

2-1998

Kentucky Warbler (Vol. 74, no. 1)

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Kentucky Library Research Collections, "Kentucky Warbler (Vol. 74, no. 1)" (1998). *Kentucky Warbler*. Paper 318.
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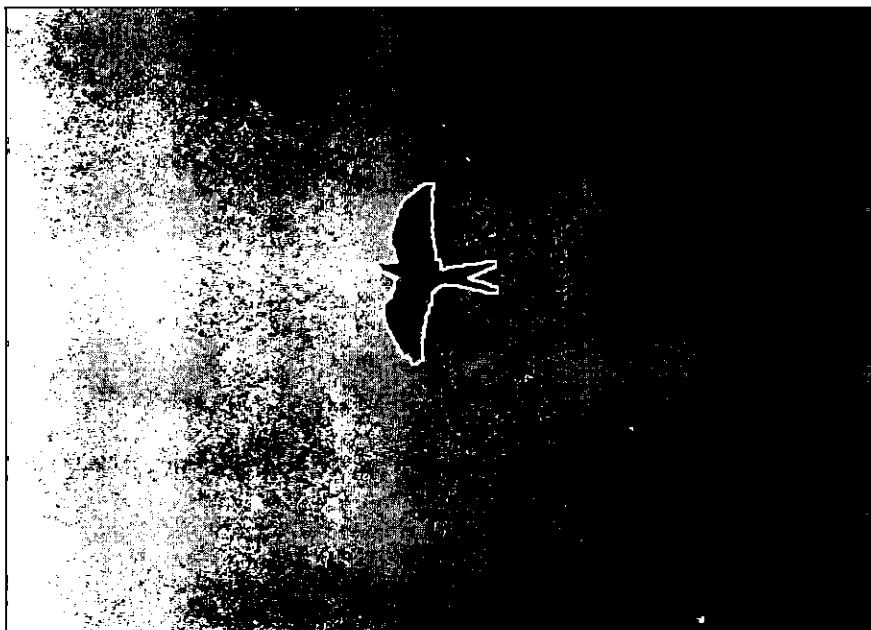
The Kentucky Warbler

(Published by the Kentucky Ornithological Society)

Vol.74

FEBRUARY 1998

No. 1



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THE KENTUCKY WARBLER

Organ of the Kentucky Ornithological Society, published quarterly in February, May, August and November. *The KENTUCKY WARBLER* is sent to all members not in arrears for dues. Membership dues are: Active or Regular \$8.00; Contributing, \$15.00; Student \$4.00; Life, \$100.00; Family, \$2.00 in addition to Regular, Contributing or Life Membership dues; Corporate. All articles and communications should be addressed to the editor. Subscriptions, memberships and request for back issues should be sent to the Treasurer.

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THE COVER

The K.O.S. thanks Frank Renfrow for providing the excellent photograph of the American Swallow-tailed Kite (*Elanoides forficatus*, see Field Notes) sighted in Boone County, Kentucky.

FALL MIGRATION
1 August - 30 November
Fred M. Busroe

Warm dry weather of the early season delayed the migratory movement -- peak movement occurred in early October. November was somewhat wet and cold. During November there was a succession of weather fronts that moved through and brought many water birds to central parts of the state which included nearly 1000 Common Loons at Barren River Lake. Without question the highlights of the season were the Swallow-tailed Kite in Boone County, the Iceland Gull at Meldahl Dam, Bracken County, and the Black-legged Kittiwake at Markland Dam, Gallatin County, along with very large numbers of other gulls.

The warbler movement was good but prolonged warm weather probably spread the movement out. Most species were seen during the period.

Abbreviations: Ball = Ballard County; Bar = Barren Reservoir, Barren County; BBL = Big Bone Lick State Park, Boone County; Bel = Bellevue, Campbell County; Bern = Bernheim Forest, Bullitt County; Blu = Blue Heron Trail, Big South Fork NRR, McCreary County; BNP = Beargrass Nature Preserve, Jefferson County; BPS = Big Pond Sanctuary, Grayson County; Btl = Butler County; CEL = Camp Ernst Lake, Boone County; Cha = Chaney Lake, Warren County; Cra = Craig's Creek, Boone County; EBP = East Bend Power Plant, Boone County; Falls = Falls of Ohio, Jefferson County; Fre = Freeman Lake, Hardin County; Ghe = Ghent Power Plant, Carroll County; GR = Green River Reservoir, Taylor County; Hart = Hart County; Hic = Hickman, Fulton County; Hul = Huling Branch Trail, Big South Fork NRR, McCreary County; JCP = Joe Creason Park, Jefferson County; Jon = Jonathan Creek, Marshall County; KY = Kentucky Dam, Marshall County; Lak = Laketon Sandbars, Carlisle County; LBL = Land Between the Lakes; LBar = Lake Barkley, Lyon County; Lau = Laurel River Lake, Laurel County; Lin = Lake Linville, Rockcastle County; LPew = Lake Pewee, Hopkins County; Mad = Madisonville, Hopkins County; Mark = Markland Dam, Gallatin County; Mars = Marshall County; MCNP = Mammoth Cave National Park, Edmonson County; McEl = McElroy Lake, Warren County; MC = Middle Creek Park, Boone County; MCFH = Minor Clark Hatchery, Rowan County; Mel = Meldahl Dam, Bracken County; Miss = Mississippi River, Wickliff, Ballard County; Mor = Morgan's Pond, Christian County; Mos = Mosley's Pond, Hardin County; OFL = Owsley Fork Lake, Madison County; Pea = Peabody WMA, Ohio County; Pet = Petersburg, Boone County; Phil = Philpot, Daviess County; Pine = Pine Mt. State Park, Bell County; RH = Rabbit Hash, Boone County; SC = Short Creek, Grayson County; Saw = E.P. Sawyer Park, Jefferson County; Sha = Shanty Hollow Lake, Warren County; Slo = Sloughs WMA, Henderson County; Smi = Smithland Dam,

Livingston County; War = Warsaw, Gallatin County; Wild = Wilder, Campbell County; Yah = Yahoo Arch Trail, Big South Fork NRRRA, McCreary County.

RED-THROATED LOON - 1 imm. from November 13 to 17 at Bar (DR); 1 on November 15 at GR (MB); 1 imm. on November 22 at Mel (BPB, FR).

Common Loon - One on Ohio River, RH from November 1 to 8 (LMc); one on November 4 at KY (MB); approx. 325 on November 8 at Mel (NK, JS); approx. 1000 from November 11 to 14 at Bar (DR); 9 on November 11 at LPew (JWH); 4 at Fre, 101 at GR, and 53 at Bar on November 11 (MB); 7 on September 12 at OFL (AR, TR); 36 on November 15 at Lin (AR, TR); one on November 22 at War (LMc); 3 on November 22 at Falls (DO); 10 on November 23 in Mars (Hap, CP); 3 on November 26 at Lau (CB).

RED-NECKED GREBE - 1 on November 15 at KY (FB); 1 imm. on November 19 and 22 at Mel (FR); 1 on November 25 at Mel (DR).

Pied-billed Grebe - 26 at Falls and 26 at Fre on October 10 (MB); regular throughout northern Kentucky with 6 on November 2 at Mark (LMc); 5 on November 2 in Ohio County (KC, JP); 33 on November 23 in Mars (Hap, CP); 24 on November 29 at LPew (JWH); 8 on November 28 at Falls (JP).

Horned Grebe - 2 on September 10 in Hart (MS); 2 on October 20 at Falls (MB); 6 at KY on November 4 (MB); 12 on November 8 at Mel (FR); 2 on November 11 at LPew (JWH); 48 on November 11 at Mel with 11 at Bell (FR); 4 on November 12 and 6 on November 13 at OFL (AR, TR); on November 15 there were 13 on Fre, 20 at GR, and 11 at Bar (MB); 6 on November 15 at Lin (AR, TR); 10 on November 22 at Mark (LMc); 21 on November 23 in Mars (Hap, CP); 2 on November 26 at Lau (CB); 8 on November 28 at Falls (JP)

Double-crested Cormorant - 12 on August 30 (Hap, CP); 3 on September 15 at LPew (JWH); 25 on September 27 in Mars (Hap, CP); 7 on September 30 at EBP, 4 on September 20 at Pet (LMc); a total of 53 in Mars on October 11 and 19 (Hap, CP); 25 on November 23 in Mars (Hap, CP); 38 on October 12 at Slo (MB); 41 on October 18 at Crooked Creek, LBL (MB); 1 on November 2 in Ohio County (KC, JP); 30 on November 8 and 15 on November 22 at Mark (LMc); 2400 on November 6 at Mark (FR); 1 on November 28 at Falls (JP).

American Bittern - 1 on September 30 at Sha (DR).

Great Blue Heron - 10 on August 3 at Mor, 38 on October 18 at LBL, and 41 on November 4 at LBar (MB); 1 to 2 seen throughout the period in Barren and Hart cos. (MS); 18 on August 30 in Ball and 6 on August 31 in Mars, and 100 on October 19 in Mars (Hap, CP).

