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THE KENTUCKY WARBLER

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THE COVER

We thank David Roemer for the video capture of an Audubon's Shearwater (*Puffinus herminieri*) observed following the passage of the remnants of Hurricane Dennis 12 July 2005 (see article on p. 32). Financial support for color cover provided by the Touchstone Energy Cooperatives.



THE FALL 2005 SEASON

Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., and Lee McNeely

The fall 2005 season was overall warmer and drier than normal. August was hot, with the temperature reaching 90°F or higher on 20 days at Louisville. The most remarkable weather event of the season was the passage of the remnants of Hurricane Katrina, which passed across Kentucky 30-31 August with copious precipitation—4.4" (11.2 cm) at Bowling Green; 3.0" (7.6 cm) at Paducah; 2.6" (6.6 cm) at Louisville; and 2.0" (5.1 cm) at Lexington—and moderate winds. In fact, the rains provided by the storm's passage provided many areas with the *only* substantial precipitation over the entire period! September and October remained warmer than normal with little precipitation (e.g. Bowling Green received less than 1.0" (2.5 cm) of rain during the entire two-month period). November remained slightly warmer than normal, but precipitation began to return towards normal.

Rarity highlights included Band-rumped Storm-Petrels at two locales during the passage of the remnants of Katrina, several rare waders (Tricolored Heron, White Ibis, and Roseate Spoonbill) in the far western part of the state, a few rare shorebirds (including Marbled Godwit and Red Phalarope), a Pomarine Jaeger, and a returning Spotted Towhee. An unusually large number of reports of Laughing Gulls and terns was also attributable to the nasty weather associated with Katrina. In contrast to the previous year, natural food crops including evergreen cones, berries, acorns, and hickory nuts, all appeared to be produced in abundance, boding well for wintering species.

Publication of any unusual sightings in the seasonal report does not imply that these reports have been accepted as records for the official checklist of Kentucky birds. Observers are reminded that records of out-of-season birds and all rarities must be accompanied by written and/or photographic documentation. This documentation must be submitted to the Kentucky Bird Records Committee (KBRC). Decisions regarding the official Kentucky list are made by the KBRC and are reported periodically in *The Kentucky Warbler*.

Abbreviations – County names appear in *italics*; when used to separate dates, the “/” symbol is used in place of “and”; “ph.” next to an observer’s initials indicates that the observation was documented with photograph(s); “vt.” next to an observer’s initials indicates that the observation was documented on videotape; “*” next to an observer’s initials indicates that written details were submitted with the report. **Place names:** Ano = surface mines near Ano, *Pulaski*; Ballard = Ballard WMA, *Ballard*; Barkley Dam = Barkley Dam, *Lyon/Livingston*; Barren = Barren River Lake, *Allen/Barren*; Berea College Forest = Berea College Forest, *Madison*; Bernheim Forest = Bernheim Forest, *Bullitt*; Blackacre = Blackacre SNP, *Jefferson*; Blood River = Blood River embayment, *Ky Lake, Calloway*; Boston = Ky Transportation Cabinet wetland mitigation area near Boston, *Nelson*; Briarwood = Briarwood, *Jefferson*; Campbell Dikes = Mississippi River sandbars at Campbell Dikes, *Carlisle*; Caperton = Caperton Swamp Nature Preserve, *Jefferson*; Cathy Crockett Trail = Cathy Crockett Trail, Sloan's Valley, *Pulaski*; Clifty Pond = Clifty Pond, near Mt. Zion, *Pulaski*; Cooley's Pond = Cooley's Pond, *Wayne*; E.W. Brown = E.W. Brown power plant ash basin, *Mercer*; Eddy Creek = Eddy Creek embayment, *Lake Barkley, Lyon*; Eddyville = Lake Barkley at Eddyville, *Lyon*; Falls of the Ohio = Falls of the Ohio, *Jefferson*; Fishing Creek = Fishing Creek embayment, *Lake Cumberland, Pulaski*; Frankfort = Frankfort, *Franklin*; Freeman Lake = Freeman Lake, *Hardin*; Garvin Brown = Garvin Brown Nature Preserve, ne. *Jefferson*; Grassy Pond/Powells Lake = Grassy Pond/Powells Lake Unit Sloughs WMA, w. *Henderson*; Gunpowder Creek = Gunpowder Creek Nature Park, *Boone*; Hays Kennedy = Hays Kennedy Park, ne. *Jefferson*; Homestead = Homestead Unit Peabody WMA, *Ohio*; Horseshoe Road = slough next to Horseshoe Road, w. *Henderson*; Island No. 1 = Mississippi River sandbars at Island No. 1, *Carlisle*; Joe Creason = Joe Creason Park, *Jefferson*; Jonathan Creek = Jonathan Creek embayment, *Kentucky Lake, Marshall*; Ky Bend = Kentucky Bend, w. *Fulton*; Ky Dam = Kentucky Dam, *Livingston/Marshall*; Ky Dam

Village = Kentucky Dam Village State Resort Park, *Marshall*; Ky Lake = Kentucky Lake, *Marshall* (unless otherwise noted); Kuttawa = Lake Barkley at Kuttawa, *Lyon*; Lake Barkley = Lake Barkley, *Livingston/Lyon/Trigg*; Lake No. 9 = Lake No. 9, *Fulton*; Laketon = Mississippi River sandbars at Laketon, *Carlisle*; LBL = Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area, *Trigg* (unless otherwise noted); Little River = Little River embayment, Lake Barkley, *Trigg*; Mammoth Cave = Mammoth Cave National Park, *Edmonson* (unless otherwise noted); Miles Park = Miles Park, *Jefferson*; Minor Clark = Minor Clark Fish Hatchery, *Rowan*; Mitchell Lake = Mitchell Lake, Ballard WMA, *Ballard*; Mt. Zion = Mt. Zion, *Pulaski*; Newport = Newport, *Campbell*; Paradise = Paradise Power Plant impoundments, *Muhlenberg*; Pleasant Hill Church Road = Pleasant Hill Church Road, *Trigg*; Rochester = Green River at Rochester Dam, *Muhlenberg/Ohio*; St. Matthews = St. Matthews, *Jefferson*; Sauerheber = Sauerheber Unit of Sloughs WMA, *Henderson*; Shaker Mill = Shaker Mill, *Warren*; Shawnee Park = Shawnee Park, *Jefferson*; Sinclair = Sinclair Unit Peabody WMA, *Muhlenberg*; Smithland Dam = Smithland Dam on the Ohio River, *Livingston*; Sonora = Sonora, *Hardin*; Surrey Hills Farm = Surrey Hills Farm, ne. *Jefferson*; Thurston's Pond = Thurston's Pond, *Wayne*; Tom Sawyer = E.P. "Tom" Sawyer SP, *Jefferson*; Town Creek = Town Creek moist soils unit, Westvaco WMA, *Hickman*; Van Buren = Taylorsville Lake at Van Buren boat ramp, *Anderson*; Waitsboro = Waitsboro Recreation Area on Lake Cumberland, *Pulaski*; Wolf Creek Dam = Wolf Creek Dam, Lake Cumberland, *Russell*; SNP = State Nature Preserve; SRP = State Resort Park; WMA = Wildlife Management Area.

Greater White-fronted Goose – the injured and summering bird at Ballard was seen several times in August and September (m. ob.); otherwise, earliest reports were for 22 at Jonathan Creek 19 October (ME) and 16 at Sauerheber 22 October (DRo, KOS); other interesting reports included a remarkably large group of 58 at A.J. Jolly Park, *Campbell*, 3 November (FR); 4 over Pleasant Hill Church Road 4 November (BLi); 3 at Jonathan Creek 17 November (ME); ca. 200 at Sauerheber by 26 November (BP, AC); and 1 over Shaker Mill 29 November (DRo).

Snow Goose – an early dark morph bird was again present this year at Minor Clark 25 September (BP et al.), perhaps the same possibly "resident" individual that has been present in previous years.

Ross's Goose – the only report was for 1 over Shaker Mill 29 November (DRo).

Tundra Swan – the first of Sauerheber's wintering flock to return were 8 there 18 November (MMr).

Gadwall – peak counts were for 284 at Jonathan Creek 28 October (ME) and 100+ at Lake Peewee, *Hopkins*, 26 November (BP, AC).

American Wigeon – earliest report was for 1 at Minor Clark 25 September (BP et al.); peak count was for 150+ at Sauerheber 25 November (BP, AC).

Blue-winged Teal – peak counts were for 150+ at Mitchell Lake (SR) and 100+ at Jonathan Creek (ME), both 14 September; latest report was for 2 tardy birds at Lexington 19 November (SM, RB).

Northern Shoveler – earliest reports included 1 at Clifty Pond 25 August (RDn) and 3 at the Falls of the Ohio 31 August (DRo et al.); peak counts were for 105+ total in scattered flocks on the Ohio River at Louisville 16 November (BP) and 200+ at Sauerheber 25-26 November (BP, AC).

Northern Pintail – earliest report was for 3 at Mitchell Lake 10 September (BP, MS).

Green-winged Teal – earliest reports included 2 at Little River 24 August (DRo) and 4 at Horseshoe Road 4 September (CC).

Redhead – earliest report was for 2 at Twin Lakes Subdivision lake near Somerset, *Pulaski*, 25 October (RDn).

Ring-necked Duck – earliest report was for 1 at Camp Ernst Lake, *Boone*, 10 October (LM).

Greater Scaup – earliest reports were for singles on the Ohio River at Louisville (BP) and at Waitsboro (RDn), both 16 November.

Lesser Scaup – peak counts were for 1500+ on n. Lake Barkley, *Lyon*, 12 November (HC, ME) and 150+ on the Ohio River at Grandview, IN, *Daviess/Hancock*, 16 November (DA).

Surf Scoter – the only report was for 2 at Doe Run Lake, *Kenton*, 2 November (FR).

Hooded Merganser – peak count was for 83 at Lexington 19 November (SM, RB).

Ruddy Duck – earliest reports were for 1 on the Ohio River at Newport 17 October (FR) and 1 at Cooley's Pond 25 October (RDn); peak count was for 200+ on Lake Barkley above the dam 30 November (SR).

Red-throated Loon – the only report for the season was for a juv. on the Ohio River at Louisville 2 November (JB, PB, ph.EH) to 6 November (EH, JHu).

Common Loon – earliest reports, likely involving summering birds, included an ad. at Barren, *Barren*, 7 August (ph.LK); a basic-plumaged bird on Lake Barkley above the dam 24 August (DRo); and 2 ads. above Wolf Creek Dam 3 September (RDn); pronounced fallouts were lacking with the following peak counts reported: 43 above Wolf Creek Dam 11 November (RDn); 13 at Freeman Lake 15 November (RH); and 183 at Barren 21 November (DRo).

Horned Grebe – earliest reports were for 2 at Waitsboro 25 October (RDn) and 1 on the Ohio River at Newport 29 October (FR); peak count was for 50+ on n. Lake Barkley 30 November (SR).

Band-rumped Storm-Petrel – there were 2 reports of this pelagic species following the passage of the remnants of Hurricane Katrina: 1 at the Falls of the Ohio 31 August (vt./*BY & MWr, BP) and 2 at the Frankfort Fish Hatchery, *Franklin*, 31 August (ML). Both at the latter location were described as being barely able to fly or swim, and remnants of 1 were retrieved from the shore of one of the ponds and

preserved the following day (*BP). KBRC review required.

