

## HEADQUARTERS SECRETARY

Carol Bowman	9 Quincy Place Pinehurst NC 28374	<a href="mailto:hq@carolinabirdclub.org">hq@carolinabirdclub.org</a>
--------------	-----------------------------------	--