Great Egret - 16 on August 16 at SC (MH); 56 on August 30 in Ball (Hap, CP); 9 on September 10 and 7 on October 9 at LPew (JWH); 3 on September 12 at MCFH (FB); 2 on October 18 at Jon (MB); 3 on September 20 at EBP (LMc); 2 on November 2 in Ohio County (KC, JP).

- Snowy Egret** - 3 on October 15 at Lake #9, Hic (DR).
- Little Blue Heron** - 12 on August 3 at Mor and 11 on September 27 at Mos (MB); 4 to 7 were present at Weir's Creek, Hopkins County in late September and early October (JWH); 35 on October 19 in Mars (Hap, CL).
- Cattle Egret** - 1 on October 15 at Smi (DR).
- Black-crowned Night-Heron** - 2 on September 20 at EBP (LMc); one imm. on October 18 at KY (MB).
- White Ibis** - Three imm. at Lake #9, Hic (DR).
- Snow Goose** - 25 on November 22 at Phil (JP).
- Canada Goose** - 62 on November 12 in Btl (CT, DT); a high number of 46 on November 25 at LPew (JWH).
- Green-winged Teal** - 2 to 5 from October 24 to November 11 at Pet (LMc).
- Mallard** - Approx. 130 on October 20 at Falls (MB); 50 on November 28 at Falls (JP).
- Northern Pintail** - Male and female on October 18 and 19 at MCFH (FB); 6 on November 4 at LBL (MB).
- Northern Shoveler** - 6 on November 2 and 23 in Mars (Hap, CP).
- Gadwall** - 18 on November 2 at Pea (HC, JP); approx. 100 on November 11 at Falls (MB); 4 on November 23 in Mars (Hap, CP); 20 on November 28 at Falls (BPB, JP).
- American Wigeon** - 10 on October 19 in Mars (Hap, CP); 9 on November 2 at Pea (KC, JP).
- Redhead** - 12 on November 15 at Lin (AR, TR).
- Canvasback** - 8 on November 11 and 6 on November 25 at LPew (JWH); 3 on November 15 and 5 on November 29 at Falls (MB); 5 on November 23 in Mars (Hap, CP).
- Ring-necked Duck** - 6 on October 26 and 1 on November 25 at LPew - numbers are down compared with previous years (JWH).
- Lesser Scaup** - 8 on November 28 at Falls (JP).
- Surf Scoter** - 3 females on November 1 at Mel (FR); 1 on November 7 on Ohio River at Louisville (DR); 1 at Falls November 27 (DO); 1 on November 28 at Falls (JP); 1 on November 29 at Falls (MB).
- Black Scoter** - 1 female on November 1 at Mel (FR); 1 on November 11 on Ohio River at Louisville and 1 on November 14 (DR) also 1 on November 15 (MB) at Bar; 4 females on November 25 at Bel (FR); 2 on November 27 at Falls (DO).
- White-winged Scoter** - 1 male on October 28 at Bel (FR); 2 on November 13 (DR) and 1 on November 15 at Fre (MB) and 2 on November 17 at Bar (DR).
- Bufflehead** - 3 to 9 were seen on November 11 at several locations in Boone County (LMc); 20 on November 13 at OFL (AR, TR); 8 on November 26 at Lau (CB); approx. 25 at MCFH during November (FB).
- Hooded Merganser** - 3 on October 23 at CEL and 3 at RH on November 11

(LMc).

Red-breasted Merganser - 5 on Ohio River on November 11 at Cra and 4 on November 22 at War (LMc); 15 at Lin on November 15 (AR, TR).

Ruddy Duck - 1 to 3 from October 25 to November 21 in Boone County with 10 on November 22 at Mar (LMc); 10 on November 4 at Jon (MB); 18 on November 9 at Mel (FR); 20 on November 11 and 35 on November 25 at LPew (JWH); approx. 200 on November 23 in Mars (Hap, CP).

Black Vulture - 30 on August 16 at Sha (MB); present during the period with a high count of 50 on September 20 at Ghe and EBP (LMc).

Turkey Vulture - 37 on August 23 at Sha (MB).

Osprey - 1 on August 16 and 23 at Sha (MB); 1 on September 23 over KY River in Jessamine County (WD); 1 on October 6 at LPew (JWH).

SWALLOW-TAILED KITE - A single bird was observed by many people from August 16 through September 7 over the Ohio River at Pet (JH, DO, LMc, JP, FR). First record for the area. Documentation submitted.

Mississippi Kite - 4 in Hickman County on August 30 (MB); 3 on August 30 in Ballard County (Hap, CP).

Bald Eagle - 1 on August 30 at Ballard County (Hap, CP); 1 near adult and 1 imm. present at MCFH during the period (FB); 1 adult on October 12 at Slo, 1 adult on November 15 at Mel (FR); adult on November 13 at OFL (AR, TR); 3 imm. on November 15 at Gre and 1 imm. at Mar on November 29 (MB); 1 adult and 2 imm. on November 26 at Lau (CB).

Northern Harrier - 8 on November 2 at Pea (KC, JP); 3 on November 26 at Pulaski County strip mine area (CB).

Sharp-shinned Hawk - 1 on August 10 and October 3 in Barren County with 2 on August 18 and 19 in Hart (MS); 1 on August at Sha (MB); 1 at Bell on October 3 (FR); 7 on October 8 in Btl (CT, DT); 1 on September 22 at SC (JP).

Cooper's Hawk - 1 on August 31 at BNP (DO); 1 imm. on November 11 and 14 in Btl (CT, DT); 1 on November 20 over Bell (FR).

Broad-winged Hawk - 13 on September 21 at JCP (DO); 15 on September 24 at BBL (LMc); 2 on September 27 at Hul (RE, SS).

Red-tailed Hawk - 1, on August 30 in Ball (Hap, CP); 7 on November 2 at Pea (KC, JP).

Northern Rough-legged Hawk - 3 on November 2 at Pea (KC, JP).

Golden Eagle - 1 on November 16 at Mel (FR); 1 on November 20 at Pea (DR).

American Kestrel - 17 on November 2 at Pea (KC, JP); 4 on November 2 in Mars (Hap, CP); 4 on November 28 in Gallatin County (JP).

Merlin - Single observations on September 12 at Jon, September 18 at Slo, September 21 at KY, September 26 at Boyd's Landing, LBar, October 8 and October 17 at McEl, October 23 at University Farm, Warren County and October 27 in Henry County (DR).

Peregrine Falcon - 1 on September 22 near Ohio Bridge, Jefferson County (DO).

Ruffed Grouse - 3 on September 27 at Hul (RE, SS).

Virginia Rail - 1 on October 12 at Slo (MB, DO).

Sora - 29 (MB) and 8 (DO) on October 12 at Slo.

American Coot - 70 on September 25, approx. 300 on October 20, 500 on November 11 with only 14 on November 25 at LPew (JWH); 157 on November 2 at Pea (KC, JP); approx. 300 on November 4 at LBar Dam (MB); present at several locations in northern Kentucky with a high of 150 on November 11 at Mark (LMc); approx. 150 on November 15 at Falls (MB).

Sandhill Crane - 165 in three flocks on November 12 over SC (JP); 231 on November 14 and 43 on November 15 in Hart (MS); 3 on November 26 at Lau (CB).

The shorebird movement was widespread with most normal species being reported.

Black-bellied Plover - 1 on November 23 in Mars (Hap, CP).

American Golden Plover - 2 on August 1 (DR) and 1 on August 3 (MB) at Mor and 3 on October 30 at Jon (DR).

Semipalmated Plover - 9 on September 2 and 14 on September 6 at MCFH (FB); 4 on September 27 in Mars (Hap, CP).

Piping Plover - 1 on September 27 and November 23 in Mars (Hap, CP).

Killdeer - Approx. 500 on August 3 at Mor (MB) and approx. 200 at Mos on September 27 (MB).

Lesser Yellowlegs - 14 on August 22 at MCFH (FB).

Sanderling - 1 on August 9 at Lak (MB); 1 on November 2 at KY (DR).

Upland Sandpiper - 1 on September 8 on Meng Road, Warren County (DR).

Ruddy Turnstone - 1 on September 21 at LBar Dam (DR).

Pectoral Sandpiper - Approx. 100 on August 3 at Mor (MB).

Baird's Sandpiper - 1 on August 22 at MCFH (FB).

Dunlin - 1 on October 31 at CEL (LMc); 18 on November 1 at MCFH (FB); 8 on November 4 at Smi and 28 at Jon (MB).

Stilt Sandpiper - 1 on October 14 at MCFH (FB).

Buff-breasted Sandpiper - 2 on August 31 at Laketon, Warren County (DR); 2 on August 31 at Lak (MB).

Short-billed Dowitcher - 1 on August 9 at Swan Lake, Ball (MB).

Laughing Gull - 1 adult on October 14 and October 30 at KY Dam (DR).

Franklin's Gull - 2 on October 14 and 6 on October 15 at Smi with single observations on October 30 at Smi, November 2 at Smi, on November 5 at Mark and Falls (DR).