American White Pelican – earliest reports were for 2 at Grassy Pond/Powells Lake 20 August (CC) and 2 at Smithland Dam 4 September (HC, DRo); the species arrived in numbers on Lake Barkley during the first week of October (m. ob.) with peak counts including 210 on Lake Barkley near Canton, *Trigg*, and 160 at Eddyville, both 28 October (KL, BLc).

Double-crested Cormorant – notable fall counts included 72+ at Van Buren 8 September (BP) with 45 still there 14 October (BW); 100+ at Kuttawa by 10 September (BP et al.) and ca. 1000 on the Ohio River above the Falls of the Ohio 15 November (AG, BE).

American Bittern – there were only 2 reports: 1 at Sinclair 10 October (DRo) and 1 at Sauerheber 22 October (DRo, KOS).

Great Blue Heron – notable fall counts included 100+ at Mitchell Lake 12 August (SR) and 62+ at Van Buren 8 September (BP) with 60+ still there 14 October (BW).

Great Egret – post-breeding concentrations in the w. portion of the state were smaller than in some recent years and included at least 300 at Mitchell Lake 12 August (SR) with 150 there 25 August (SR) and 50+ still there 14 September (SR) and 300 at Honey Cypress Slough, Grassy Pond/Powells Lake 13 August (CC); other reports of post-breeding gatherings included 17 at Boston 25 August (BP); 67 at Paradise 30 August (RDn, SDn); more than have been observed in many years at the Falls of the Ohio with 32 there 5 September (BP, AC), an impressive count of 75 there 2 October (T&CB) and 60+ still there 7 October (T&CB et al.); other interesting reports included up to 22 at Van Buren 8 September (BP); 50 at Eddy Creek 10 September (BP et al.); 11 at Lake Linville, *Rockcastle*, 23 September (RDn); and 70 at Little River 4 October (DRo). Small numbers lingered especially late into the season with 1 at Minor Clark 12 November (LH); 9 in w. *Henderson* 12 November (CC); 7 still at the Falls of the Ohio 18 November (BE); 1 near Versailles, *Woodford*, 19 November

(IH); and 1 at Van Buren 21 November (BW, MB).

Snowy Egret – peak counts of post-breeding gatherings included 245 at Lake No. 9 on 29 August (BP, JDu) and 25 at Mitchell Lake 12 August (SR) with 20 still there 10 September (BP, MS) and 11 September (DRo); also reported were 1 at Paradise throughout the early portion of the period (m. ob.); 1 at Homestead (DRo, RDv) and 1 at the Falls of the Ohio (RG), both 8 August; and a few at Little River 10 September (BP et al.).

Little Blue Heron – there were an above-average number of reports of post-breeding birds with 1-2 as far e. as Minor Clark 7 August (DP) and 4 September (LH); peak counts included 18 at Homestead 8 August (DRo, RDv); 20+ at Mitchell Lake 11 August (DRo); 19 at Blood River 21 August (HC); and 110 at Lake No. 9 on 29 August (BP, JDu). Additional reports of some interest included 6 juvs. at Van Buren 18 August (BW); 8 juvs. at Grassy Pond/Powells Lake 20 August (CC); single juvs. at McDougal Lake, *Larue*, (BP) and at Boston (BP) both 25 August; and 4 juvs. at Thurston's Pond 27 September (RDn).

Tricolored Heron – a juv. was at Lake No. 9 from 4 August (ph.DRo) to 7 August (ph. RDn, BY, MWf) with 2 reported there 21 August (ph.JW). KBRC review required.



Tricolored Heron (juv.), *Fulton*
7 August 2005
Roseanna Denton

Cattle Egret – several thousand came in to the roost at Kuttawa 10 September (BP et al.); a report of both late and out-of-range birds was a flock of 8 at Russell Springs, *Russell*, 15 November (LC).

Black-crowned Night-Heron – latest reports were for an ad. at A.J. Jolly Park, *Campbell*, 7 November (FR) and 2 at Paradise 19 November (RDn, HC); as is now the norm, a few lingered at St. Matthews into December (BW).

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron – the only reports were for 2 juvs. at Ballard 11 August (DRo); a juv. at Lexington 21 August (JV); and a juv. at St. Matthews 31 August—6 September (BW).

White Ibis – single juvs. were reported at Lake No. 9 on 4 August (ph.DRo) and at Mitchell Lake 9 August (ph.NR et al.) through 13 August (HC, ME). KBRC review required.



White Ibis (juv.), *Ballard*
9 August 2005
Nicole Ranalli

Roseate Spoonbill – a juv. was observed in flight over Lake No. 9 on 5 August (*DRo). KBRC review required.

Turkey Vulture – peak counts were for 178 at Dayton, *Campbell*, 22 October (FR) and 100+ at Taylorsville Lake, *Spencer*, 21 November (BW).

Osprey – 1 over the Tug Fork of the Big Sandy River, *Pike*, 19 September was a local first (JCr, LE); latest reports were for 1 on Lake Barkley near Canton, *Trigg*, 28 October (KL, BLe); 1 at Fishing Creek 1 November (RDn); 1 at Freeman Lake 6

November (EH, JHu, CB); and a very tardy bird at Lexington 19 November (SM, RB).

Mississippi Kite – the only reports of vagrants involved 1 (same individual?) in ne. *Fayette* 21 May and 24 July (DS); another interesting report involved 4 birds including a juv. below Ky Dam 24 August (DRo).

Bald Eagle – early or out of breeding range reports included 1 at Wolf Creek Dam (DRo, JR) and 1 at Fishing Creek (RDn), both 25 September.

Northern Harrier – earliest report in a non-breeding area was for 1 at Minor Clark 27 August (LM, NKBC).

Red-tailed Hawk – there were several reports of individuals of western races, all being included: ad. intermediate morph *harlani* in *Simpson* 12 October (DRo, CHo); ad. light morph *calurus* at Sauerheber 22 October (DRo); ad. dark or dark intermediate morph *calurus* at Homestead 31 October (DRo); ad. dark morph *harlani* in *Barren* 2 November (vt.DRo); ad. dark morph *calurus* at Shaker Mill and at Barren (latter for third consecutive winter), both 11 November (DRo); and ad. light morph *harlani* at the WKU Farm, *Warren*, for fifth consecutive winter beginning 18 November (DRo).

Golden Eagle – the only report was for a juv. over Pleasant Hill Church Road 12 November (BLi).

Merlin – there were slightly fewer reports this fall season, all being included: 1 at Mammoth Cave 24 September (TD); singles at Ky Dam and Smithland Dam 27 September (DRo); 1 at Burnside marina on Lake Cumberland, *Pulaski*, 27 September (RDn); 1 at Homestead 31 October (DRo); and 1 at Cox's Park, Louisville, 5 November (ph. EH, JB, PB).

Peregrine Falcon – there were an average number of reports, all being included: 1 at Shawnee Park 23 August (JB, PB, et al.) and 14 September (JB, PB, BBC); 1 on the Natcher Bridge over the Ohio River, *Daviess*, 30 August (DA); 1 at the Falls of the Ohio 1 September/9 October (BY, MWTr); 1 at St. Matthews 4/11 September (BW); 1 at the East Bend Power Plant, *Boone*, 10 Sep-

tember (LM); 1 near the Greater Cincinnati Airport, *Boone*, 4 October (LM); an ad. at Shaker Mill 9 October (DRo, JR); 1 at Garvin Brown 29 October (BW); 1 at Lexington 30 October (SM); and 1 on the Ohio River at Louisville 5 November (JB, PB, EH). A banded bird was present at Minor Clark from early September to mid-November (LH); it had been hacked at Red River Gorge in 2003 (AS).

King Rail – the only report was for 1 at Sauerheber 22 October (BW, DRo, KOS).

Virginia Rail – the only report was for 1 at Sauerheber 22 October (DRo, KOS).

Sora – earliest report was for 1 at Pond Creek Marsh, Sauerheber, 3 September (CC); latest report was for 3 at Sauerheber 22 October (DRo, KOS).

Purple Gallinule – a juv. with an injured wing was found near Sharkey, *Rowan*, 18 September (ph.TB et al.). It was observed by several others on subsequent days (ph.DRo, ph.RDn) and was last observed 25 September (ph.BP, AC, BY, MWTr, LP). KBRC review required.

Common Moorhen – there were reports of single birds from only two locations: Pond Creek Marsh, Sauerheber, 20/28 August (CC) and Lexington 24 September (SM).

Sandhill Crane – the species did not seem to be as numerous this fall, with no reports of unusually large numbers; there were, however, a much greater than normal number of reports along the e. side of the corridor (e. of Louisville to around Lexington); earliest report was for ca. 20 over Somerset, *Pulaski*, 18 October (JDn); peak counts were for 120 on the ground at Barren 21 November (DRo) and "hundreds" on the ground near Versailles, *Woodford*, 22 November (DRa).

Black-bellied Plover – only a few reports, all being included: 1 at Blood River 28 August (HC); 1 at Mitchell Lake 29 September (SR); 1 at the Falls of the Ohio 9 October (BY, MWTr); and 1 at Jonathan Creek 1 November (HC et al.).

American Golden-Plover – all reports are included: 1 at Fishing Creek 29 August (RDn); an ad. accidentally shot during a

dove hunt in s. *Casey* 1 September (fide BS); 4 at Horseshoe Road 4 September (CC) with 2 there 5 September (CC), 6 there 9 September (CC), and 1 there 18 September (CC); an ad. at Campbell Dikes 10 September (BP, AC); 7 at Mitchell Lake 13 September (AH); 1 at Blood River 26-29 September (HC); and 1 at Mitchell Lake 27 September (AH).

Semipalmated Plover – not numerous this fall; peak count was for 18 at Ky Bend 5 August (DRo).

Piping Plover – the only report was for an ad. just upstream from Laketon 17 August (ph.SR).

Killdeer – peak counts were for ca. 300 at Mitchell Lake 4 August (NR) and 250+ at Ky Bend 5 August (DRo).

American Avocet – there were two reports: 3 at a gravel pit at Petersburg, *Boone*, 13 August (LM) and 5 at Blood River 28 August (HC).

Greater Yellowlegs – latest reports were for 1 at Minor Clark 5 November (LH); 2 at Fishing Creek 6 November (RDn); and 1 in *Mercer* 12 November (RDn, SBC).

Willet – following the flurry of reports in July, there was only one report later in the season: 4 at Smithland Dam 4 August (DRo).

Spotted Sandpiper – latest report was for 3 at Fishing Creek 5 November (RDn).

Upland Sandpiper – the only report was for 1 at Ky Bend 5 August (DRo).

Marbled Godwit – 1 was at Jonathan Creek 25-26 September (ph.HC, ME). KBRC review required.

Sanderling – not numerous this fall, all reports being included: 1 molting ad. at Mitchell Lake 9 August (NR); 1 at Town Creek 25 August (SR); 3 juvs. at Laketon 29 August (BP, JDu); 1 at the Falls of the Ohio 31 August (BP et al.), 2 September (BY et al.), and 17 September (BY, MWrr); 5 at Island No. 1 and 1 at Campbell Dikes, both 10 September (BP, MS); 2 at Mitchell Lake 14 September (SR); and 1 at Jonathan Creek 13-14 October (HC).

Semipalmated Sandpiper – peak count was for 50+ upstream from Laketon 25 August (SR); latest report was for 1 at the Falls of the Ohio 9 October (BY, MWrr).

