

## 2016 Spring Migration Counts in North Carolina

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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.

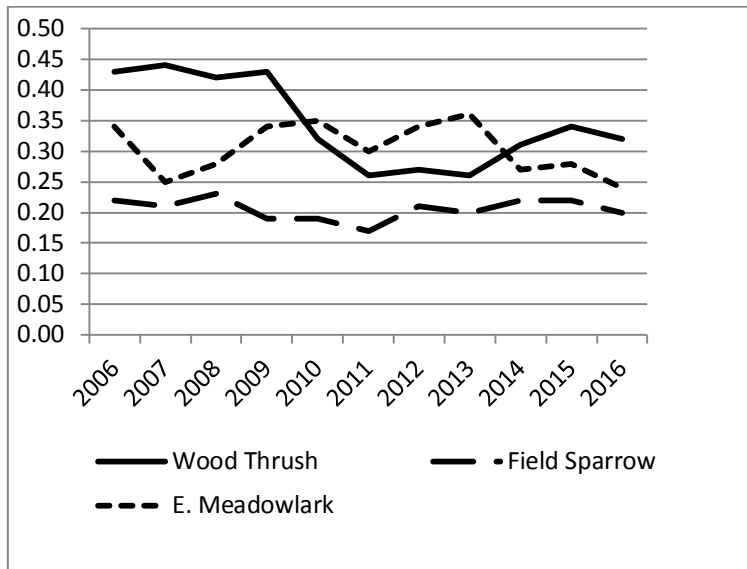
Some species that were located in only one count area included Connecticut and Nashville Warbler in Henderson County; American Pipit in Mecklenburg County; Bufflehead in Forsyth County; Lark Sparrow at Southern Pines; King Rail, Common Gallinule, and Rusty Blackbird at Chapel Hill; Lesser Scaup at Falls 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 (tntribble@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)

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 ([birdsallot@gmail.com](mailto:birdsallot@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 Phoebe's, 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	Grdf 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 per party-hour	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	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																		1			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	1	0.00	
Ring-necked Duck											1		1									2	0.00	0.00	
Greater Scaup	1																	1		1	1	2	0.00	0.02	
Lesser Scaup																						1	0.00	0.00	
Bullhead												1										1	0.00	0.00	
Hooded Merganser			2										13		11	9		4	2			41	0.01	0.00	
Common Merganser																			1			1	0.00	0.00	
Red-breasted Merganser	1										1		3					9	6		5	27	0.00	0.00	0.10
Ruddy Duck																					118	128	0.00	0.00	2.25
Northern Bobwhite				1					1					2		2		9		2	11	20	0.00	0.00	0.21
Ruffed Grouse												1										16	0.04	0.00	
Wild Turkey	2		16	49	5			5		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	
Eared Grebe																					1	1	0.00	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	44	73	210	232	1971	0.82	1.53	4.42
Yellow-bellied Cuckoo			3	2						3	5	1	3	1	17	15	3	4	4	25	4	94	0.02	0.09	0.08
Black-bellied Cuckoo												1													
Common Nighthawk			3								1	1		5	1			1			2	14	0.01	0.00	0.04
Chuck will's widow											3			15	1	15		10	3	12	7	68	0.00	0.00	0.13



species	Trans	Bals	Hend	Bunc	Bl Mts	Grdfrr	Hang	Ired	Meck	Pilot Mtn	Fors	Rock	Grbr	SoPl	ChHl	Jord	Durh	Falls	Korr	RaRo	Onst	total	mtne	pled	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	4/24	5/1	4/24	4/23	4/26	4/30	4/30				
Solitary Sandpiper	2																					176	0.01	0.18	0.04
Greater Yellowlegs																						38		0.03	0.77
Willet																						36			0.69
Lesser Yellowlegs																						121		0.00	1.50
Parasitic Jaeger																						2			0.04
Trumpeter's Gull																						7	12	0.01	0.13
Laughing Gull																						1558			29.68
Ring-billed Gull																						1176	0.00	1.02	3.79
Herring Gull	1																					66		0.00	1.20
Lesser Black-backed Gull																						2			0.04
Great Black-backed Gull																						3			0.06
Least Tern																						20			0.38
Caspian Tern																						34		0.01	
Common Tern																						167		0.00	3.18
Forsler's Tern																						113		0.00	2.02
Royal Tern																						42			0.80
Sandwich Tern																						23			0.44
Black Skimmer																						2			0.04
tern sp																						180			3.43
Red-throated Loon																						1		0.00	
Pacific Loon																						1		0.00	
Common Loon																						48		0.00	0.32
Northern Cormorant																						59			1.12
Double-Crested Cormorant																						3230	0.06	3.26	1.94
Auranga																						15		0.00	0.04
Brown Pelican																						137			2.61
American Bittern																						1		0.00	0.00
Least Bittern																						2			0.04