Bonaparte's Gull - Unusually high numbers along the Ohio River in northern Kentucky, as many as 20 from November 1 to November 23 at Pet (LMc); 250+ at Cra on November 8 (LMc); 800 on November 9, 1800 on November 11, 900 on November 15 at Mel (FR); 50 on November 15 at Falls (MB); 70 on November 21 at MCFH (FB); 300+ on November 23 in Mars (Hap, CP); 250 to 300 on

November 28 at Mark (JE, BOB, JP).

Ring-billed Gull - Approx. 100 on October 11 and 300 on October 19 in Mars (Hap, CP); approx. 300 at Smi and approx. 200 at Jon on October 18 (MB); approx. 120 at Bark and 600 at Smi on November 14 with 300 at Falls on November 15 (MB); 1200 on November 9, 700 on November 11, and 900 on November 15 at Mel (FR); approx. 500 on November 23 at KY (Hap, CP).

Herring Gull - 2 on October 18 at Smi (MB); 4 at Bark and 4 at Smi on November 4 (MB); 6 on November 22 at Cra (LMc); 12 on November 23 in Mars (Hap, CP).

Thayer's Gull - 2 on November 23 at KY (Hap, CP).

ICELAND GULL - 1 first-winter bird was seen November 1, 2 and 3 at Mel (BPB, FR).

BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE - 1 first year bird on November 23 at Mark (DR, FR); 1 first-year bird on November 28 at Mark (JE, BPB, JP); 1 on November 29 at Mark (MB).

Caspian Tern - 2 on August 9 at Lak (MB); 1 on August 24 and 3 on August 28 in Boone County (FR).

Forster's Tern - 2 on August 30 in Ball and 10 on August 31 in with 2 on October 19 and 4 on November 2 in Mars (HAP, CP); 25 on November 4 at Jon and 1 on November 15 at Gre (MB).

Least Tern - 30 to 40 on August 9 near Swan Lake, Ball and 7 on October 18 at Jon (MB); 13 on August 30 in Ball (Hap, CP).

Black Tern - 5 on August 9 on the Miss (MB); 3 on August 30 in Ball (Hap, CP).

Eastern Screech-Owl - 1 on August 16 and 23 at Sha (MB); 1 on September 5 and October 1 at SC (JP); 2 on September 19 at Yah (SS); 1 on September 27 at Hul (RE, SS).

Great Horned Owl - 1 on August 23 and 1 on August 24 in Hart with 1 on November 12 in Bar (MS); 2 calling on August 30 in Lyon County (MB).

Barred Owl - 1 on September 27 at Hul (RE, SS).

Ruby-throated Hummingbird - Last date in Hart was October 8 (MS).

Red-headed Woodpecker - 1 seen in Hart on August 24, September 12, September 23, and October 10 (MS).

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker - 1 on 11 November in Lexington, Fayette County (WD); one on November 12 at Sho (JP); one on November 20 in Btl (CT, DT).

Olive-sided Flycatcher - Single observations on September 16 and 18 at Sha and on September 31 in Fulton County (DR).

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher - 2 on August 31 at Ball WMA (MB).

WESTERN KINGBIRD - Single observations at Lake #9, Ful on September 30 and 31 (DR). Documentation submitted.

Horned Lark - 6 on November 2 at Pea (KC, JP); 1 on November 30 at airport, Rough River State Park (JP).

Tree Swallow - 37 on August 30 in Ball (Hap, CP); 12 on October 12 at Slo (MB).

Northern Rough-winged Swallow - Last date on October 15 in Fulton County

(DR).

Cliff Swallow - 50 on August 31 in Mars (Hap, CP).

Barn Swallow - 50 on September 14 in Ball (Hap, CP); last date on October 15 in Fulton County (DR).

Red-breasted Nuthatch - 1 on September 12 and on October 7 at SC (JP); 4 on September 27 at Hul (RE, SS); 6 on October 7 at BPS (KC); first seen on October 17 at Mad (JWH); 1 on October 25 at BBL (LMc).

Brown Creeper - 2 on November 9 at Blu (SS).

Carolina Wren - 6 at Blu and 16 at Yah on September 19 (SS); 6 on September 27 at Hul (RE, SS); normal numbers for the period at SC (JP).

Winter Wren - 2 on October 18 at MC (LMc); 6 on November 9 at Blu (SS).

Golden-crowned Kinglet - 3 on November 9 at Bern (DO); 30 on November 9 at Blu (SS).

Ruby-crowned Kinglet - 1 on September 27 at Hul (RE, SS); 2 on November 9 at Blu (SS).

Gray-cheeked Thrush - 1 on September 19 at Blu (SS); 1 on September 27 at Hul (RE, SS).

Swainson's Thrush - 3 on September 19 at Yah (SS).

Hermit Thrush - 3 on October 11 at MC (LMc); 18 on November 9 at Blu (SS).

Wood Thrush - 16 on September 27 at Hul (RE, SS).

Brown Thrasher - 1 on September 27 at SC (JP); last recorded on October 15 at LPew (JWH).

American Pipit - 10+ with a high of 75 on October 23 from November 15 to the 24 at MCFH (FB); 15 on November 23 in Mars (Hap,CP).

Bell's Vireo - 1 on August 23 at Sha (MB); 1 on September 15 at Pea (DR).

Solitary Vireo - 1 at Blu and 1 at Yah on September 19 (SS); 1 on September 23 at Saw (DO); 5 on September 27 at Hul (RE, SS); 1 on November 9 at Blu (SS).

Yellow-throated Vireo - 1 on September 19 at Yah (SS); 1 on September 27 at MCNP (DO).

Warbling Vireo - 1 was at Pet on September 6 (DO).

Golden-winged Warbler - 1 on September 20 at BBL (LMc).

Orange-crowned Warbler - 1 on September 20 at JCP (DO); 2 in October 8 at Drake's Creek, Warren County (DR).

Tennessee Warbler - 1 on September 20 and 26 at Bell (FR).

Chestnut-sided Warbler - 3 on September 19 at Yah (SS); 1 at JCP on September 20 (DO); 1 on September 20 at Bell (FR); 1 on September 27 at Hul (RE, SS).

Magnolia Warbler - 4 at Blu and 2 at Yah on September 19 (SS); 1 on September 20 at JCP (DO); 1 on September 25 at Bell (FR); 1 on September 26 at SC (JP); 5 on September 27 at Hul (RE, SS).

Yellow-rumped Warbler - First fall observation in Btl October 9 (CT, DT); observed in Louisville on October 10 (DO).

- Black-throated Green Warbler** - 3 at Blu and 3 at Yah on September 19 (SS); observed at Pine on September 20 (DO).
- Blackburnian Warbler** - 5 at Blu on September 19 (SS); 1 on September 27 at Hul (RE, SS); one on October 4 at Pine (DO).
- Yellow-throated Warbler** - 1 on August 1 with 2 on August 10 in Btl (CT, DT); 1 on September 12 at SC (JP); 1 on September 27 at MCNP (DO).
- Pine Warbler** - 9 at Blu and 2 at Yah on September 19 (SS); 3 on September 27 at Hul (RE, SS); 1 on September 27 at MCNP (DO).
- Prairie Warbler** - 1 on September 27 at MCNP (DO).
- Palm Warbler** - 1 on September 13 in Btl (CT, DT); 1 on September 26 and 2 on October 7 at SC (JP).
- Bay-breasted Warbler** - 1 on September 19 at Yah (SS); 1 at MCNP on September 27 (DO); 4 on September 27 at Hul (RE, SS).
- American Redstart** - 5 at Yah on September 19 (SS) and 1 at Hul on September 27 (RE, SS); 1 on September 21 at Bell (FR).
- Connecticut Warbler** - 1 on October 6 at Cha (DR).
- Hooded Warbler** - 6 at Blu and 10 at Yah on September 19; 1 at MCNP on September 27 (DO); 10 at Hul on September 27 at Hul (RE, SS).
- Wilson's Warbler** - 1 at feeder on September 13 at Bell (FR); 9 on September 17 at Drake's Creek, Warren County (DR); 1 on September 20 at EBP (LMc).
- Canada Warbler** - 1 on September 19 at Yah (SS).
- Summer Tanager** - 1 on September 22 and 27 in Hart (MS); 1 on September 27 at MCNP (DO); last obs. at Mad was on October 9 (JWH).
- Scarlet Tanager** - 5 on September 19 at Yah (SS).
- Rose-breasted Grosbeak** - 2 at Yah on September 19 (SS); 1 or two seen in Hart from September 23 to October 8 (MS); 5 on September 27 at Hul (RE, SS); 2 on September 28 at SC (JP); 1 on September 19 and October 2 at Mad (JWH).
- Blue Grosbeak** - 1 imm. on August 1 in Btl (CT, DT); 1 on August 2 at Pet (LMc); nest located August 2 near Wild with adults feeding young as late as August 14 (FR); 1 singing on August 15 near Mad (JWH).
- Dickcissel** - 1 on August 10 in Bar (MS); 12 on August 30 in Ball (Hap, CP).
- Chipping Sparrow** - 20 on November 9 at Blu (SS); 1 at a feeder on November 19 in Logan County, a rather late date (MB).
- Vesper Sparrow** - 1 on November 2 at Pea (KC, JP).
- Lark Sparrow** - 1 on October 7 at SC (JP).
- Savannah Sparrow** - 38 on October 12 at Slo (MB).
- Grasshopper Sparrow** - Last date of October 29 at McEl (DR).
- LeConte's Sparrow** - 2 on October 12 at Slo (MB,DO); single observations on October 17 at Cha, October 21 at Mor, October 21 at McEl and October 12 at Slo (DR).