Western Sandpiper – following the flurry of July reports, the species was not numerous later, all reports being included: 7 at Ky Bend (DRo) and 1 at E.W. Brown (RDn), both 5 August; 1 at Mitchell Lake 9 August (NR); at least 5 upstream from Laketon 17 August (SR); 1 juv. at Little River 24 August (DRo) with 1 or 2 juvs. still there 10 September (BP et al.); 2 upstream from Laketon 10 September (BP, MS); 2 at Jonathan Creek 14 September (HC); 1 at Mitchell Lake 22 September (SR); 4 at Blood River 26 September (HC); and 1 at Blood River and 2 at Jonathan Creek, both 30 October (HC).

Least Sandpiper – peak counts were for 150 at Jonathan Creek 13-14 October (HC), 190 there 1 November (HC), and 150 still there 12 November (HC, ME), as well as 97 at Mitchell Lake 14 October (AH); as is now the norm, small numbers lingered at Jonathan Creek and at Blood River into December; a few birds also lingered late into the season at other locales including 3 at Minor Clark 12 November (LH) with 1 still there 19 November (LH) and 4 at Paradise 19 November (RDn, HC).



Marbled Godwit, *Marshall*
25 September 2005
Hap Chambers

White-rumped Sandpiper – the only report was for 1 at Little River 16 September (DRo).

Baird's Sandpiper – not numerous this fall, all reports being included: 1 at Mitchell Lake 4 August (NR); 2 at Laketon 29 August (BP, JDu); 1 at the Falls of the Ohio 31 August (BP et al.), with 3 there 5 September (BP, AC) and 1 there 7 September (BY, MWr); and 1 at Paradise 10 October (DRo).

Pectoral Sandpiper – peak counts were for 100 at Mitchell Lake 4 August (NR); 100 at Ky Bend 5 August (DRo); 350+ at Mitchell Lake 13 August (HC, ME); and 130 at Little River 24 August (DRo).

Dunlin – peak count was for 73 at Blood River 1 November (HC et al.).

Stilt Sandpiper – peak counts were for 12 at Mitchell Lake 9 August (NR) and 11 at Blood River 15 September (HC); also reported were 6 at Ky Bend 5 August (DRo); 2 at the Falls of the Ohio 21 August (T&CB); 1 at Fishing Creek 29 August and 23 September (RDn); 4 at Eddy Creek 10 September (BP et al.); 6 at Mitchell Lake 10 September (BP, MS) through 22 September (SR) with 7 there 29 September (SR); 1 at Minor Clark 20 September (BP, RDn); 6 at Blood River 26 September (HC); and 5 at Jonathan Creek 16 October (ME).

Buff-breasted Sandpiper – not many reports this fall, all being included: 2 adjacent to Lake No. 9 on 6 August (HC et al.); 1 at Ballard 18 August (SR) and 14 September (SR); 6 at Lake No. 9 on 21 August (JW); 4 at Little River 24 August (DRo); 1 at Paradise 26 August (DRo, AH); 1 at the Falls of the Ohio 5 September (BP, AC) with 3 there 11 September (BY, MY, MWr); and 3 at Fishing Creek 5-8 September (RDn).

Short-billed Dowitcher – there were only a few reports, all being included: 1 at Willow Pond, *Fulton*, (DRo) and 1 at Mitchell Lake (NR), both 4 August; and 1 at Ky Bend 5 August (DRo).

Long-billed Dowitcher – establishing a new late departure date was a bird seen and heard at Fishing Creek 30 November that lingered into early December (ph.RDn); other reports included 2 near Grassy Pond/Powells Lake 8 October (CC) and 1 at Van Buren 14/19 October (BW).

Wilson's Snipe – earliest report was for 3 at Mitchell Lake 9 August (NR); a count of 20 at Horseshoe Road 4 September (CC) was exceptional for early September; peak counts were for 100+ at Ballard 27 October (SR) and 80 at Cooley's Pond 26 November (RDn).

American Woodcock – likely fall migrants were reported as follows: 1 at Mitchell Lake 6 October (AH); 1 at St. Matthews 7 November (BW); 1 at Surrey Hills Farm 10 November (BP) with 2 there 17 November (BP); 1 at Garvin Brown (MWM) and 1 on the Cathy Crockett Trail (RDn), both 16 November.

Wilson's Phalarope – all reports are included: 1 at Mitchell Lake 13 August (HC, ME); 1 (same bird?) there 20/25 August (SR, AH); 2 at Town Creek 25 August (ph. SR); 2 at Mitchell Lake 27 August (AH); and 1 at Paradise 15 September (AH).

Red Phalarope – a molting juv. was present on the Ohio River at the mouth of the Licking River, *Campbell/Kenton*, 31 August (DB, ph.FR, ph.JDu). KBRC review required.



Red Phalarope (juv.), *Campbell/Kenton*
31 August 2005
Jon Dunn

phalarope sp. – a flock of 3-5 at Van Buren 31 August may have been Red-necks but were not seen well enough to confirm their identity (*AS).

Pomarine Jaeger – an intermediate morph juv. was present at Freeman Lake 3 November (RH, ph.BP, ph.DRo, et al.) to 7

November (DA, SK, JK). KBRC review required.



Pomarine Jaeger (juv.), *Hardin*
6 Nov 2005
David Roemer

Laughing Gull – although there were several reports from sites where the species is traditionally observed in late summer and fall, record numbers occurred after the passage of the remnants of Hurricane Katrina, and small numbers appeared to linger for some weeks afterwards; all reports are included: a juv. at Eddyville 24 August (DRo); a juv./first-year at Ky Dam (BP, JDu, DRo) and a first-year at Rochester (RDn, SDn), both 30 August; a juv./first-year at the Falls of the Ohio 31 August (BP et al.) with 2 juv./first-years there 1-3 September (BY, MWt) and 1 still there 5 September (BP, AC); a remarkable state-high flock of 10 at Freeman Lake—right along the path of Katrina—(RH) and 1 on Ky Lake near Kenlake SRP, *Marshall*, (HC), both 31 August; 1 at Barkley Dam, 2 at Smithland Dam, 1 on Lake Barkley at Green Turtle Bay marina, *Lyon*, and 4+ at Ky Dam, all 4 September (DRo, HC); 4 at Ky Dam and 3 at Smithland Dam 5 September (DRo); 1 on Ky Lake, *Calloway*, 9 September (HC et al.); an ad. at Little River 10 September (BP et al.); 5 at Smithland Dam 16 September (DRo) with 1 there 21 September (DRo); 2 at Wolf Creek Dam 25 September (DRo, JR); 3 at Waitsboro (first local record) 26 September (RDn) with 1 still there 27 September (ph.RDn); a record count in one day of 12 in the dams area (5 at Ky Dam; 5 at Smithland Dam; 2 at Bark-

ley Dam) 27 September (DRo); 2 at Smithland Dam 4 October (DRo); and a second-year bird at Barren (first local record) 24/25 October (ph.DRo).

Franklin's Gull – all reports are included: a first-year above Ky Dam 30 August (BP, JDu); a first-year at Smithland Dam 4 September (DRo, HC); a second-year at Smithland Dam 16 September (DRo); a first-year at Smithland Dam 27 September (DRo); a first-year at Jonathan Creek 4 October (DRo); 2 at Kuttawa 12 October (BP); and 3 ads. at the Falls of the Ohio 16 November (BP).

Bonaparte's Gull – earliest reports were for single ads. at Eddyville 24 August (DRo) and Smithland Dam 4 September (HC, DRo); peak counts were low and included ca. 100 on the Ohio River above Uniontown Dam, *Union*, 20 November (CC).

Ring-billed Gull – ca. 1500 were in the dams area by 24 August with 450-500 in the vicinity of Ky Dam alone (DRo); one of the larger groups away from the dams area was 400-500 on the Ohio River above Uniontown Dam, *Union*, 20 November (CC).

Herring Gull – 4 were already at Barkley Dam 24 August (DRo), with at least 12 ads. nearby at Green Turtle Bay marina, *Lyon*, by 30 August (BP, JDu); an ad. above Wolf Creek Dam 24 September (DRo) was relatively unusual for both the time and place.

Lesser Black-backed Gull – earliest report was for an ad. on Ky Lake near Ky Dam Village 21 September (DRo); with an ad. at Kuttawa 27 September/4 October (DRo); single ads. at Ky Dam Village beach and Kuttawa, both 13 October (BP, SDu, AM); and an ad. on Lake Barkley near Canton, *Trigg*, 24 November (KB).

Caspian Tern – as is becoming the norm, peak counts all came from n. Lake Barkley from the dam to Eddyville, where 250+ were counted 30 August (DRo) and 200+ were in the area 10/21 September (BP et al.) with 190+ still present 27 September (DRo) and 90-100 still there 4 October (DRo); other peak counts were for 12-15 at the Falls of the Ohio 31 August (BP et al.)

with 16 there 5 September (BP, AC) and 8 at Wolf Creek Dam 3 September (RDn).

Common Tern – occurrence peaked during the passage of the remnants of Hurricane Katrina; all reports are included: 20 at Fishing Creek 29 August (RDn); 75+ on n. ends of Ky Lake and Lake Barkley combined (DRo) and 60 at Rochester (RDn, SDn), both 30 August; 20-25 at the Falls of the Ohio (BP et al.); 3 at Taylorsville Lake, *Spencer* (AS); and 2 at Barren (DRo), all 31 August; 10 with 4 Forster's on Lake Cumberland, *Russell*, 24 September (LM, JCM, KC, et al.); and 10+ above Ky Dam and 10+ at Smithland Dam, both 27 September (DRo).

Forster's Tern – widespread in small numbers with other terns during late August and September; peak counts were for 100+ at Jonathan Creek 10 September (BP et al.); 110 at Ky Dam 27 September (DRo); and ca. 50 at Kuttawa and 85 above Ky Dam (75 in a raft on the water), both 12 October (BP).

Least Tern – late-season nesting continued into August, with juvs. observed at several locations including a small island near Monkey's Eyebrow, *Ballard*, where ca. 50 flying birds included juvs. and 3 as yet unfledged juvs. were still present 29 August (GB); a mixed gathering of ads. and juvs. numbering up to 25-30 birds was present relatively near to this site at Mitchell Lake into mid-September (m. ob.).

Black Tern – it was an excellent fall for the species; all reports are included: 2 at Mitchell Lake 13 August (HC, ME); 5 moving down the Ohio River at Dam #53, *Ballard*, 17 August (SR); 7 at Paradise 20 August (MS); 1 at Meng's Pond, *Warren*, 21 August (TD); 60-70 at Laketon (BP, JDu) and 14 at Fishing Creek (RDn), both 29 August; 2 on the Mississippi River opposite Lake No. 9 on 29 August (BP, JDu); 25 on the Ohio River near Grandview, IN, *Hancock/Daviess* (DA), 8-10 at the Falls of the Ohio (JB, PB, EH, et al.), 8 on the Ohio River at Newport (FR), several above Ky Dam (BP, JDu), 4 on Lake Barkley, *Trigg*, (DRo), and singles at Fishing Creek, Barren, and Paradise (RDn, SDn), all 30 Au-

gust; a loose flock of at least 66 birds at Markland Dam on the Ohio River, *Gallatin* (BP), 10 at E.W. Brown (RDn), 10 at Barren (DRo), and 2 at Newburgh Dam, *Henderson*, (MT, JHo) all 31 August; 14 at Barren 1 September (DRo); 1 at the Falls of the Ohio 3 September (BY, MWr); and 1 at Smithland Dam 27 September (DRo).

Eurasian Collared-Dove – the only reports of birds in new areas were 2 in Edmonton, *Metcalfe*, 30 September (SS, BP) and 5-10 n. of Morganfield, *Union*, throughout the season (CC).

Black-billed Cuckoo – the only report was for an imm. at Joe Creason 9 September (BW).