species	Trans	Bals	Hend	Bunc	Bl Mts	Grdftr	Hang	Ired	Meck	Pilot Mtn	Fors	Rock	Grbr	SoPi	ChHl	Jord	Durh	Falls	Kerr	RaRo	Onsl	total	mtne	per party-hour	coast
Great Blue Heron	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	7	873	0.17	0.85
Great Egret	50		4	2			1	3	2	1	20	3	1		117	126	242	62	43	18	12	23	0.00	0.23	
Snowy Egret																	8			2	2	2	0.04	0.04	
Little Blue Heron																				4	4	4	0.00	0.08	
Tricolored Heron																				3	3	3	0.00	0.06	
Cattle Egret																				1	1	2	0.00	0.00	
Green Heron			2	2						7	5		10	1	6	2	5	5	2	8	11	79	0.01	0.07	
Black crowned Nl Heron													3		8					2	2	2	0.00	0.04	
Yellow crowned Nl Heron																					18	0.00	0.00	0.00	
White Ibis																					25	25		0.48	
Glossy Ibis																			1		10	11	0.00	0.19	
Black Vulture	5		22				1	28	15	10	16	10	20	4	120	54	65	21	475	7	4	877	0.08	0.89	
Turkey Vulture	35	4	19	65	7		15	42	48	35	33	11	41	59	137	59	68	46	121	37	84	966	0.42	0.77	
Osprey	1						1	3	3	2	1	1	10	1	30	52	20	23	21	2	11	182	0.01	0.18	
Mississippi Kite													cw											0.21	
Bald Eagle	1	1					1		1	2	cw		2	2	40	29	17	14	20	1	1	132	0.01	0.00	
Northern Harrier				1																		1	0.00	0.00	
Sharp-shinned Hawk								1			1			2			1	1	1	1	7	7	0.00	0.00	
Cooper's Hawk	4				1		1	1	10	1	7	1	5	4	9	1	1	1				55	0.02	0.00	
accipiter sp									1													5	0.01	0.00	
Red-shouldered Hawk	4	2	8	5			3	7	37	6	21	2	22	18	36	8	23	13	7	8	9	239	0.06	0.22	
Broad-winged Hawk	3	5	4	5	12		1	3	3	1	1	1		1	1	1						41	0.09	0.00	
Red-tailed Hawk	2	3	6	8			2	5	23	7	17	1	12	9	36	8	21	5	7	5	3	180	0.06	0.16	
Eastern Screech Owl													1	1	1							12	0.00	0.00	
Great horned Owl	1						1		5	1	1	1	1	3	2		1	4	1	1	2	21	0.01	0.00	
Barred Owl				1	1		1	2	14	2	10		17	2	13	1	10	7	5	4	1	91	0.01	0.00	
Northern Saw-whet Owl	2	3			2																	7	0.02	0.00	
Belted Kingfisher	3		5	3	2	1			5	2	9	2	8	6	7	2	3	6	3	1		68	0.04	0.06	