NELSON'S SHARP-TAILED SPARROW - Single birds on October 8 at McEl and on October 12 at Slo (DR). Documentation submitted.

Fox Sparrow - 2 on November 9 at Blu (SS).

Song Sparrow - 12 on November 2 at Pea (KC, JP).

Lincoln's Sparrow - 1 on October 13 at CEL (LMc).

Swamp Sparrow - Approx. 275 on October 12 at Slo (MB); 4 on November 2 at Pea (KC, JP); 5 on November 8 in Hart (MS).

White-throated Sparrow - First fall obs. on October 10 in Mad (JWH); 4 on October 18 at LBL (MB); 20 on November 9 at Blu (SS); first observed in Btl on November 21 (CT, DT).

Dark-eyed Junco - First fall obs. in Mars on October 18 (MB); first fall obs. in Mad on October 21 (JWH); seen in Btl on October 23 (CT, DT); 18 on November 9 at Blu (SS).

Brewer's Blackbird - 3 on November 22 in Oldham County (DO).

Purple Finch - 1 female on October 24 in Mad (JWH); 1 female on November 9 and 6 on November 19 in Logan County (MB).

Pine Siskin - 12 on October 25 at RH (LMc); 2 at feeder on October 28 at SC (MH); 8 to 21 between November 7 and 15 at Mad (JWH); 2 on October 30 and 8 on November 16 at SC (JP); 23 in early November at BPS (KC); 14 on November 6 and 22 on November 15 in Btl (CT, DT); 2 on November 9 and 3 on November 23 at feeder in Logan County (MB); 3 on November 15 in Lexington (WD); 20+ on November 26 at Lau (CB); 4 on November 29 at Bern (MB); numbers were above normal at OFL and Lin (AR, TR).

Evening Grosbeak - 1 on November 23 at Drake's Creek, Warren County (DR); 1 at feeder on November 26 at Lau (CB).

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Observations currently under review by the Kentucky Bird Records Committee:

Swallow-tailed Kite - Boone County - 16 October to 7 September 1997.

Golden Eagle - Meldahl Dam, Bracken County - 2 November.

Iceland Gull - Meldahl Dam, Bracken County - 2 November.

Western Kingbird - Fulton County - 30 to 31 August, 1997.

Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow - McElroy Lake, Warren Co. 8 October.

-- UPO 1352, Morehead State University, Morehead, KY 40351

MID-WINTER BIRD COUNT**1997-1998**

Reports of 22 counts were received from across the state. A total of 124 species was recorded on count days, 111 of which are represented on the table. Those species observed on count days that are not represented on the table include: Red-throated Loon (1, Glasgow), Green-backed Heron (1, Danville), Golden Eagle (1, Bernheim), Peregrine Falcon (1, Louisville), Ruffed Grouse (1, Perry County), Least Sandpiper, Lesser Black-backed Gull, Thayer's Gull, Laughing Gull (1 each, Land Between the Lakes), American Pipit (1, Green River Lake), Pine Warbler (1, Burlington), Palm Warbler (1, Frankfort) and Dickcissel (1, Louisville). Greater White-fronted Goose (Burlington), Loggerhead Shrike (Frankfort) and Evening Grosbeaks (5, Glasgow) were added by observations made during the count week. Three more species were observed this year compared with last. Seventeen species were observed on every count and eighteen species only on one count.

Seven counts were conducted on December 20 and five on January 3. The temperature range for the count period was from 20°F for a low on December 28 to 65°F for a high on January 3. The temperatures were mild at the beginning and end of the count period, with a slight dip in temperature in the middle of the period. The number of waterfowl appeared to be good, remaining fairly constant compared with the previous year. Mallards have declined in numbers for the second year in a row (8152 in 1995 to 6799 in 1996 to 4983 in 1997), whereas Common Goldeneye numbers have increased during the same period (48 in 1995, 131 in 1996 and 207 in 1997) as have Ring-necked Duck numbers (454 in 1995, 576 in 1996 and 813 in 1997). There was a tremendous influx of Red-breasted Nuthatches, with 200 observed this year compared with 8 last year. Eastern Bluebird numbers continue to remain relatively constant. Purple Finch numbers continue to decline (186 in 1995, 135 in 1996 and 95 in 1997). House Finch numbers declined from 2391 last year to 1467 this year, perhaps due to the bacterial infection that has swept through finch populations. As always, definitive conclusions regarding short-term population trends based on results of these counts are not possible. Other observations of interest can be found in the comments accompanying the description for each count.

Thanks are sincerely extended to all participants, particularly those who submitted verification forms for unusual sightings and those who included interesting comments about their counts. In order to be included officially in the count and considered for state record status, documentation needs to be considered by the Kentucky Bird Records Committee (KBRC) for unusual sightings.

Calloway County (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Douglas Cemetery.) Habitat 30% urban and residential, 15% deciduous and pine woods, 35% open fields, 20% lake shore and streams. Jan.3; 5:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sky overcast; temp. 58° to 64°F; wind, 10-20 m.p.h.

Nine observers in 6 parties. Total party-hours 30.5 (12.5 on foot, 18 by car). Total party-miles 190 (13 on foot, 177 by car). Total species 71; total individuals 9,255.

Observers: Hap Chambers (compiler), Joe Tom Erwin, Bob Head, Rick Hokans, Sally Leedom, Mike Miller, Clell Peterson, Shari Sherwood, and Tommy Sherwood.

Lack of waterfowl was attributed to abundance of duck hunters and warm weather. There were 3 immature and 6 adult Bald Eagles.

Land Between the Lakes (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Pisgah Bay picnic ground.) Habitat mostly wooded areas, some fields, a few small towns, Kentucky Lake and Barkley Lake. Dec. 20; 6:45 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sky clear a.m. to partly cloudy p.m.; temp. 38° to 52°F; wind SW, 8-12 m.p.h.

Twenty one observers in 9 parties. Total party-hours 141.5 (23.5 on foot, 118 by car). Total party-miles 229 (17 on foot, 212 by car). Total species 89; total individuals 9,168.

Observers: Stephanie Askew, Don Bennett, Mark Bennett, Richard Cassell, Hap Chambers, James Compton, Melissa Easley, Joe Tom Erwin, Bob Head, Patrick Holcomb, Carl Mowery (compiler), Kathy Mowery, John Palpeter, Clell Peterson, Darrin Samborski, Shari Sherwood, Tommy Sherwood, Maurica Toon, Whitney Weber, Bill Wells and Henry Yacek.

Thayer's Gull, Lesser Black-backed Gull and Laughing Gulls were at the Dams. Least Sandpipers at Craven's Bay. There were 27 adult and 17 immature Bald Eagles.

Sorgho (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center 279-S and Audubon Parkway intersection.) Habitat two parks (one county and one state), farm, woodland, river bottoms and feeders. Jan. 1; 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Sky clear to partly cloudy, temp. 28° to 55°F; wind 5-14 m.p.h. The overnight low was 12°F, there were four inches of snow on the ground and most water was frozen.

Five observers in 3 parties. Total party-hours 35 (18 on foot, 17 by car). Total party-miles 316 (16 on foot, 300 by car). Total species 54; total individuals 3,318.

Observers: Patricia Augenstein, Joe Ford, Janet Howard (compiler), Joyce Porter, and Tommy Stevenson.

Olmstead (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Junction of KY 1041 and KY 1151, six miles southwest of Russellville, Kentucky.) Habitat as described in 1993. Dec. 29; 6:45 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sky cloudy; temp. 27° to 34°F; wind, 0-10 m.p.h. Morning snow up to one inch, with mixed rain, snow and sleet in the p.m.

One observer in 1 party. Total party-hours 10.25 (4.25 on foot, 6 by car). Total party-miles 101 (2 on foot, 99 by car). Total species 58; total individuals 2,199.

Observer: Mark Bennett (compiler), with feeder watcher: Tommie Bennett.