Yellow-billed Cuckoo – latest report was for 1 adjacent to J.J. Audubon SP, *Henderson*, 7 October (BP).

Barn Owl – 1 was observed at Ballard several times during the season (fide CW); 1 was found dead in a barn e. of Dry Ridge, *Grant*, in late September (fide SV).

Short-eared Owl – there were only 2 reports: a relatively early bird at Sauerheber 22 October (DRo, KOS) and 1 at Sinclair 28 November (BY, MWr).

Northern Saw-whet Owl – netting efforts at Surrey Hills Farm yielded captures of 3 birds 10 November and 2 birds 17 November (MMn, BP, et al.).

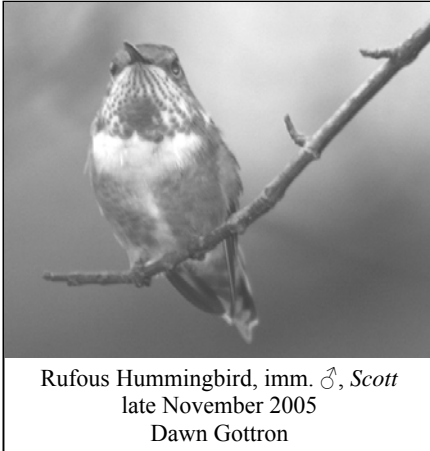
Common Nighthawk – an impressive flock of ca. 1000 birds was observed at Mt. Zion 31 August (RDn); latest reports were for singles at Elizabethtown, *Hardin*, 8 October (SK) and near Mark, *Pulaski*, 11 October (CN, WN).

Whip-poor-will – latest report was for 1 heard in *Anderson* 17 September (CL).

Ruby-throated Hummingbird – most birds departed by the end of the second week in October; latest report was for an injured bird at Shaker Mill to 11 November (JR).

Rufous Hummingbird – there were 6 reports during the season (a full summary will appear in the winter season report): an imm. m. banded near Ballardsville, *Oldham*, 2 October (ph.JDa; MMn, BP); an ad. m. banded at Corbin, *Knox*, 6 November

(J&MP, MMn, BP); an imm. m. banded ne. of Georgetown, *Scott*, (DG, MMn, BP) and an imm. f. banded in ne. *Jessamine*, (N&JN, MMn, BP), both 22 November; an imm. m. banded near Peytona, *Shelby*, 23 November (H&MG, MMn, BP); and an ad. m. captured just w. of Owensboro, *Daviess*, (previously banded in Princeton, IN, two weeks prior), 25 November (JHo, CHu, BP, AC).



Rufous Hummingbird, imm. ♂, *Scott*
late November 2005
Dawn Gottron

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker – earliest report was for 1 in sw. *Jefferson* 28 September (CL).

Olive-sided Flycatcher – the only reports were for singles near Lake No. 9 on 7 August (BY, MWr); at Shawnee Park 19 September (JB, PB, EH); in e. *Jefferson* 23 September (BW); and at Lake Cumberland SRP, *Russell*, 23 September (LAB).

Eastern Wood-Pewee – latest report was for 1 at Pulaski County Park 23 October (RDn).

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher – the only reports were for singles at Caperton 3 September (BY, MWr), 5 September (MS, MWM), and 17 September (BY).

Willow Flycatcher – 1 was still singing at Sinclair 7 August (BLi).

Least Flycatcher – earliest report was for 1 at Tom Sawyer 25 August (JB, PB, et al.).

Eastern Kingbird – latest report was for 1 at Hays Kennedy 12 September (BW).

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher – 2 were still in the vicinity of the nesting area near Grand Rivers, *Livingston*, 24 August (DRo) with 2 a couple of miles away below Barkley Dam 4 September (HC, DRo) and 1 last observed near the nesting area 16 September (DRo).

Loggerhead Shrike –1 at Cooley's Pond 21 September (RDn) was somewhat uncommon for *Wayne*.

Bell's Vireo – latest reports were for singles at Sinclair 7 September (BP, EC) and 8 September (DRo, RDv).

Yellow-throated Vireo – latest report was for 1 at Red River Gorge, *Powell*, 15 October (SM, RB).

Blue-headed Vireo – earliest report from a non-breeding area was 1 at Briarwood 27 September (JB, PB); latest report was for 1 at Ano 8 November (RDn).

Philadelphia Vireo – earliest report was for 1 at Caperton 3 September (BY, MWr); latest report was for 1 at Mammoth Cave 16 October (JB, PB, et al.).

Red-eyed Vireo – latest report was for 1 at Red River Gorge, *Powell*, 15 October (SM, RB).

Fish Crow – a noteworthy count of at least 100 was tallied near Laketon 17 August (SR).

Purple Martin – latest reports were for 5 over Caperton 17 September (BY, MWr) and a very tardy bird at Lake Cumberland SRP, *Russell*, 24 September (BP, KOS).

Tree Swallow – 100+ were still at Barren 24 October (DRo); 90 were still at Thurston's Pond 25 October (RDn); 60 were still at Fishing Creek 26 October (RDn).

Northern Rough-winged Swallow – latest report was for a very tardy bird in the lower Hickman Bottoms, *Fulton*, 28 November (vt.BY, MWr).

Barn Swallow – latest reports were for 1 at Van Buren 19 October (BW) and 2 at Thurston's Pond 25 October (RDn).

Cliff Swallow – latest reports were for an unspecified number at Jonathan Creek 7 October (ME) and singles at Lake Cum-

berland SRP, *Russell*, (BP, KOS) and in w. *Henderson* (CC), both 24 September.

Red-breasted Nuthatch – a few birds arrived earlier than average, but only a moderate flight resulted; earliest reports were for singles at Surrey Hills Farm 4/18 September (BP); singles (different birds) at Evergreen Cemetery, *Campbell*, 5/22 September (FR); 2 at the Lexington Cemetery 15 September (TH); 1 in *Knott* in mid-September (BG); and 1 at Pulaski County Park 28 September (RDn); the species was relatively widespread by mid-October (m. ob.).

Brown Creeper – earliest reports were for singles at Cold Spring Park, *Campbell*, 27 September (FR) and at Briarwood 28 September (JB).

House Wren – latest report was for 1 at Mt. Zion 6 November (RDn).

Winter Wren – earliest reports were for 1 banded at Frankfort 28 September (AS) and singles on the Cathy Crockett Trail (RDn) and at Briarwood (JB, PB), both 29 September.

Sedge Wren – there were an average number of reports, all being included: 2 at Sauerheber 2-20 August (CC); 1-2 at Clifty Pond 12 August (RDn); 1 at Green River WMA, *Adair*, 1 October (RDn); singles observed/heard at Surrey Hills Farm 1 October (BP), 2 October (BP), 20 October (BP), and 29/30 October (BP); 1 at Hays Kennedy 4 October (JB, PB, et al.) and nearby at Garvin Brown 9 October (BY, MWr) and 17 October (MWm); 1 at Big Bone Lick SP, *Boone*, 10 October (LM); 2+ including likely calls of fledglings nr. Sonora 11 October (BP, BD, SV); and at least 2 at Sauerheber 22 October (DRo, KOS).

Marsh Wren – all reports are included: 1 at Shaker Mill 17 September (DRo); 1 at Green River WMA, *Adair*, 1 October (RDn); 1 heard at Surrey Hills Farm 2 October (BP) with 2 there 3 October (BP); 1 at Paradise 10 October (DRo); 1 nr. Sonora 11 October (BP, BD, SV); 1 at Hays Kennedy 15 October (JB, PB, et al.); at least 3 at Sauerheber 22 October (DRo, KOS); and 1 at Sinclair 19 November (RDn, HC).

Golden-crowned Kinglet – earliest report was for a few at Berea College Forest 1 October (SM, RB).

Ruby-crowned Kinglet – earliest reports were for singles at Briarwood 27 September (JB, PB) and at Mt. Zion 29 September (RDn).

Swainson's Thrush – earliest reports were for singles at Gunpowder Creek (LM) and near Fisherville, *Jefferson*, (EH), both 4 September.

Wood Thrush – latest report was for 1 banded at Frankfort 12 October (AS).

American Robin – with abundant cedar berries and other fruits on trees, the species remained abundant through the season; a roost of 2500-3000 birds was noted near Seneca Park, Louisville, in early November (BW).

American Pipit – earliest reports were for singles at Dayton, *Campbell*, 25 September (FR) and Jonathan Creek 26 September (ME, HC); peak count was for 90 in *Warren* 18 November (DRo).

Cedar Waxwing – it was a good fall for the species, with numerous reports of sizable flocks of migrants, mostly in October and November; peak count was for 300+ in LBL 18 November (BLi).

Golden-winged Warbler – it was a good fall for the species with numerous reports, all being included: 1 at Shawnee Park 28 August (JB, PB, et al.); 1 at Mt. Zion 1 September (RDn); 1 at Joe Creason (BW) and 3 at Caperton (MS, MWm), both 5 September; 1 at Miles Park 7 September (BW); 1 at Caperton 9 September (JB, PB); 3 at Surrey Hills Farm (BP, AC) and singles at Caperton (BY, MW) and Miles Park (BW), all 17 September; 1 at Mammoth Cave 18 September (JB, PB, BBC); and 1 at Abraham Lincoln Birthplace, *Larue*, 22 September (JB, PB, et al.). The latest report—representing a new late departure date for the state—was for an imm. f. at Pulaski County Park 15 October (RDn, GC).

Brewster's Warbler – the only report was for 1 at Briarwood 7 September (JB).

Tennessee Warbler – latest reports included 1 at Long Run Park, *Jefferson*, 4 November (BW) and 2 at Caperton 6 November (BY, MWr).

Orange-crowned Warbler – earliest reports were for 1 at Briarwood 11 September (JB) and 1 in *Jefferson* 17 September (JB, PB); also reported were 1 found dead under a TV tower at Henderson, *Henderson*, 7 October (BP); 1 at Green River WMA, *Adair*, 9 October (SM); singles at Homestead (DRo) and LBL (BLi), both 10 October; 1 at Lake Cumberland WMA, *Pulaski*, 16 October (RDn); and 1 at Mt. Zion 30 October (RDn).

Nashville Warbler – earliest reports were for 1 at Caperton 23 August (JB, PB, et al.); singles at Mt. Zion (RDn), Joe Creason (CB), and Taylorsville Lake, *Spencer* (BW), all 1 September; and 1 at Shawnee Park 4 September (JB, PB, BBC).

Yellow Warbler – latest report was for 1 at Surrey Hills Farm 5 September (BP, AC).

Chestnut-sided Warbler – earliest reports were for 1 at Mt. Zion 22 August (RDn); 1 at Shawnee Park 23 August (JB, PB, et al.); and 1 at Briarwood 25 August (JB, PB).

Magnolia Warbler – earliest reports included singles at Shawnee Park and Caperton, both 23 August (JB, PB, et al.), and 2 at Tom Sawyer 25 August (JB, PB, EH).

Cape May Warbler – earliest reports were for singles at Shawnee Park 28 August (JB, PB, et al.) and at Surrey Hills Farm 5 September (BP, AC); latest report was for 1 at Blackacre 9 October (EH, BBC).

Black-throated Blue Warbler – there were a few reports, all being included: an imm f. banded at Frankfort 8 October (AS); an imm. m. banded at Frankfort 10 October (AS); and a f. on the Cathy Crockett Trail 18 October (RDn).

Yellow-rumped Warbler – earliest reports were for singles at South Williamson, *Pike*, 24 September (JCr); and at Briarwood 27 September (JB, PB).