species	Trans	Bals	Hend	Bunc	Bl Mts	Grdf	Hang	Ired	Meck	Pilot Mtn	Fors	Rock	Grbr	SoPi	ChHl	Jord	Durh	Falls	Kerr	RaRo	Onsl	total	mtne	per party-hour	coast	pled
Red-headed Woodpecker	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	133	0.13	0.15		
Red bellied Woodpecker	2/	6	20	34			17	21	93	10	77	14	113	7	13	25	16	13	16	9	8	940	0.30	0.86	0.30	
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	4	4	2				1						1			1		1	33	81	16	15	0.03	0.00		
Downy Woodpecker	1/	3	17	13	2	1	17	11	74	4	46	6	57	14	62	32	21	22	12	19	5	455	0.20	0.40	0.10	
Harry Woodpecker	1	10	5	6	14	1			8	3	3	2	6	4	9	7	8	7	1	7	2	102	0.11	0.07		
Rd cockaded Woodpecker																					6	0.00	0.04			
Northern (Y-s) Flicker	2	3	1	17		3	1	1	7	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	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			
Melvin																					1	0.00				
Peregrine Falcon	1	1																			2	0.01				
Eastern Wood Pewee	5	13	9	2	8		11			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		2	2	7	1	3	2	56	19		5	2	20	4	215	0.27	0.12	0.08	
Alder Flycatcher		23			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	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	40	3	25	93	28	91	10	12	49	58	15	500	0.07	0.48	0.29	
Loggerhead Shrike								1						7				1		5		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	ew	12	7	12	14	17	16	9	3	106	0.01	0.00	0.06	
Blue-headed Vireo								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	115	201	14	2/	30	65	81	33	131	56	385	252	243	2/4	131	92	178	16/	70	2/41	1.85	2.14	1.33	
Fish Crow							2	3	56		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	Grdfrr	Hang	Ired	Meck	Pilot Mtn	Fors	Rock	Grbr	SoPi	Chili	Jord	Durh	Falls	Kerr	RaRo	Onsl	total	mtne	pled	coast
Common Raven	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	63	0.15	0.00	
Crow sp.	7	21		10	10	3			5	1	3		1							2	1	23	0.00	0.00	
Horned Lark									1				20							8	1	16	0.02	0.00	
Purple Martin			32	16				305	1	60	4/	12	281	59	29	22	16	3	3	141	9/	1124	0.14	1.03	1.85
Tree Swallow	180		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
Pink Swallow													12		5	3	3	1			12	38	0.00	0.73	
Cliff Swallow			50						38	71	59		19		17	184	36	361	26	8	1	870	0.15	0.86	0.02
Barn Swallow	212	1	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								30	187	37	114	18	169	66	215	138	148	86	55	55	17	1685	1.02	1.38	0.32
Carolina Chickadee	108	23	69	94	17	6	33	30														10	0.03		
Black-capped Chickadee	1	9							1													22	0.06		
chickadee sp		22																				22	0.06		
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																156	0.45		
White-breasted Nuthatch	9	9	6	9	1		14	7	11	4	27	2	38	35	21	13	4	24	8	5	1	248	0.14	0.21	0.02
Brown-headed Nuthatch				6			1	6	57	7	27	2	49	76	64	68	40	70	19	13	18	523	0.02	0.52	0.34
Brown Creeper	3	21		4	38	3																69	0.20		
House Wren	26	2	7	13	4	2	1	5	31	2	27		20	2	40		4	7	1			194	0.16	0.15	
Winter Wren	/	27		4	62	3								2								105	0.30	0.00	
Marsh Wren									1		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			26	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	5		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	1.09
Veery				7	99	12			7	6	10	1	7		6		1	1	1			293	0.74	0.04	
Gray checked Thrush	15	120									2		1									3		0.00	

species	Trans 5/1	Bals 5/21	Hend 5/14	Bunc 5/7	Bl Mts 5/28	Grdfir 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	pied per party-hour	coast
Swainson's Thrush	2								1	13	19	2	7		19	2		1				74	0.03	0.07	
Hermit Thrush	1	22		5	68	1	6		1	19	38	20	42	5	42	37	8	27	9	14	4	100	0.28	0.00	0.00
Wood Thrush	29	16	20	42	4	2	21	12	19	19	3	78	476	62	184	50	35	73	11	118	20	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	38	68			5	52	140	18	86	13	114	138	103	79	38	30	50	129	86	1203	0.97	1.04	1.64
European Starling	61	4	37	180		35	15	166	281	107	282	103	514	59	106	52	40	43	58	261	160	2570	0.37	2.18	3.05
Cedar Waxwing	68	84	97	156	32	17	5	307	281	85	283	103	9	89	132	8				58	5	1463	1.34	1.05	0.10
House Sparrow	5		3	14				2	46	2	7	5	27	6	13	26	3	29	10	21	26	245	0.06	0.21	0.50
American Pipit									8			16	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											8	0.00		
Red Crossbill		2			10									15	1	1	3					12	0.03		
Pine Siskin	17	2	2	5	45	28		1	2					60	121	203	142	146	64	45	3	122	0.29	0.00	
American Goldfinch	92	14	63	141	6	7	23	185	189	32	149	15	232	15	121	118	68	98	41	54	11	2025	1.01	1.76	0.06
Overbird	82	54	58	87	67	4	22	33	33	11	12	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		cw	1	1	1	2	2	3				5	83	0.19	0.00	0.10
Louisiana Waterthrush	18		11	1	2		7	2	2	16	3	9	3	18	10	14	14	3	3	15		135	0.11	0.10	
Northern Waterthrush	7		2	1			1	8	8	3	4		4	4	12	8	9	3	2	5		69	0.03	0.00	
Blue-winged Warbler								1	6			1	1				2		1			11	0.00		
Black & White Warbler		24	30	42	32	11	12	29	29	11	10	4	21	26	35	82	26	40	17	43	3	589	0.65	0.36	0.06
Prothonotary Warbler								10	10	3	2		4	8	23	20	43	17	26	36	13	205	0.20	0.25	
Swainson's Warbler							1							3					2	3	3	27	0.05	0.00	0.06
Tennessee Warbler			5						2	*	1	1										6	0.00	0.00	
Connecticut Warbler			1																			1	0.00		
Orange-crowned Warbler										1												1	0.00		
Nashville Warbler			1																			1	0.00		
Kentucky Warbler										2	cw	1		7	8	3	5		6	6	3	51	0.01	0.05	0.06