No waterfowl were observed at Mosely's Pond, apparently due to intense hunt

	CALLOWAY COUNTY	LAND BTWN THE LAKES	SORGHO	OLMSTEAD	PARADISE	BOWLING GREEN	MAMMOTH CAVE NP	GLASGOW	FALLS OF ROUGH	GREEN RIVER LAKE	OTTER CREEK PARK	BERNHHEIM FOREST	LOUISVILLE	SHELBYVILLE	FRANKFORT	KLEBER WMA	DANVILLE	LEXINGTON	BURLINGTON	WARSAW	SOMERSET	PERRY COUNTY	TOTAL
COMMON LOON	1									11			1							4			30
PIED-B. GREBE	1	36			36	3		17		9			18	*1		1		19		4	42		172
HORNED GREBE	1	16						3		8			3				1						29
D-CR.CORMORANT		457								2			8				7		5	5	10		479
GREAT BLUE HERON	22	78	2	3	24	3	1	12	3	1	5		35	11	12	9	27	13	26	26			297
BLACK-CR. NIGHT HERON													22			2							24
MUTE SWAN									1					1									2
SNOW GOOSE	4					1											4						9
CANADA GOOSE	12	564	4	16	1713	267	1	*	*25	3	438		791	254	307	481	821	170	168	43		6052	
WOOD DUCK	4												4							5			15
GREEN-WINGED TEAL	14				22					42	2	3	87	4		56	33	6	25	40			41
AM. BLACK DUCK	77	1			49		15	11		380	33	158	1353	54	39	265	553	194	151	251			4983
MALLARD	91	776	250	4	319	89		23					1						2				3
NORTHERN PINTAIL																							2
BLUE-WINGED TEAL																							2
NORTHERN SHOVELER	4	49			7																		109
GADWALL	182	114			122	8		4		6	1		152			12	66	2	10	18			697
AM. WIGEON		13			29					3			9	9				3	2				88
CANVASBACK		67			25								8										100
REDHEAD													4										4
RING-NECKED DUCK	5	15			684			4		27			25	2	2		40	*	*	11			813
GREATER SCAUP													3										3
LESSER SCAUP								3		13			33			5	6		2				328
SURF SCOTER		260		5	1					1		2	3										
COMMON GOLDENEYE		197																	1		5		207
BUFFLEHEAD	7	47								28			3					3					88
HOODED Merganser		368			25					73			32					96			22		616

	CALLOWAY COUNTY	LAND BTWN THE LAKES	SORGHO	OLMSTEAD	PARADISE	BOWLING GREEN	MAMMOTH CAVE NP	GLASGOW	FALLS OF ROUGH	GREEN RIVER LAKE	OTTER CREEK PARK	BERNHEIM FOREST	LOUISVILLE	SHELBYVILLE	FRANKFORT	KLEBER WMA	DANVILLE	LEXINGTON	BURLINGTON	WARSAW	SOMERSET	PERRY COUNTY	TOTAL
HAIRY WOODPECKER	2	6	4	1	8	3	4	2	2	5	7	4	12	*	10	2	6	13	8	2	6	2	107
NORTHERN FLICKER	16	39	11	5	16	8	19	8	8	4	17	18	20	7	1	1	3	11	24	13	20	2	271
PILEATED WOODPECKER	8	26	3	1	7	2	16	3	3	4	13	20	8	1	9	2	3	19	9	2	10	4	173
EASTERN PHOEBE	2			1			2	*					1		1						1	2	10
HORNED LARK	1	318	215		80	42			10	50		50	12	26					12	6	22		844
BLUE JAY	270	480	94	88	182	26	55	45	114	44	196	165	284	67	80	6	77	89	49	20	178	12	2621
AM. CROW	137	172	58	14	125	184	97	126	91	62	159	185	549	516	139	149	141	251	170	151	368	20	3864
CAROLINA CHICKADEE	63	100	32	17	82	17	48	23	32	42	86	139	272	29	115	19	144	301	125	39	134	20	1879
TUFTED TITMOUSE	59	99	26	11	20	7	33	26	19	27	86	103	214	24	90	4	82	66	72	18	87	15	1188
RED-BR. NUTHATCH	* 13	2	2		38	1	10	2	7	5	8	74	17	1	*		5	2	3		12		200
WHITE-BR. NUTHATCH	13	46	2	3	1	3	34	10	19	8	25	48	46	3	28	11	17	24	45	7	52	2	447
BROWN CREEPER	2	3	1	2	2	2	7	2	2	2	6	16	16	*	13	1	5	6	7		2	1	80
CAROLINA WREN	52	47	6	22	56	28	22	34	10	10	42	31	212	5	55	5	27	74	46	32	52	4	872
WINTER WREN	3				2	1	5	1				2	7				5	1			3	1	32
GOLDEN-CR. KINGLET	12	40	2	2	28	6	44	2	1	7	78	62	24	*	21	5	2	37	11	1	22	2	409
RUBY-CR. KINGLET	10	12		1	4	1	4			3	3	5	2		2	2					4		54
EASTERN BLUEBIRD	138	140	9	33	38	22	9	16	55	71	138	163	28	38	69	28	86	119	73	41	189	3	1506
HERMIT THRUSH	3	8			9		7	*	5	5	2	6	1				6				5	*	52
AMERICAN ROBIN	1547	390	13	24	105	126	40	86	32	38	728	213	660	24	26	20	42	119	80	81	141	*	4535
GRAY CATBIRD				1									1			3							5
NO. MOCKINGBIRD	22	2	22	13	4	15	2	17	5	3	7	13	63	19	10		40	54	15	12	39		377

BROWN THRASHER	2	1	2	2	1	2	1	1	2	1	2	2	2	2	1	1	*	16					
CEDAR WAXWING	642	28	1	69	2	13	1	3	3	23	36	232	59	37	3	39	14	9	5	5	27	1245	
LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE																						8	
EUROPEAN STARLING	1420	203	1689	410	572	2879	47	653	300	570	277	700	13220	1268	459	145	3386	2948	444	2282	4220	38092	
YELLOW-R. WARBLER	43	42	4	4	34	25	100	3	11	58	130	115	14	3	12	2	6	69	21	14	89	795	
NORTHERN CARDINAL	159	95	95	71	80	92	23	96	61	60	71	163	431	83	140	33	224	272	164	85	229	5	2732
EASTERN TOWHEE	58	52	5	23	8	18	8	7	6	22	31	30	1	4	2	3	2	5	7	41	*	333	
AM. TREE SPARROW	1				57	7							4					17	33			120	
CHIPPING SPARROW																	1			4		5	
FIELD SPARROW	88	43	16	12	32	34	36	26	1	23		42	6	7	1		20	34	26	125	5	577	
SAVANNAH SPARROW					16	10			1													35	
FOX SPARROW	1	*	1	1	1	3	6	*				2	8		2	1	5			2		32	
SONG SPARROW	73	118	44	46	87	42	33	38	18	78	65	65	174	22	72	14	31	98	67	73	120	3	1381
SWAMP SPARROW	11	23	1	33	42	19	7	2	8	1	8		11		1		2	13	1	3	10	5	201
WHITE-THR. SPARROW	505	296	27	78	90	199	106	54	7	99	44	127	245	19	90	60	126	41	61	123	30	2427	
WHITE-CR. SPARROW			13	12	3	8		2	2	15	4	42	24	20	5		29	42	19	81	34	355	
DARK-EYED JUNCO	914	421	6	47	158	20	103	25	68	70	178	193	282	91	168	11	45	85	173	35	204	10	3307
RED-W. BLACKBIRD	40	48	30	104	5850	20			100				200	5							8	6405	
EASTERN MEADOWLARK	28	12	50	134	55	20		3	23	3	19	34	32	63	10	4	5	24	7	12	75	613	
RUSTY BLACKBIRD	3		1	1	10						50						4				1	69	
BREWER'S BLACKBIRD			1		2																	3	
COMMON GRACKLE	140	54	1	*	9100	15		7	30				13	58			2	9		61		9490	
BROWN-H. COWBIRD	2	17			3				11				1	23		14			3	21		95	
PURPLE FINCH	7	7		*	6	32		98	39	35	51	54	284	33	117	2	159	198	73	8	152	1467	
HOUSE FINCH	12		31	6	5	110		5	15			12	12	2	*						1	47	
PINE SISKIN	*						5																
AMERICAN GOLDFINCH	45	90	2	8	90	27	45	73	36	91	61	80	248	43	114	8	115	190	175	58	216	4	1819
HOUSE SPARROW	46	9	181	16	75	64		16	29	5	52	127	390	184	49		185	245	84	47	87	1891	
DAY OF COUNT	J3	D20	J1	D29	J3	D20	D23	J2	D20	J2	D20	D28	D21	D28	D20	J3	J3	D20	D27	D20	J3	D28	
NUMBER OF SPECIES	71	89	54	58	80	61	46	63	52	72	56	60	93	55	54	35	63	74	57	61	76	32	
INDIVIDUALS	9255	9168	3318	2199	20808	5668	1043	2620	1525	3168	3191	4038	23333	3560	2864	533	6576	8599	3005	4511	9064	215	
OBSERVERS	9	21	5	1	15	4	6	3	5	10	12	12	30	5	14	9	32	31	15	6	14	1	

ing pressure.

Paradise (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center as described in 1993.) Habitat as described in 1993. Jan 3; 4:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sky mostly cloudy; temp. 50° to 65°F; wind S-SW, 5-18 m.p.h. Water mostly open.

Fifteen observers in 6 parties. Total party-hours 43.5 (14.5 on foot, 29 by car). Total party-miles 283 (12 on foot, 271 by car). Hours owling 3. Total species 80; total individuals 20,808.

Observers: Jane Bell, Pat Bell, Mark Bennett, Phillip Casteel, Kathryn Clay, Beth Creighton, Jerry Devore, Richard Healy, Jr., Mike Henshaw, Martin Hines, Darren O'Brien, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. (compiler), Joyce Porter, Robert Rold, and Eric Williams.