Black-throated Green Warbler – latest report was for 1 at Caperton 5 November (MS).

Blackburnian Warbler – earliest reports were for 1 at Caperton 21 August (BY, MWr); 2-3 at Tom Sawyer 25 August (JB, PB, EH); and singles at Joe Creason (EH, BBC) and Caperton (BY, MWr), both 27 August.

Prairie Warbler – latest reports were for 1 at Berea College Forest 1 October (TH, ASK) and a very tardy bird at Cedar Creek Lake, *Lincoln*, 12 November (ph.RDn, SBC).

Palm Warbler – earliest report was for 1 at Surrey Hills Farm 17 September (BP, AC); latest reports were for singles at Garvin Brown 19 November (EH, BBC), Mt. Zion 22 November (RDn), and Sauerheber 26 November (BP, AC).

Bay-breasted Warbler – earliest reports included 1 at Mt. Zion 1 September (RDn) and singles at Middle Creek Park, *Boone*, (LM, NKBC) and Caperton (MS, MWm), both 5 September.

Blackpoll Warbler – there were two reports: 1 banded at Frankfort 15 October (ph.AS) and 1 on the Cathy Crockett Trail 18 October (*RDn); the latter represented a new late departure date for the state.

Cerulean Warbler – infrequently seen as a fall migrant, 1 at Caperton 21 August (BY, MWr) was of interest.

Worm-eating Warbler – latest report was for 1 at Shaker Mill 28 September (DRo).

Louisiana Waterthrush – relatively unusual for the time of year were singles at Shallow Flats, Cave Run Lake, *Rowan*, 7 August (DP) and Pumphouse Pond, *Pulaski*, 8 August (RDn).

Connecticut Warbler – there was one report of this rare fall migrant: 1 at Mammoth Cave 16 October (JB, PB, et al.).

Mourning Warbler – there were several reports, all being included: singles at Joe Creason 27 August (EH, BBC) and 1 September (CB); singles at Caperton (MS) and Shawnee Park (JB, PB, et al.), both 28 August; singles at Caperton 5 September (MS, MWm) and 17 September (BY, MWr); and 1 at Briarwood 29 September (JB, PB).

Common Yellowthroat – 1 adjacent to J.J. Audubon SP, *Henderson*, was rather late 26 November (BP, AC).

Hooded Warbler – latest reports were for an imm. at Blackacre 8 October (EH); an ad. f. banded at Frankfort 10 October (AS); and an ad. m. banded at Frankfort 12 October (AS).

Wilson's Warbler – earliest reports were for 1 at Joe Creason 27 August (EH, BBC) and 1 at Shawnee Park 28 August (JB, PB, et al.).

Canada Warbler – earliest reports were for 1 at Mt. Zion 22 August (RDn); 1 at Caperton 23 August (JB, PB, et al.); and 3-6 at Caperton 27 August (BY, MWr); latest report was for 1 at the Lexington Cemetery 18 September (TH).

Yellow-breasted Chat – latest report was for 1 at Tom Dorman SNP, *Garrard*, 21 September (BP).

Summer Tanager – latest report was for a f. at Murray, *Calloway*, 17 October (ME).

Spotted Towhee – the m. that has been present in w. *McCracken* the last two winters was found at the same spot 27 October (SR) and seen again 30 November (SR).

American Tree Sparrow – earliest report was for 1 at Bernheim Forest 26 November (EH, BBC).

Chipping Sparrow – a flock of 60 was still in w. *Pulaski* 1 November (RDn); 1 was still at Taylorsville Lake, *Spencer*, 19 November (BW); and at least 5 remained through November at Pleasant Hill Church Road (BLi, PL).

Clay-colored Sparrow – 2 were reported at Garvin Brown 15 October (*MWm). KBRC review required.

Vesper Sparrow – earliest report was for a very early individual at Bernheim Forest 17 August (*JB, PB, BBC); also reported during normal migratory period were 1 at Burlington, *Boone*, 8 October (LM); 1 at Ano 16 October (RDn); 1 at Garvin Brown 17 October (BW); 1 at Surrey Hills Farm 18 October (BP); 1 at Clifty Pond 30 October (RDn); 1 at Homestead and 2 at Sinclair, both 31 October (DRo); 2 at Boston 3 No-

vember (BP, AS); and 4 at Clifty Pond 6 November (RDn).

Savannah Sparrow – earliest report was for 1 at Fishing Creek 8 September (RDn).

Grasshopper Sparrow – latest reports included 1 at Ballard 29 September (SR); 2 at Sinclair 10 October (DRo); 6+ nr. Sonora 11 October (BD, BP, SV); and 1 at Mt. Zion 20 October (RDn).

Henslow's Sparrow – at least 7 were still in song at Clifty Pond 9 August (RDn) and 1 was still singing at Sinclair 7 September (BP, AC); latest reports were for 1 at Sinclair 10 October (DRo); 3+ at a breeding site nr. Sonora 11 October (BD, BP, SV); 1 at Sauerheber 22 October (DRo, KOS); and 1 at Clifty Pond 30 October (ph.RDn).

Le Conte's Sparrow – there were a few reports, all being included: a juv. at Hays Kennedy 15 October (JB, PB, et al.; ph. KT); at least 5 at Sauerheber 22 October (ph.DRo, KOS); and 1 at Boston 3 November (BP, AS).



Le Conte's Sparrow (juv.), *Jefferson*
15 October 2005
Kevin Thompson

Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow – there was an above-average number of reports this fall, all being included: 1 at Hays Kennedy 3-6 October (MWm) with perhaps a different bird there 16 October (BY et al.); 1 at Homestead 10 October (DRo); 2 at Boston 11 October (BP, BD); and an impressive peak count of at least 6 at Sauerheber 22 October (ph.DRo, KOS).

- Fox Sparrow** – earliest reports were for 1 at Mark, *Pulaski*, 16 October (CN); 2 at Clifty Pond 19 October (RDn) and 2 at Sauerheber 22 October (DRo, KOS).
- Lincoln's Sparrow** – earliest report was for 1 at Shaker Mill 27 September (DRo); latest report was for 1 at Clifty Pond 6 November (RDn).
- Swamp Sparrow** – earliest report was for 2 at Sauerheber 1 October (CC).
- White-throated Sparrow** – earliest reports were for unusually early birds at St. Matthews 6 & 12 August (BW); next earliest were singles at Gunpowder Creek 3 September (LM) and at Jefferson Memorial Forest, *Jefferson*, 2 October (BJ, BBC).
- White-crowned Sparrow** – earliest reports were for singles at St. Matthews 28 September (BW) and Horseshoe Bend, *Henderson*, 7 October (BP).
- Dark-eyed Junco** – earliest reports were for 1 at Wolf Creek Dam 24 September (DRo, JR) and 2 at Berea College Forest 1 October (SM, RB).
- Lapland Longspur** – earliest report was for at least 1 in *Warren* 18 November (DRo); also reported were 2 near Monkey's Eyebrow, *Ballard*, 29 November (SR) and 70+ in *Warren* 30 November (DRo).
- Rose-breasted Grosbeak** – earliest report was for 1 at Gunpowder Creek, which is not far from Middle Creek Park where the species has been found summering on a few occasions, 3 September (LM, NKBC).
- Blue Grosbeak** – latest report was for a family group at Miles Park 7 October (BW).
- Dickcissel** – latest report was for 1 at Ballard 10 September (BP, MS).
- Bobolink** – there were several reports including singles at Surrey Hills Farm 4 September (BP), 5 September (BP, AC), 17 September (BP), 1 October (BP), and 20 October (BP) with 1 lingering to 30 October (BP), a new late departure date for the state; also reported were 3 at Boston 11 October (BP, BD).
- Eastern Meadowlark** – 2 at Surrey Hills Farm 7 October (BP) had not been present in previous days and likely represent a typical early arrival date for fall migrants.
- Brewer's Blackbird** – earliest report was for a bird seen/heard at Sauerheber 22 October (DRo, BP, KOS); 2 along Schuler lane, sw. *Oldham*, 6 November (MWM) were the first in the Louisville area in several years; also reported was an impressive group of 53 near Oscar, *Ballard*, 20 November (BY, MWr) with 21 there 29 November (SR).
- Purple Finch** – a small to moderate flight occurred; earliest reports were for singles at Shaker Mill (DRo) and Surrey Hills Farm (BP), both 28 October.
- Pine Siskin** – there was only a modest flight documented; earliest reports were for singles at Sauerheber 22 October (DRo, KOS) and Mt. Zion 29 October (RDn).

Addition to Fall 2004 report:

- Clay-colored Sparrow** – 1 was noted with a flock of Chipping Sparrows in a yard near Hardin, *Marshall*, 5 November (*MI). KBRC review required.

Observers: David Ayer (DA); Lou Anne Barriger (LAB); Mary Bill Bauer (MB); Tom & Colleen Becker (T&CB); Jane Bell (JB); Pat Bell (PB); Carol Besse (CB); Tom Biebighauser (TB); David Brinkman (DB); Karon Broadbent (KB); Rhonda Bryant (RB); Gerald Burnett (GB); Joe Caminiti (JCm); Kathy Caminiti (KC); Granville Carey (GC); Joan Carr (JCr); Hap Chambers (HC); Elizabeth Ciuzio (EC); Amy Covert (AC); Charlie Crawford (CC); Lloyd Curry (LC); Brian Davidson (BD); John Davidson (JDa); Julie Denton (JDn); Roseanna Denton (RDn); Steve Denton (SDn); Robert Dever (RDv); Shauna Dunham (SDu); Jon Dunn (JDu); Tom Durbin (TD); Melissa Easley (ME); Les Estep (LE); Bett Etenohan (BE); Alan Goldstein (AG); Rod Goforth (RG); Brad Goodrich (BG); Dawn Gottron (DG); Heidi & Mark Gregg (H&MG); Lana Hays (LH); Richard Healy (RH); Amber Heramb (AH); Carter Hooks (CHo); Ian Horn (IH); Tim Houghton (TH); Janet Howard (JHo); Eddie Huber (EH); Jennifer Huber (JHu); Cathie

Hutcheson (CHu); Marshall Iliff (MI); Bob Johnson (BJ); Linda King (LK); Janet Kistler (JK); Steve Kistler (SK); Mike Larimore (ML); Celia Lawrence (CL); Betty Leggett (BLE); Ken Leggett (KL); Bill Lisowsky (BLi); Paula Lisowsky (PL); Alice Mandt (AM); Scott Marsh (SM); Lee McNeely (LM); Mark Monroe (MMn); Mike Morton (MMr); Connie Neeley (CN); Wendell Neeley (WN); Nell & John Newton (N&JN); Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. (BP); David Patrick (DP); Larry Peavler (LP); June Ann & Michael Perkins (J&MP); Nicole Ranalli (NR); Diana Ratliff (DRa); Scott Record (SR); Frank Renfrow (FR); David Roemer (DRo); Joan Roemer (JR); Adam Smith (AS); Bob Snow (BS); Stephen Stedman (SS); Matt Stickel (MS); David Svetich (DS); Kevin Thompson (KT); Marilee Thompson (MT); Jackie Van Willigen (JV); Shawchyi Vorisek (SV); Mary Walter (MWr); Major Waltman (MWm); Charlie Wilkins (CW); Jeff Wilson (JW); Barbara Woerner (BW); Ben Yandell (BY); Mike Yandell (MY); Audubon Society of Kentucky (ASK); Beckham Bird Club (BBC); Ky Ornithological Society (KOS); Northern Ky Bird Club (NKBC); Somerset Bird Club (SBC).