species	Trans	Bals	Hend	Bunc	Bl Mts	Grdfrr	Hang	Ired	Meck	Pilot Mtn	Fors	Rock	Grbr	SoPl	ChHl	Jord	Durh	Falls	Kerr	RaRo	Onsl	total	mtne	pled	coast:
																									per party-hour
Common Yellowthroat	41	5/7	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	15	6	3	2	19	25	31	38	24	25	22	35	15	535	0.80	0.28	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					8	8	25	30	3	4									93	0.04	0.00	
Carolinian Warbler				2								1	cw									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	7	840	0.44	0.71	0.13
Magnolia Warbler	5			1		1	3			9	4	1	2		11			2				39	0.03	0.00	
Bay-breasted Warbler	3	1																				4	0.01		
Blackburnian Warbler	28	23	3	45	83	5	2	1	11	1	2		1	5	7	1	6	6	4	1	1	195	0.55	0.00	
Yellow Warbler	4		4	7		7				2	13	12	12	3	4	10	6					95	0.05	0.00	0.00
Chestnut-sided Warbler	64	275	5	24	34	7				1	18	3	3		4	4						436	1.19	0.00	
Blackpoll Warbler	6		2	4		2	1	2	2	4	14		3		3	4						45	0.04	0.00	
Black-throated Blue Warbler	79	105	16	50	111	30	6	2	51	20	52	8	72	7	97	48	11	43	10	7		825	1.16	0.45	
Palm Warbler	1			3				11	18		1	1		4	2	3	2	2	1			47	0.01	0.05	
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	/			8	2		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	77		3	1			7	1	1	9	3			25	11	59	61	65	34	34	13	344	0.08	0.32	0.75
Prairie Warbler							8	9	6	2	cw		21	32	18	44	60	19	38	24	32	313	0.02	0.29	0.61
Black-throated Green Warbler	73	168	58	49	181	5	6	3	3	12	15		/			1	2	5	1			586	1.57	0.00	
Canada Warbler	35	122	3	31	134	16					cw	1	1	1	13	36	2	4	14	29	10	343	0.99	0.00	
Yellow-breasted Chat	2						3	1	3	5	4	1	14	1	103	127	/	45	43	35	29	142	0.01	0.00	0.19
Lutescent Towhee	202	278	139	194	68	25	/	26	129	7	102	5	145	2	153							1939	2.66	1.04	0.55
Bachman's Sparrow												11									4	17	0.00	0.08	
Chipping Sparrow	33	3	27	47	2	9	27	29	107	27	28		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		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	2	3		10		4	5	2	51	0.01	0.00	0.04
Grasshopper Sparrow			1				28	2	2	5	16	1	14	1			5	1	14			88	0.00	0.00	

species	Trans	Bals	Hend	Bunc	Bl Mts	Grdfir	Hang	Ired	Meck	Pilot Mtn	Fors	Rock	Grbr	SoPi	ChHI	Jord	Durh	Falls	Kerr	RaRo	Onsl	total
	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	
total species	130	75	113	110	76	69	93	102	131	122	137	108	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	7228375
# participants	22	25	17	22	15	3	13	10	28	6	52	5	36	30	33	42	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	27.98	112.50	88.17	139.60	100.58	60.00	55.67	57.30	74.55	52.50	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	22.88	86.00	46.17	125.75	82.65	54.25	49.50	45.75	36.25	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	5.10	26.50	39.00	6.85	13.43	5.75	6.17	11.55	31.30	21.50	331.20
hours by bicycle/scooter																						0.00
hours by canoe/kayak/boat														3.00	7.00	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	125.10	375.00	314.10	154.00	137.25	94.00	114.80	150.25	414.75	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	5.10	51.50	21.35	81.00	70.15	53.50	40.00	28.10	27.85	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	63.10	40.50	74.80	122.15	381.50	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		1.50		0.50			3.00		4.30	2.75	5.50	0.50		4.25	4.00	3.75	0.50	2.00	3.50	3.00	2.50	41.55
miles night	1.00						2.00		2.85	6.50	1.00	1.00			8.45	4.00	1.00	1.50	3.10	10.25	7.00	49.65
feeder hours	6.00										1.50			6.50	21.00				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		