Windy conditions hampered efforts to locate songbirds, contributing to a lower-than-average species total. Waterfowl were not as abundant as in some years, likely due to the mild weather. Raptors were fairly numerous, perhaps due to breezy conditions which allowed for observation. Highlights included the American Woodcock (a count first) flushed from a fencerow in Muhlenberg County and the two Brewer's Blackbirds (both males) feeding by themselves in a large field near the Green River in Muhlenberg County. The totals for Ring-necked Duck (684, Northern Harrier (83), Wild Turkey (112) and Hermit Thrush (9) were new record highs for this count. The total number of individuals does not include thousands of blackbirds (mostly red-wings and grackles) that passed over on their way from and to a roost to the northwest of the count circle.

Bowling Green (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Three Springs, six miles south of Bowling Green.) Habitat deciduous forest 20%, fields and pastures 60%, and town and parks 20%. Dec. 20; 6:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sky overcast, rain in p.m.; temp. 32° to 41°F; wind N, 10 m.p.h.

Four observers in 2 parties. Total party-hours 20 (2 on foot, 18 by car). Total party-miles 92 (6 on foot, 86 by car). Total species 61; total individuals 5,668.

Observers: Lester Doyle, Blaine Ferrell (compiler), Wayne Mason, Marvin Russell, and feeder watcher Herbert E. Shadowen.

Mammoth Cave National Park (Center and habitat as described in 1980.) Dec.23; 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Sky overcast; temp. 40° to 45°F; wind calm.

Six observers in 3 parties. Total party-hours 24 (6 on foot, 18 by car). Total party-miles 143 (9 on foot, 134 by car). Total species 46 total individuals 1,094.

Observers: Clint Blankenship, Lester Doyle, Tom Durbin, Blaine Ferrell (compiler), Wayne Mason and David Roemer.

Glasgow (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center as described in 1986.) Habitat as described in 1986. Jan. 2; 6:30 a.m. to 5:45 p.m. Sky clear; temp. 37° to 48°F; wind calm a.m., NNW 5-10 m.p.h. in p.m.

Three observers in 3 parties, with 8 feeder watchers. Total party-hours 21 (11 on foot, 10 by car). Total party-miles 72 (10 on foot, 62 by car). Total species 63; total individuals 2,620.

Observers: Lester Doyle, Marquita Gillenwater, Wayne M. Mason (compiler), Feeder watchers: Edie Bell, Libby Erwin, Osa Lee Follis, Arlene Lapham, Doris

McKinley, Billie Mae Moore, Emma Jean Pitcock and Rutha Terry.

Falls of Rough (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Short Creek, Kentucky at the intersection of Highway 79 and Highway 54.) Habitat woodland, cultivated fields, Rough River Lake, Rough River State Park, riverbottoms, watershed lakes, old fields and yard feeders. Dec. 20; 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sky overcast, partly sunny early afternoon; temp. 39° to 50°F; wind calm.

Six observers in 3 parties. Total party-hours 15.5 (3.5 on foot, 12 by car). Total party-miles 130 (6 on foot, 124 by car). Total species 52; total individuals 1,525.

Observers: Pat Augenstein, Kathryn Clay, Rebecca Foreman, Mary Harrel, Neal Hayden, and Joyce Porter (compiler).

There is a vulture roost at Rough River State Park, hence the large number of vultures. Those listed were seen mid afternoon.

Green River Lake (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Green River Memorial Baptist Church, Taylor County, Kentucky.) Habitat as described in 1996. Jan. 2; 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Sky mostly clear to partly cloudy; temp. 41° to 56°F; wind S 30 m.p.h. Unseasonably warm and blustery..

Ten observers in 3 parties. Total party-hours 22.5 (12.5 on foot, 10 by car). Total party-miles 94.5 (4.5 on foot, 89 by car). Total species 72; total individuals 3,168.

Observers: Richard Cassell, Lloyd C. Curry (compiler), Diane Elmore, Jackie Elmore, Martina Hines, Richard Kessler, Sonya Kessler, and Bainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. and feeder watchers Sarah Durham and Betty Wilcoxson.

Windy conditions forced many waterfowl against the banks and other birds to the cover of trees and shrubs, similar to last year. Four adult and four immature Bald Eagles were observed.

Otter Creek Park (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center as described in 1972.) Habitat brushy fields 15%, park area 20%, farmlands 38%, woodlands 13% ponds, creeks, lake, and river 14%. Dec. 20; 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Sky partly cloudy to clear; temp. 42° to 52°F; wind W-N, 8-15 m.p.h. Very windy all day.

Twelve observers in 4 parties. Total party-hours 29.5 (12 on foot, 17.5 by car). Total party-miles 188.5 (12 on foot, 176.5 by car). Total species 56; total individuals 3,191.

Observers: Mary B. Bauer, Debbie Johnson, Frank H. Krull, John Krull, Joyce Metzger, Diane Miller, Robert Miller, Doxie Noonan, Darren O'Brien, Helga Schutte, Anne L. Stamm (compiler), and Ed Toöne.

The count was low due to the scarcity of ducks and lack of geese and owls. Doe Valley Lake was completely devoid of waterfowl with the exception of one American Coot. Some of the highlights however, included a Great Blue Heron, five Red-headed Woodpeckers, eight Red-breasted Nuthatches, 78 Golden-crowned Kinglets, a Savannah Sparrow and one Purple Finch. The wild fruit crop for the most part was good, but in the park it was considered poor.

Bernheim Forest (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center as described in 1974.) Habitat as described in 1974. Dec. 28; 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sky mostly clear; temp. 20° to 35°F; wind SW, 0-12 m.p.h. Water partly open.

Twelve observers in 5 parties. Total party-hours 25.5 (11.5 on foot, 14 by car). Total party-miles 180 (7 on foot, 173 by car). Total species 60; total individuals 4,038.

Observers: Jane Bell, Pat Bell, David Berry, Shirley Berry, Julie Denton, Roseanna Denton, Steve Denton, Steve Figg, Martina Hines, Bob Johnson, Tim Love and, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. (compiler).

The day was cold, but nice for birding. The species total is below average. The totals for Wild Turkey and most raptors were low and waterfowl were low in diversity. Berry-eating species were about average and winter finches were represented by only a few Pine Siskins and Purple Finches. Count highlights included the Golden Eagle, a probable sub-adult observed at the now traditional area along Wilson Creek in southern Bullitt County, and the flock of Sandhill Cranes, observed while watching for an eagle. Two Accipiter sp. were observed.

Louisville (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Jct. Hwys 42 and 22, as described in 1972.) Habitat as described in 1972. Dec. 21; 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sky cloudy; temp. 33° to 43°F; wind E, 12 m.p.h.

Thirty observers in 15 parties. Total party-hours 101.5 (47 on foot, 54.5 by car). Total party-miles 456 (32.25 on foot, 423.75 by car). Total species 93; total individuals 23,338.

Observers: Garrett Adams, Win Ahrens, Michael Auten, Mary Bill Bauer, Jane Bell and Pat Bell (compilers), Dona Coates, Jane Fender, Steve Figg, Chuck Hatten, Bob Johnson, Frank Krull, John Krull, Tim Love, Fred Mansmith, Burt Monroe III, Mark Monroe, Doxie Noonan, Peggy Oates, Darrin O'Brien, Clara Ann Pallares, David Pallares, Martha Pike, Robert Quaife, Lene Rauth, Helga Schutte, Paul Serridge, Anne L. Stamm, Thomas Stover, Ed Toone, and Beckham Bird Club and Friends. Two Accipiter sp. were observed.

Shelbyville (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center three quarters of a mile south of U.S. 60 and Guist Creek Lake on KY 714.) Habitat elevation 640'-1190', farmland, fallow land, suburban, wooded and grassland. Dec. 28; 7:50 a.m. to 5:40 p.m. Sky sunny; temp. 30° to 37°F; wind W, 15 m.p.h.

Five observers in 3 parties. Total party-hours 17 (0 on foot, 17 by car). Total party-miles 267 (0 on foot, 267 by car). Total species 55; total individuals 3,560.

Observers: Iris Brown, Joan Brown, Seth Brown, Todd Brown, W.H. Brown (compiler).

First time ever a Mute Swan and Bonaparte's Gull were observed. High number of crows is the result of early morning observations apparently near a roost.

Frankfort (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center as described in 1972.) Habitat as described in 1977. Dec. 20; 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sky partly cloudy; temp. 37° to 55°F; wind SSW/NNW, 0-16 m.p.h.

Fifteen observers in 11-12 parties. Total party-hours 28.5 (13.5 on foot, 15 by car). Total party-miles 193.5 (12.5 on foot, 181 by car). 14.5 hours at feeders., One person 3.5 hours at a feeder. Total species 50; total individuals 2,919.

Observers: James Derryberry, Margaret Derryberry, Suzanne Doerrfeld, Jim Durell, Peggy Gould (Compiler), Ralph Gould, Scott Hankla, Virginia Honaker,

Jeff Jones, Margaret LaFontaine, Greg Pond, Sherri Pond, Shelly Rice, Steven Smith, Tim Williams.

Kleber Wildlife Management Area (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center as described in 1977.) Habitat as described in 1977. Jan. 3; 7:30 a.m. to 5:15 p.m. Sky partly cloudy; temp. 48° to 64°F; wind SW, 0-24 m.p.h.