MID-WINTER BIRD COUNT

2005-2006

Reports of 28 counts and one partial count were received from across the Commonwealth. A total of 140 species was recorded on count days with two additional species reported during count week only. Seventeen species were observed on all counts, and seventeen species were observed on only one count during count days.

Temperatures were fairly mild on average throughout the count period, with a slight dip during December 20 and 21. The low temperature was 8°F at Otter Creek 20 December 20 and the high temperature 64°F at Ballard County 27 December. The pattern of temperatures was much like last year's pattern. The variety and number of waterfowl were also similar to last year's. Cackling Geese were observed again this year. After a steady increase for several years, Wild Turkey numbers were down by almost half. The number of American White Pelicans was also down considerably. Raptor numbers were similar to last year's numbers. Gull numbers were also much lower compared with last year's. It was good to see the number of Red-headed Woodpeckers increase approximately three times compared with last year's number. The presence of abundant food crops, cedar berries, and mast accounted for dramatically increased numbers of some species, such as Blue Jays, Cedar Waxwings, and Yellow-rumped Warblers. Blackbird numbers were off this year. Nice finds for the count were numerous and included Great Egrets (Land Between the Lakes), American Bittern (Paradise), Merlin during the count week (Wayne County), Virginia Rails (Paradise), Rufous Hummingbirds (Louisville and Lexington), Blue-headed Vireo (Green River Lake), Sedge Wrens (Ballard County), Marsh Wrens (Paradise and Somerset), Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (Lexington), Mourning Warbler (Land Between the Lakes), Spotted Towhees (Hart County and Kentucky portion of Mermet, IL), Grasshopper Sparrow (Paradise), Vesper Sparrow (Calloway County), and Indigo Bunting (Somerset).

Thanks to the many observers and compilers who participated in this year's count. Also, thanks to compilers who submitted documentation for unusual species to the editor and to the Kentucky Bird Records Committee. Records of species unusual for the count do not constitute official records until reviewed by the Kentucky Bird Records Committee.

Ballard County (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center as described 1984). Habitat as described in 1984. Dec 27; 5:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. CST; Sky mostly cloudy. Temp. 31° to 64°F; wind S 5-20 m.p.h. Water open.

Two observers in one to two parties. Total party hours 16 (6 on foot, 10 by car). Total party-miles 122 (2 on foot, 120 by car). Hours owling 1.75. Total species 87; total individuals 56,082.

Observers: Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. (compiler) and Scott Record.

The species total was lower this year mostly due to two factors: lower level of participation and lower number of waterfowl species. Highlights were a flock of American White Pelicans, 5 species of geese, 2 Sedge Wrens in different locations on and adjacent to the West Kentucky WMA, McCracken County, and at least 2 Le Conte's Sparrows on the Ballard WMA. The male Spotted Towhee, observed earlier in the month where it had been present on the previous year's count, could not be found on count day. Red-headed Woodpecker numbers were back up from a near absence the previous winter. Mast (acorns and hickory nuts) and berries (most notably sugarberry fruits) appeared to be in good supply. One of the Red-tailed Hawks was a light morph *B. j. calurus*.

Calloway County (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Douglas Cemetery.) Habitat 20% lake shoreline and streams, 35% open fields, 30% urban and residential, and 15% deciduous and pine woods. Dec. 31; 5:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sky clear; temp. 39° to 52°F; wind SW, 4-9 m.p.h.

Seven observers in four parties. Total party-hours 26.5 (4.0 on foot, 22.5 by car). Total party-miles 174.5 (2.5 on foot, 172.0 by car). Total species 92; total individuals 6,944.

Observers: Hap Chambers (compiler), Kathy Cohen, Joe Tom Erwin, Kathy Mowery, Carl Mowery, Charles Mercer, and Wendell Webb.

There were 5 adult and 2 immature Bald Eagles.

Land Between the Lakes (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Pisgah Bay picnic ground.) Habitat as described in 1984 in *American Birds*. Dec. 17; 6:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sky partly cloudy to cloudy; temp. 28° to 47°F; wind, NW, 8-10 m.p.h.

Twenty observers in seven parties. Total party-hours 52 (10 on foot, 42 by car). Total party-miles 382 (11 on foot, 371 by car). Total species 92; total individuals 16,644.

Observers: Jami Caroll, Karen Clement, Bobby Deggendorf, Joe Tom Erwin, Donald Gladdis, Adam Green, Heather Guilderson, Patrick Holcomb, Bill Lisowsky, Paula Lisowsky, Carl Mowery (compiler), Kathryn Mowery, John Polpeter, Darrin Samborski, Wendell Webb, Kelly Wehrheim, Amy White, Daniel White, Steve White, and Aviva Yasgur.

There were 18 adult and 14 immature Bald Eagles counted this year. The Great Egrets had been hanging around in the area for several weeks before the count, usually in their group of three. The Mourning Warbler was a fantastic find in the Jonathan Creek area, near the airstrip. This bird was very sharply colored and behaved just the way a Mourning Warbler should. I got to see this bird for about 60-90 seconds as it jumped about in a clump of brush. After it dropped back into the grass and lower brush, it never appeared again.

Sorgho (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Hwy. 279-S and Audubon Parkway intersection.) Habitat river, river bottoms, woods, corn field, and county park. Dec. 17; 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Sky clear; temp. 33°F; wind calm.

Seven observers in four parties. Total party-hours 20.5 (6.0 on foot, 14.5 by car). Total party-miles 232.5 (3.5 on foot, 229.0 by car). Total species 49; total individuals 6,029.

Observers: Pat Augenstein, Joe Ford, Mike Henshaw, Janet Howard (compiler), Ken Hurm, Mary Kissel, and Charles Morris.

Olmstead (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center at the junction of Ky 1041 and Ky 1151.) Habitat approximately 75% is cultivated farmland. The remaining habitat includes blocks of deciduous woods, fencerows, pasture, grown-up fields, developed areas, and open water. Dec. 27; 6:45 a.m. to 4:45 p.m., with 1 hour 10 minutes owling. Sky mostly clear with brief periods of partly cloudy; temp. 27° to 63°F; wind, S, 0-23 m.p.h.

Three observers in two parties, with one feeder watcher. Total party-hours 18.25 (5.00 on foot, 13.25 by car). Total party-miles 180.8 (3.0 on foot, 177.8 by car). Total species 75; total individuals 6,440.

Observers: Mark Bennett (compiler), Frank Lyne, and David Roemer. Feeder watcher: Alison Lyne.

Previous weather had been unseasonably warm allowing most bodies of water to remain unfrozen. Shallow bodies had a thin sheen of ice and associated muddy shores were frozen. However, unseasonably dry weather led to very few potholes and low water levels in some ponds. The warm windy weather reduced bird numbers available for observation. For the second consecutive time, two parties were utilized and a record number of species was recorded. A Greater Scaup, Red-breasted Nuthatch, and a Red-shouldered Hawk were recorded for the first time in this count. Other nice records for this count included 580 American Pipits, 2 Greater White-fronted Geese, 5 Wood Ducks, 4 Eastern Phoebes, and a Brown Thrasher.

Paradise (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center as described 1993). Habitat as described in 1993. Jan 1; 5:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. CST. Mostly cloudy. Temp. 29° to 60°F; wind S 5-15 m.p.h. Water open.

Nine observers in six parties. Total party hours 48.50 (23.75 on foot, 24.75 by car). Total party-miles 194 (17 on foot, 177 by car). Hours owling: 4.5. Total species 96; total individuals 27,641.

Observers: Mary Bill Bauer, Mark Bennett, Amy Covert, Roseanna Denton, Steve Denton, Brainerd Palmer-Ball, Jr. (compiler), Matt Stickel, Major Waltman, and Barbara Woerner.

The species total set a new count record, eclipsing the old one of 95 attained in 1998-1999. The biggest gaps in the day list were for waterfowl (with several species of dabbling and diving ducks missing). Rarity highlights included a Ross's Goose and Greater White-fronted Geese in Ohio County; an American Bittern and at least 3 Virginia Rails at the same marshy areas in Muhlenberg County where they have been reported on previous counts; two flocks of Sandhill Cranes; 2 Marsh Wrens in marshy vegetation on the Gibraltar Mine; at least 2 Le Conte's Sparrows in widely separated areas in Muhlenberg County; and a count-first Grasshopper Sparrow in the company of a flock of Savannah Sparrows on the Gibraltar Mine. The total of only 2 Short-eared Owls represents the lowest number ever tallied for this count. One of the Red-tailed Hawks was a light morph *B. j. calurus*.

Bowling Green (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Three Springs, 6 miles south of Bowling Green.) Habitat deciduous woods 20%, fields and pastures 60%, and town and parks 20%. Dec. 21; 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Sky sunny to partly cloudy; temp. 15° to 42°F; wind SW 7 m.p.h.

Six observers in three parties. Total party-hours 25.5 (6.0 on foot, 19.5 by car). Total party-miles 202 (4 on foot, 198 by car). Total species 70; total individuals 10,112.

Observers: Lester Doyle, Blaine Ferrell (compiler), Ian Mason, McKenzie Mason, Wayne Mason, and David Roemer.

Glasgow (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center as described in 1986.) Habitat as described in 1986. Dec. 31; 6:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. Sky overcast to partly cloudy to overcast; temp. 36° to 55°F; wind WSW 5-10 m.p.h.

Three observers in three parties. Total party-hours 21.75 (13.00 on foot, 8.75 by car). Total party-miles 122 (9.5 on foot, 112.5 by car). Total species 57; total individuals 1,490.

Observers: Marquita Gillenwater, Wayne Mason (compiler), and Billie Mae Moore.

Mammoth Cave National Park (Center and habitat as described in 1980). Dec. 18; 6:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Sky clear to partly cloudy; temp. 29° to 42°F; wind N, 5 m.p.h.

Three observers in two parties. Total party-hours 17 (5 on foot, 12 by car). Total party-miles 115.5 (5 on foot, 110.5 by car). Total species 50; total individuals 1,867.

Observers: Blaine Ferrell (compiler), Albert Meier, and Wayne Mason.

An excellent, close up view of an adult Bald Eagle at First Creek was the highlight of the count. The weather couldn't have been any nicer.

Otter Creek Park (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center as described 1972). Habitat as described in 2001. Dec 20; 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Cloudy; temp. 8° to 32° F; wind WSW 0-10 m.p.h. Water mostly frozen.

Five observers in three parties. Total party hours 20 (4 on foot, 16 by car). Total party-miles 164.5 (2.0 on foot, 162.5 by car). Total species 68; total individuals 14,611.

Observers: Mary Bill Bauer, Jane Bell, Pat Bell, Eddie Huber, and Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. (compiler).

The species count was slightly below average for this count. Highlights of the day included two count-firsts found in rural farmland northeast of Flaherty: a flock of 25 Eurasian Collared-Doves sitting with Mourning Doves in a tree out in the middle of a large cornfield and a Le Conte's Sparrow in the company of a large group of Savannah Sparrows in a low area with an abundance of foxtail and weeds. Other nice finds included a Palm Warbler and several small groups of Purple Finches. Perhaps thousands of American Robins were followed to a roost site south of Brandenburg in the evening. Doe Valley Lake had most of the waterbirds. The Bald Eagle was observed at its nest on the Indiana shoreline of the Ohio River. A good supply of natural food crops appeared to be responsible for a return to more-normal numbers of Blue Jays and berry-eaters.