Nine observers in 3-4 parties. Total party-hours 19 (13.75 on foot, 7.25 by car). Total party-miles 87 (10 on foot, 77 by car). Total species 35; total individuals 533.

Observers: Betty Behoar, Suzanne Doerrfeld, Jim Durell, Peggy Gould (compiler), Ralph Gould, Mike Larimore, Rae McIntyre, Ray McIntyre, Mark Roberts.

Danville (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Boyle County Courthouse.) Habitat as described before. Jan. 3; 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sky cloudy in a.m., partly cloudy p.m.; temp. 47° to 58°F; wind S 15 mp.h. WARM!

Thirty two observers in 10 parties. Total party-hours 62.5 (16.3 on foot, 46.2 by car). Total party-miles 532.5 (22.5 on foot, 510 by car). Total species 63; total individuals 6,576 .

Observers: Ron Barbato, Andre Brousseau, Ed Caldwell, Bill Catron, Shirley Caldwell, Casey Clark, Bob Corcoran, Mildred Dawn, Ginny Eklund, Neil Eklund (compiler), Martha Foster, Bruce Gordon, JoAnn Hamm, Michael Hamm, Dorothy Belle Hill, Mort Hoaglund, Tom Kearns, J.W. Kemper, Chuck Kohler, F.W. Loetscher, Eric Mount, Jack Newton, John B. Nichols, Herb Petitjean, Louise Robinson, Lee Russell, Ralph Schiferrle, Barbara Thomas, Jay Thomas, Betty Ullrich, Charles Vahlkamp and Ms. Tracey Ward..

In addition, 41 sparrow sp. were observed during the count.

Lexington (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center East Hickman Church on Tates Creek Road.) Habitat mixed residential and farmland. Dec. 20; Sky rain; temp. mild. All water open.

Thirty one observers. Total species 74; total individuals 8,599.

Observers: Earl Boggs, Troy Brown, Rose Canon, Mary Carrol, Mary Cooper, Shirley Davis, Wayne Davis, Phyllis Deal, Jean Flynn, Mike Flynn, Paul Hager, Kelly Helton, Allen Kingsland, Charles Kingsland, Betty Maxson, Bob McNeese, Mark Morgan, Robert L. Morris (compiler), Ruth Morton, Matthew Nielson, Rev. Nathan Nielson, Art Ricketts, Tina Ricketts, Bryan Shirley, Darren Shirley, Marie Sutton, Andy Uterhart, Marion Uterhart, Sally Wasielewski, Jim Williams, and Bernice Wood.

Burlington (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center near Camp Michaels.) Habitat as described in 1992. Dec 27; 6:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sky partly sunny; temp. 32° to 36°F; wind SSE, 0-10 m.p.h. All water open.

Fifteen observers in 6 parties. Total party-hours 38 (20 on foot, 18 by car). Total party-miles 222 (12 on foot, 210 by car). Total species 57; total individuals 3,005.

Observers: Linda Altevers, Joe Caminiti, Joey Caminiti, Kathy Caminiti, Elaine Carroll, Greg Cunningham, Melissa Desjardin, Sandy Fedderson, Kevin Flowers,

Lee McNeely (compiler), Gayle Pille, Carmen Schulte, and Tommy Stephens.
Feeder Watchers: Marjorie Hill and Lynda McNeely.

Both waterfowl and raptors were scarce. Good finds included an adult Bald Eagle and a count-first Pine Warbler. Six Greater White-fronted Geese were seen in the count circle one week after the count date.

Warsaw (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Gallatin County courthouse.) Habitat as described in 1992. Dec. 20; 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Sky mostly cloudy; temp. 33° to 49°F; wind SE, 5-15 m.p.h. Water open.

Six observers in 3 parties. Total party-hours 25 (8 on foot, 17 by car). Total party-miles 206 (5 on foot, 201 by car). Total species 61; total individuals 4,511.

Observers: Joe Caminiti, Kathy Caminiti, Kevin Flowers, Frank Lewandowski, Lee McNeely (compiler), and Tommy Stephens.

Highlights included an adult Bald Eagle and a new count high for Bonaparte's Gull.

Somerset (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center at the junction of Bypass E. 80 and Highway 39, Crab Orchard Road.) Habitat water edge 15.5%, cultivated 25%, wooded and edge 23.5%, urban 9%, field/fence 25% and feeder 2%. Jan. 3; 5:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Sky cloudy a.m., partly cloudy p.m.; temp. 45°F to 61°F; wind SW, 4-15 m.p.h.

Fourteen observers in 6 parties. Total party-hours 53.75 (23.25 on foot, 30.5 by car). Total party-miles 446.5 (14.5 on foot, 432 by car). Total species 76; total individuals 9,064.

Observers: Granville Cox, Roseanna Denton (compiler), Steve Denton, Diane Elmore, Jackie Elmore, Gay Hodges, Steve Kickert, Mary Kissel, Linda McClendon, Lynda Perry, Christine Phillips, Stephen Stedman, Jim York, and Margaret York.

In addition, 159 ducks, 2 hawks and 81 sparrows of unidentified species were observed during the count.

Perry County (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Cypress Amax Wildlife Area.) Habitat reclaimed strip mine, pond, woodland, and edge. Dec. 28; 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sky cloudy; temp. 20° to 25°F; wind calm. Cold day.

One observer in 1 party. Total party-hours 7 (5 on foot, 2 by car). Total party miles 20 (5 on foot, 15 by car). Total species 32; total individuals 215.

Observer: Don Spencer (Compiler)

A few prairie species, such as Northern Harrier, are moving into the large reclaimed strip mine areas. Barn Owls and Great Horned Owls are on the decline.

FIELD NOTES

An Observation of Possible Tandem Cooperation by Immature Bald Eagles

On November 21, 1997, two immature bald eagles (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) were observed flying around a small island in Green River Reservoir, Taylor County, Kentucky. The island is approximately 500 m from the Green River Reservoir

dam and is only visible when the reservoir is at or approaching winter pool. Upon closer inspection with a spotting scope, we discovered that the two eagles were apparently "herding" a flock of > 100 american coots (*Fulica americana*) onto the dam. This was a coordinated effort by the pair with each contributing to the containment of the flock of coots on either side by alternately swooping down from < 10 m in the air to the edges of the flock. The eagles continued to harass the coots for approximately 5 min. after our observation began. During this time the coots remained tightly packed, with individuals remaining within a wing's length of each other. We were unable to determine whether a predation event occurred during and/or prior to this time. Thirty to 45 min. subsequent to the interaction the coots were observed 800-1000 m from the island and they remained tightly packed.

This observation is of interest for several reasons. Our observation suggests a possible incidence of "cooperative hunting". Cooperative hunting results from the coordinated efforts of two or more animals which results in enhanced capture success of prey items which are shared by the group (Bednarz 1988). Such behavior occurs most commonly in mammalian predators such as lions, wolves, etc. (Alcock 1983, Bednarz 1988) which are thought to benefit from this behavior by increased foraging efficiency and the ability to take larger prey versus foraging alone (Alcock 1993). This behavior is considered rare for birds (Gill 1995) although it has been suggested to occur in Harris' hawks (*Parabuteo unicinctus*) and Golden Eagles (*Aquila chrysaetos*; Bednarz 1988). Most of these observations were of tandem hunting by mated pairs. Interestingly, our observation was of immature, unmated bald eagles. Further, it would be interesting to know whether the bald eagles were actually siblings, which would suggest a form of kin selection in action.

The response behavior of the coot flock was of equal interest. Flocking can be considered an anti-predator tactic which reduces the likelihood of individuals being preyed upon (dilution effect) and has been noted in many prey animals, including waterfowl (Gill 1995). There may also be a confusion effect when tightly-packed individuals scatter upon a strike by the predator. This is commonly referred to as "skittering" when describing the reaction of schooling fishes to piscivore attacks. Coots normally occur in much looser flocks compared to our observations of them while under attack (Kessler, personal observation). The tight formation of a large number of birds has also been noted in flying birds under hawk attack (Hamilton 1971, Tinbergen 1951). Scattering may be more effective at confusing a single predator and the eagle tandem may have prevented the coots from scattering by their persistent attacks on both sides of the flock. In addition, it appeared that the coot flock in our observation had been driven into such shallow water they were prevented from escaping the eagles by diving.

While we cannot confirm that we observed true cooperative hunting (e.g., no prey capture was observed and we were not able to determine whether prey was shared), it certainly was a coordinated, tandem effort by the immature eagles, which is considered rare. We hope to continue monitoring this site for similar activity in the future.

LITERATURE CITED

Alcock, J. 1993. *Animal Behavior: An Evolutionary Approach*. Sinauer Associates, Inc., Sunderland, MA. Bednarz, J.C. 1988. Cooperative hunting in Harris' hawks (*Parabuteo unicinctus*). *Science* 239:1525- 1527. Gill, F.B. 1995. *Ornithology*. W.H. Freeman and Company, New York, New York. Hamilton, W.D. *Geometry for the selfish herd*. *Journal of Theoretical Biology* 31 :295-311. Tinbergen, N. *The Study of Instinct*. Oxford University Press, London, England.
--RICHARD K. KESSLER, JASON R. HOLLAND, BETHANY S. TURNER, Department of Biology, Campbellsville University, # 1 University Drive, Campbellsville, KY 42718.

An American Swallow-tailed Kite in Boone County, Kentucky

On August the 16th, 1997, an American Swallow-tailed Kite was seen in Lawrenceburg, Indiana by Craig Harder. During further observation of this bird on this date, I witnessed the kite fly across the Ohio River and circle over the hills of Boone Co., KY

I returned to observe the kite in Indiana on a number of occasions during the next two weeks. I saw the kite cross into Kentucky for brief periods of time during several of these observations. I returned to Lawrenceburg on the 29th and 30th but did not see the bird. I later learned that it was seen in Petersburg, KY on these dates. I observed the kite in Petersburg, flying low over the park by the boat ramp, on September 3rd. The next day I saw the bird in Lawrenceburg, while viewing from the Kentucky side.

During most of these periods of observation the kite soared overhead, catching large insects in its talons. In order to feed, the kite would bend its head down to eat while still gripping the insect in its feet. On many of the occasions when it would catch an insect, another insect would disattach from the captured insect and fly off, apparently unharmed. The kite was apparently seizing dragonflies in the act of mating. The kite was also observed snatching cicadas from cicada killer wasps (Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., personal communication).

I never did see the bird at rest, although several other observers mentioned seeing the kite perched in cottonwoods on the Indiana side. Some observers also mentioned seeing the kite dip low over the river in order to get a drink of water while on the wing. The kite seemed equally at home over the open fields along the Indiana flood plain and the wooded hills of Kentucky. It was often in close proximity to small groups of Black and Turkey Vultures, sharing the same favorable wind

currents. On several occasions the Turkey Vultures appeared to play with the kite, nearly brushing wings at one point. A resident pair of kestrels, which were also partaking in the feast of cicadas, attempted to drive off their overgrown cousin, but with little effect. An Osprey circling with the kite afforded an excellent size comparison, scaling down my previous impression, which had been magnified by the effect of the kites vivid black and white plumage.

This beautiful raptor afforded many hours of up close viewing to dozens of birders during the several weeks that it was present. To watch its effortless flight was a true lesson in poetry in motion, drawing many an "oohN and "aw" from its appreciative audience. On weekend mornings there was an almost carnival atmosphere, with Ron Austing selling framed photographs of the kite, while the feathered celebrity soared overhead (Jay Stengert personal communication),

This bird may have been present several weeks prior to August 16th according to workers at the nearby Lawrenceburg Seagram's Plant. Lee McNeely first observed the kite in Kentucky (while in KY) on September 1st. The kite was last seen in Petersburg on September 7th by Joe and Kathy Caminiti.

The American Swallow-tailed Kite was a summer resident along the Ohio River during the 19th century. John James Audubon observed a nesting pair with four young at the Falls of the Ohio in 1820. The most recent previous sighting in Kentucky was in August of 1875 when Nelson observed numerous kites snatching stranded grasshoppers from flooded cottonwoods near the mouth of the Ohio River. (The Birds of Kentucky, Mengel, 1965)

Hopefully, it will not take another one hundred years before this elegant raptor once again soars over the river valleys and hills of the Bluegrass State.--FRANK RENFROW, 611 South O'Fallon Ave, Bellevue, KY 41073

SIXTH REPORT OF THE KENTUCKY BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

Lee K. McNeely, Secretary

This report is the sixth from the Kentucky Bird Records Committee (hereafter KBRC), and covers actions completed during the calendar year 1997. Members serving on the committee during this period were Blaine Ferrell, Wayne Mason, Lee McNeely, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., and Anne Stamm. The stated purpose of the KBRC is to determine the validity of records of rare birds within Kentucky, maintain the documentation for these records, and to publish a summary of the committee's deliberations.

In 1997 there were two rounds of circulation through the KBRC consisting of 16 individual records. Fifteen of these were finalized, while one remains unresolved at this point.

Accepted records:

Egretta tricolor. TRICOLORED HERON. [#96-10] May 16-18, 1996, Outer Loop Landfill, Jefferson County (PB,MM,BPB) [first Kentucky record documented by photograph].

Eudocimus albus. WHITE IBIS. [#97-2] September 16, 1993, Barren River, Warren County (DR).

Chen rossii. ROSS'S GOOSE. [#97-3] April 12, 1996, McElroy Lake, Warren County (DR).

Chen rossii. ROSS'S GOOSE. [#97-7] March 7, 1997, Minor Clark Fish Hatchery, Rowan County (FB,LK).

Anas cyanoptera. CINNAMON TEAL. [#97-11] April 19-22, 1997, McElroy Lake, Warren County (BPB) [photographed].

Aythya nigricollis. TUFTED DUCK. [#97-9] April 5-15, 1997, Transient Lakes, Warren County (MA,RD,DE,JE,GH,RH,CL,BPB) [photographed, first Kentucky record].

Elanoides forficatus. SWALLOW-TAILED KITE. [#97-12] August 16-September 7, 1997, Petersburg, Boone County (FR) [photographed, first documented Kentucky record in over 100 years].

Coturniceps noveboracensis. YELLOW RAIL. [#97-4] October 17-28, 1996, McElroy Lake, Warren County (DR, several other observers).

Porphyryla martinica. PURPLE GALLINULE. [#96-8] April 12-May 9, 1996, Jackson, Breathitt County (KB,BC) [photographed].

Philomachus pugnax. RUFF [#97-10] April 17-18, 1997, Henderson County (BPB) [photographed, fourth Kentucky record].

Tyrannus verticalis. WESTERN KINGBIRD. [#97-13] August 30-31, 1997, Lake #9, Fulton County (DR,MB,BPB,several observers) [fourth Kentucky record].

Troglodytes troglodytes. WINTER WREN. [#96-9] July 9, 1996, Big Black Mountain, Harlan County (TO) [third summer record for Kentucky].

Pipilio maculatus. SPOTTED TOWHEE. [#97-1] December 31, 1989 - February 4, 1990, Meade County (BPB,RC) [photographed, circulated through KBRC since this bird is now accepted as a separate species, first Kentucky record].

Observers: Michael Autin (MA), Pat Bell (PB), Mark Bennett (MB), Fred Busroe (FB), Katie Busroe (KB), Bryan Combs Jr. (BC), Richard Cassell (RC), Roseanna Denton (RD), Diane Elmore (DE), Jackie Elmore (JE), Gay Hodges (GH), Richard Healy Jr. (RH), Lewis Kornman (LK), Celia Lawrence (CL), Mark Monroe (MM), Thomas Oliver (TO), Brainard Palmer-Ball Jr. (BPB), Frank Renfrow (FR), David Roemer (DR).

Rejected records:

Phalacrocorax brasilianus. NEOTROPIC CORMORANT. [#97-5] November 24, 1996, Freeman Lake, Elizabethtown, Hardin County [Documentation not sufficient to rule out Double-crested Cormorant].

Buteo regalis. FERRUGINOUS HAWK. [#97-8]. January 1, 1997, Daviess County [Documentation not adequate to rule out light-phase or albinistic Red-tailed Hawk].

The current official Kentucky list now stands at 354 species (12 of which are by sight only), with the Tufted Duck and Spotted Towhee added since the last report, and the Swallow-tailed Kite moved from the extirpated to the current list. The Ross's Goose has been dropped from the review list. All records of birds on the mandatory review list should be sent to the Secretary of the KBRC, LEE MCNEELY, P.O. Box 463, Burlington, Ky. 41005.

NEWS AND VIEWS

Springfest/Wildflower Weekend

350 flower lovers can't be wrong. That's how many traipsed through Cedar Sink, Turnhole Bend, the Big Woods, and Ugly Creek last year during Mammoth Cave National Park's Springfest/Wildflower Weekend. Come again April 18-19 and see these strange places and spectacular wildflowers they harbor. Experts from The Nature Conservancy, Kentucky State Nature Preserves Commission and others in the know will lead the way, pointing out spring blossoms and birds. Many other activities will take place at the Mammoth Cave Hotel. Get your free brochure on all Springfest and Wildflower Weekend activities - call the park at (502) 758-2254 and ask for Vickie Carson at extension 21.

Reminder of the Kentucky Rare Bird Alert Hotline

Remember, the Kentucky Rare Bird Alert hotline is in service at 502-894-9538. Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. regularly updates the tapes with your reports of unusual bird sightings from around the state. Help support this service with your reports.

K.O.S. Burt L. Monroe, Jr. Avian Research Grant Fund

Persons that need money (i.e., up to \$500) to assist them in conducting research on birds in Kentucky should contact the K.O.S. Burt L. Monroe, Jr. Avian Research Fund Committee c/o Blaine Ferrell, Department of Biology, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, Kentucky 42101 (email: Ferrebr@wku.edu) for a set of guidelines and an application form

K.O.S. Spring Meeting

The K.O.S. Spring meeting is scheduled for 24-26 April at General Butler State Park. Please mark your calendars and plan on attending and participating in the Friday evening program.