Bernheim Forest (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center as described 1974). Habitat as described in 1974. Dec 23; 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Mostly clear; temp. 32 to 54°F; wind SW 5-20 m.p.h. Water partly open.

Seventeen observers in five parties. Total party hours 32.50 (15.75 on foot, 16.75 by car). Total party-miles 200 (8 on foot, 192 by car). Total species 71; total individuals 10,274.

Observers: Bonnie Avery, Mary Bill Bauer, Bruce Bardin, Jane Bell, Pat Bell, Dona Coates, Amy Covert, Bill Friel, Carol Friedman, Paul Hagar, Eddie Huber, Celia Lawrence, Aurilla Lesley, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. (compiler), Mitch Sturgeon, Shawchyi Vorisek, and Barbara Woerner.

The species count was slightly above average thanks mostly to above-average coverage. Highlights of the day included a Ross's Goose with Canada Geese near Boston, a flock of 23 Mute Swans on Lake Nevin, 2 adult Bald Eagles and 2 Golden Eagles at their traditional area along the Forest's southern boundary, 8 Eastern Phoebes, and at least a dozen Chipping Sparrows with a mixed flock of sparrows near Lebanon Junction. The Blue Jay total was back up to relatively normal (390) after tallying only ONE the previous year. Natural food crops were in good supply—especially cedar fruits—so berry-eating species were also back up to normal numbers.

Louisville (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Jct. hwy 42 and 22, as described in 1972.) Habitat as described in 1972. Dec. 18; 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sky partly cloudy to cloudy; temp. 28° to 40°F; wind N, 7 m.p.h. Water partly open.

Thirty-four observers in 10 parties. Total party-hours 79.25 (32.25 on foot, 47.00 by car). Total party-miles 387 (22 on foot, 365 by car). 1.75 hours feeder-watching; 6.75 hours and 29.5 miles owling. Total species 87; total individuals 53,404.

Observers: Garrett Adams, Win Ahrens, Mary Bill Bauer, Tom Becker, Jane Bell and Pat Bell (compilers), Carol Besse, Sandy Brue, Anne Caudill, Dona Coates, Colleen Craven-Becker, Rod Goforth, Charles Hatten, Mark Hornback, Eddie Huber, Jennifer Huber, Bob Johnson, Frank Krull, John Krull, Aurilla Lesley, Fred Mansmith, Doxie Noonan, Bill Parsley, Martha Pike, Janice Raia, Tim Ritter, Jeff Sells, Carol Stallard, Jack Still, Scottie Theiss, Mary Walter, Major Waltman, Barbara Woerner, and Ben Yandell.

The 34 participants counted 87 species on a mild day with light winds and partly cloudy sky. Our total individual count was high due to a large number of European Starlings in the count area. Unexpected finds were a Short-eared Owl in southern Indiana and 2 Tundra Swans that flew over Caperton Swamp Nature Preserve. This is the second

year in a row that we have had a Rufous Hummingbird in the count circle. Thanks to all who took part in the Louisville count.

Shelbyville (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center 0.75 miles south of U.S. 60 and Guist Creek Lake on KY 714.) Habitat elevation 640°-1190°, farm-land, fallow land, suburban, wooded and grassland. Dec. 31; 7:50 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Sky partly cloudy early, sunny after that. 35° to 48°F; wind S, 20 m.p.h.

Eight observers in three parties. Total party-hours 33 (3 on foot, 30 by car). Total party-miles 275 (2 on foot, 273 by car). Total species 42; total individuals 2,887.

Observers: Heather Brown, Iris Brown, Joan Brown, Savannah Brown, Seth Brown, Todd Brown, W.H. Brown (compiler), and Cathy King.

For some reason birds were somewhat scarce.

Hart County (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center corner of Craddock Road and Jagers Lane.) Habitat rural farmland and wooded areas, including Green River and 100 Acre Pond. Dec. 19; 6:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sky clear; temp. 21° to 30°F; wind light and variable.

Eleven observers in three parties. Total party-hours 12 (7 on foot, 5 by car). Total party-miles 102 (3 on foot, 99 by car). Total species 65; total individuals 3,085.

Observers: Bonnie Avery, Bruce Bardin, John Brittain, Lisa Brittain, Carol Friedman, Dan Givens, Janet Kistler, Steve Kistler (compiler), Cap Middleton, Mitchell Sturgeon, and Randy Sullivan.

The Spotted Towhee was a new species record for this count. It was observed before and after the count date, but not on December 19.

Upton (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center 0.5 miles south of Hilltop or 5 miles southwest of Millerstown, eastern Grayson County.) Habitat is woodland, farmland, river and Nolin Reservoir. Dec. 30; 6:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sky mostly cloudy; temp. 35° to 42°F; wind W, 5-10 m.p.h.

Nine observers in one party. Total party-hours 11 (5 on foot, 6 by car). Total party-miles 75 (2 on foot, 73 by car). Total species 60; total individuals 11,538.

Observers: Bonnie Avery, Bruce Bardin, John Brittain (compiler), Lisa Brittain, Carol Friedman, Dan Givens, Janet Kistler, Steve Kistler, and Tony Smith.

Green River Lake (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Green River Memorial Baptist Church, Taylor County, Kentucky.) Habitat old fields, agricultural fields and borders, second growth forest, Green River riparian areas, open water, including Green River Lake and Campbellsville City Lake. Dec. 28; 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sky cloudy; temp. 50° to 58°F; wind 5-40 m.p.h. Thunderstorms with lightning and hail.

Four observers in three parties. Total party-hours 21 (10 on foot, 11 by car). Total party-miles 128 (5 on foot, 123 by car). Total species 76; total individuals 4,234.

Observers: Lloyd Curry (compiler), Roseanna Denton, Richie Kessler, and Brainard Palmer-Ball. Feeder watcher: Betty Wilcoxson.

The weather was variable with a lot of wind, rain, lightning and hail. There were very few waterfowl on Green River Lake. The highlight of the count was the Blue-headed Vireo observed with a mixed-species flock of small passerines in a forested area near the dam.

Frankfort (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center 38°N by 84°W.) Habitat as described in 1977. Dec. 17; 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sky cloudy to partly cloudy; temp. 24° to 43°F; wind ENE, 0-5 m.p.h.

Thirteen observers in eight parties, plus two at feeders. Total party-hours 37.00 (18.25 on foot, 18.75 by car). Total party-miles 246 (25 on foot, 221 by car). Total species 58; total individuals 3,823.

(continued on page 30)

2005-2006 Mid-winter Bird Count	Ballard County	Calloway County	Land Between the Lakes	Sorgho	Olmstead	Paradise	Bowling Green	Glasgow	Mammoth Cave Nat. Park	Otter Creek Park	Bernheim Forest	Louisville
Greater White-fronted Goose	1200	-	-	-	2	5	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ross's Goose	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
Snow Goose	6800	8	-	-	-	13	-	-	-	-	-	17
Canada Goose	4100	280	331	151	171	781	320	-	-	16	1112	1514
Cackling Goose	1	1	-	-	-	-	7 cw	-	-	-	-	-
Mute Swan	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	23	3
Tundra Swan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Wood Duck	9	2	-	-	5	2	-	-	-	-	-	35
Gadwall	125	69	349	-	4	49	4	-	34	-	17	66
American Wigeon	100	-	19	-	-	4	-	-	-	1	-	19
American Black Duck	10	4	3	10	4	18	11	-	27	-	-	13
Mallard	4000	189	307	51	80	407	266	-	5	59	94	870
Blue-winged Teal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Shoveler	50	18	54	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Northern Pintail	100	-	6	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Green-winged Teal	20	8	94	6	-	11	-	-	-	-	5	8
Canvasback	1	-	157	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
Redhead	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Ring-necked Duck	8	252	25	-	-	147	3	7	-	-	2	591
Greater Scaup	-	12	509	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Lesser Scaup	10	50	4651	-	-	1	6	-	-	-	-	13
Bufflehead	-	17	223	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	9
Common Goldeneye	-	30	78	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hooded Merganser	105	25	124	-	-	1	-	5	-	-	-	28
Common Merganser	-	8	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-breasted Merganser	-	-	30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ruddy Duck	1	58	51	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
duck species	-	-	450	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ruffed Grouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wild Turkey	14	-	-	-	4	6	51	-	2	3	67	-
Northern Bobwhite	16	1	2	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Loon	-	1	3	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pied-billed Grebe	-	14	34	-	2	55	cw	1	-	4	2	16
Horned Grebe	-	5	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Double-crested Cormorant	-	11	207	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	39
American White Pelican	10	254	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Bittern	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Blue Heron	19	52	179	8	7	32	16	7	1	3	6	52

Shelbyville	Hart County	Upton	Green River Lake	Frankfort	Kleber WMA	Danville	Lexington	Burlington	Warsaw	Falmouth	Richmond	Somerset	Wayne County	Natural Bridge	Dewey Lake	Mermet Lake (KY portion)	Total
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1207
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
-	-	-	-	1	-	-	3	-	-	-	5	-	1	-	-	-	6848
311	50	96	180	548	69	424	1683	203	782	35	269	126	238	-	-	-	13790
-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	cw	-	-	-	1	7	-	-	-	40
-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
-	10	cw	1	-	-	9	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	75
-	-	-	-	-	-	13	43	-	6	-	1	25	120	-	7	-	932
-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	14	-	23	-	-	-	182
-	3	-	2	3	-	8	1	24	39	9	9	6	12	-	-	-	216
1	81	25	60	136	-	1096	712	65	361	7	353	255	358	-	-	-	9838
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
-	-	-	-	2	-	-	12	-	2	-	49	cw	-	-	-	-	188
-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	109
-	-	-	-	-	-	11	-	-	-	-	12	-	21	-	-	-	196
-	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	3	9	3	-	2	-	-	-	194
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	13
-	-	-	11	-	-	3	3	-	-	-	26	13	11	-	-	-	1102
-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	527
-	-	-	15	-	-	-	1	-	7	1	45	-	-	-	1	-	4801
-	-	-	30	-	-	2	25	-	-	-	6	2	5	-	-	-	321
-	-	-	1	-	-	-	4	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	122
-	-	-	26	-	-	-	225	7	6	-	2	39	11	-	-	1	605
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	31
-	-	-	2	-	-	-	56	-	-	-	5	2	1	-	-	-	178
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	450
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	4
-	94	29	-	-	65	8	9	8	52	55	13	-	11	cw	-	-	491
-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	-	-	1	16	-	-	-	-	46
-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	2	-	1	-	20
-	-	-	18	-	-	-	10	-	2	34	1	20	6	-	11	-	230
-	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	-	-	-	30
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	262
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	284
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
8	5	7	8	19	1	15	50	10	16	4	9	16	11	-	6	1	568

2005-2006 Mid-winter Bird Count	Ballard County	Calloway County	Land Between the Lakes	Sorgho	Olmstead	Paradise	Bowling Green	Glasgow	Mammoth Cave Nat. Park	Otter Creek Park	Bernheim Forest	Louisville
Great Egret	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black-crowned Night-Heron	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Black Vulture	-	22	-	-	39	34	cw	8	-	16	7	20
Turkey Vulture	-	69	-	-	35	6	2	2	2	10	8	38
Bald Eagle	17	7	32	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	2	-
Northern Harrier	4	1	-	1	1	21	cw	-	-	4	1	3
Sharp-shinned Hawk	2	-	-	-	-	2	cw	1	1	-	6	4
Cooper's Hawk	cw	-	-	-	2	3	3	-	1	1	3	14
<i>Accipiter</i> species	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Red-shouldered Hawk	7	8	12	-	1	8	-	1	1	2	13	24
Red-tailed Hawk	21	9	12	27	16	26	22	2	2	17	11	44
Rough-legged Hawk	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Golden Eagle	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
American Kestrel	16	11	4	38	33	23	25	2	-	29	22	14
Peregrine Falcon	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Virginia Rail	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Coot	-	150	1371	-	-	75	25	-	-	6	-	8
Sandhill Crane	-	-	-	-	-	18	-	-	-	-	-	-
Killdeer	9	235	75	2	9	22	21	4	-	-	28	16
Wilson's Snipe	2	-	3	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
American Woodcock	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Least Sandpiper	-	19	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dunlin	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bonaparte's Gull	20	565	728	-	-	-	-	14	-	-	-	-
Ring-billed Gull	250	360	1740	-	-	3	1	346	-	-	-	397
Herring Gull	1	8	62	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Thayer's Gull	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lesser Black-backed Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rock Pigeon	10	15	47	5	57	12	733	37	-	43	34	1305
Eurasian Collared-Dove	-	8	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	25	-	-
Mourning Dove	61	180	12	96	187	126	475	26	4	51	81	579
Barn Owl	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eastern Screech-Owl	3	1	-	-	2	7	-	-	-	-	1	6
Great Horned Owl	-	2	-	-	cw	13	1	-	-	-	-	8
Barred Owl	5	2	1	1	2	6	1	-	-	-	-	-
Short-eared Owl	-	-	-	-	cw	2	-	-	-	-	-	1
Rufous Hummingbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Belted Kingfisher	1	6	11	2	6	16	3	2	-	1	3	18

Shelbyville	Hart County	Upton	Green River Lake	Frankfort	Kieber WMA	Danville	Lexington	Burlington	Warsaw	Falmouth	Richmond	Somerset	Wayne County	Natural Bridge	Dewey Lake	Mermet Lake (KY portion)	Total
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
37	1	34	12	165	88	5	250	32	-	2	1	39	20	3	-	-	835
13	5	179	7	49	88	28	85	15	-	-	4	12	16	cw	-	-	673
-	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	1	2	-	1	1	-	-	-	69
-	1	3	1	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	-	4	1	55
cw	2	cw	-	1	-	-	3	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	25
1	1	3	1	2	-	8	9	3	3	3	4	4	4	-	-	1	74
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	-	-	6
1	-	9	1	-	10	-	3	-	-	2	2	5	1	-	-	1	112
23	10	5	7	22	-	37	12	11	13	13	26	25	10	cw	2	8	433
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	6
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
33	15	17	28	3	14	33	29	7	16	16	55	65	54	cw	2	2	606
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
-	-	-	30	1	-	2	48	1	29	19	16	1	8	-	6	-	1796
-	75	6 cw	-	cw	-	70	3	-	65	-	96	-	7	-	-	-	334
cw	11	6	5	5	-	1	8	1	7	3	8	32	13	-	5	-	526
-	3	-	-	-	-	1	5	-	-	-	1	9	4	-	-	-	31
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
-	-	8	29	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	27	313	-	-	-	1714
-	-	1	833	-	-	37	12	200	540	200	-	40	33	-	-	130	5123
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	78
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
46	12	9	113	360	14	571	678	-	75	75	11	227	10	-	9	3	4511
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	37
236	308	224	157	82	65	445	337	89	61	206	208	400	87	3	15	40	4841
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
-	1	-	-	-	-	-	cw	-	2	-	1	4	4	-	-	-	32
-	2	cw	-	1	-	2	2	-	3	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	38
-	1	cw	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	3	3	cw	-	-	26
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
1	1	3	3	12	2	3	10	4	7	2	2	8	4	2	1	-	134

2005-2006 Mid-winter Bird Count	Ballard County	Calloway County	Land Between the Lakes	Sorgho	Olmstead	Paradise	Bowling Green	Glasgow	Mammoth Cave Nat. Park	Otter Creek Park	Bernheim Forest	Louisville
Eastern Towhee	21	19	29	3	15	54	20	2	10	23	22	10
Spotted Towhee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Tree Sparrow	8	14	1	-	-	14	-	-	-	2	-	9
Chipping Sparrow	-	1	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	12	2
Field Sparrow	46	60	36	11	7	64	67	26	5	69	105	33
Vesper Sparrow	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Savannah Sparrow	15	7	-	-	18	62	84	-	3	65	1	cw
Grasshopper Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Le Conte's Sparrow	2	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-
Fox Sparrow	5	2	2	-	1	9	-	2	5	3	3	-
Song Sparrow	63	38	36	24	36	422	80	27	35	107	159	254
Swamp Sparrow	52	11	29	-	11	325	23	-	4	6	31	10
White-throated Sparrow	175	171	370	4	52	236	213	117	247	70	301	228
White-crowned Sparrow	17	9	-	17	18	33	23	-	2	51	33	2
Dark-eyed Junco	31	164	1506	21	34	248	82	23	194	185	390	289
Lapland Longspur	-	-	-	-	12	-	4	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Cardinal	54	106	96	36	72	208	126	38	23	69	119	362
Indigo Bunting	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-winged Blackbird	6000	46	8	81	600	7430	106	45	1	-	12	29
Eastern Meadowlark	56	19	43	67	126	58	93	6	-	30	40	29
Rusty Blackbird	104	-	20	1	110	58	-	-	28	31	-	81
Common Grackle	25000	149	36	2820	150	12707	-	-	-	2	2212	394
Brown-headed Cowbird	1100	-	30	205	200	19	200	45	-	-	-	70
Purple Finch	-	-	6	-	7	5	-	2	30	23	14	6
House Finch	1	28	1	10	6	32	35	10	-	20	31	265
Pine Siskin	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Goldfinch	35	12	70	20	15	99	102	32	42	50	146	276
House Sparrow	32	24	15	114	84	26	34	13	-	135	63	273
Date of Count	D27	D21	D17	D17	D27	J01	D21	D31	D18	D20	D23	D18
Number of Species	87	92	92	49	75	96	70	57	50	68	71	87
Number of Individuals	56082	6944	16644	6029	6440	27641	10112	1490	1867	14611	10274	53404
Number of Observers	2	7	22	7	3	9	6	3	3	5	17	34

Shelbyville	Hart County	Upton	Green River Lake	Frankfort	Kleber WMA	Danville	Lexington	Burlington	Warsaw	Falmouth	Richmond	Somerset	Wayne County	Natural Bridge	Dewey Lake	Mermet Lake (KY portion)	Total
-	5	6	9	4	1	7	14	26	7	11	5	42	23	2	3	8	401
-	cw	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
-	-	-	2	10	1	6	2	40	23	-	1	-	-	5	-	-	138
-	-	-	-	3	-	4	3	-	-	-	13	-	6	-	40	-	87
-	4	4	46	16	3	18	5	31	18	17	23	128	26	3	2	5	878
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
-	-	1	3	-	-	-	10	4	5	-	-	23	10	-	-	-	311
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
-	-	cw	-	4	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	5	-	-	1	-	45
10	82	20	133	108	18	49	47	81	80	67	92	201	96	-	30	6	2401
-	6	1	35	2	-	6	1	7	4	5	1	14	6	-	8	5	603
7	23	23	94	68	-	47	334	74	50	47	41	229	104	48	56	59	3488
55	81	2	10	54	2	116	78	28	19	2	23	58	43	1	-	1	778
40	28	191	65	145	47	22	131	90	59	164	91	135	118	7	23	20	4543
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16
49	14	19	81	168	12	226	296	94	108	76	109	244	84	8	16	23	2936
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
-	500	506	-	-	-	-	1	1	5	-	-	12	15	-	-	30	15428
6	13	48	7	2	24	26	7	13	11	6	47	103	79	-	3	1	963
-	10	35	-	-	-	11	-	-	100	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	595
-	19	3100	1	-	-	20	19	-	2	-	3	5255	3	-	1	4150	56043
-	4	-	-	4	-	-	1	6	18	-	7	-	-	-	1	1	1911
-	cw	14	61	2	-	10	3	-	5	8	-	12	6	-	-	-	214
1	6	14	37	44	-	124	118	11	51	14	43	149	53	-	23	-	1127
-	-	-	-	4	-	2	-	-	-	-	4	1	-	-	-	-	11
30	51	100	49	129	59	106	155	92	104	26	120	136	72	19	20	-	2167
137	100	12	45	137	2	98	198	52	44	54	25	63	54	-	5	-	1839
																	-
D31	D19	D30	D28	D17	D31	D17	D17	D31	D17	J02	D17	D31	D20	D17	D29	D31	
42	65	60	76	58	42	66	81	61	72	61	74	84	86	36	49	47	140
2887	3085	11538	4234	3823	1203	6622	11418	3694	4213	2996	4165	13428	6365	412	664	5183	297468
8	11	9	4	13	4	26	45	9	5	5	11	15	7	7	2	2	301

Observers: Terry Anderson, Joan Brown, Martha Buckwald, Margaret Derryberry, Jim Durrell, Jim Fries, Peggy Gould (compiler), Pat Hankla, Scott Hankla, Virginia Honaker, Jeff Jones, Joel Jones, Robert Laurenson, Susan Laurenson, and Tim Williams.

[A Nashville Warbler reported during count week is under review by the KBRC – ed.]

Kleber Wildlife Management Area (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center 38°N by 84°47'W) Habitat as described in 1972. Dec. 31; 8:15 a.m. to 5:15 p.m. Sky cloudy; temp. 28° to 48°F; wind WSW, 8-20 m.p.h..

Four observers in two parties. Total party-hours 13 (0.5 on foot, 12.5 by car). Total party-miles 129.5 (0.5 on foot, 129.0 by car). Total species 42; total individuals 1,203, plus 4 Ring-necked Pheasants, probably escapees from a game farm.

Observers: Joe Burgess, Peggy Derryberry, Jim Durrell, and Peggy Gould (compiler).

Danville (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Boyle County Court-house.) Habitat as described before. Dec. 17; 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Sky partly cloudy in a.m. to clear in p.m.; temp. 30° to 40°F.

Twenty-six observers in nine parties. Total party-hours 46.25 (11.75 on foot, 34.50 by car). Total party-miles 378.5 (12.5 on foot, 361 by car). Total species 66; total individuals 6,622.

Observers: Joe Amburgey, Ernie Baird, J.P. Brantley, Jane Brantley, Bill Garriott, JoAnn Hamm, Michael Hamm, Jamie Hester, Paula Hill, Tom Kearns, Bill Kemper, Debbie Larkin, Gail Manning, Mark Morgan, Sam Morgan, Eric Mount, Jack Newton, Amelia Nichols, John Nichols, Don Pelly, Rob Pendency, Rose-Marie Roessler, Judy Ross, Ralph Schiefferle, Rob Stamps, Charles Vahlkamp, and Maynard Van Horn. Compiled by Neil Eklund.

Lexington (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center East Hickman Church on Tates Creek Road.) Habitat urban, farm and pasture, woodland, river and pond mixture. Dec. 17; 6:00 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Sky clear to partly sunny; temp. 24° to 43°F; wind 0-3 m.p.h..

Forty-five observers in 13 parties. Total party-hours 85 (17 by foot, 68 by car). Total party-miles 507.5 (22.5 by foot, 485.0 by car). Total species 81; total individuals 11,419.

Observers: Tom Barnes, Tim Bernardi, Susanne Bhatt, Thad Bishop, Earl Boggs, John Bottom, Howard Bowden, Marie Bowden, Rose Canon, Ariana Combs, Chris DeMoll, Edward DeMoll, Phyllis Deal, David Fine, Mike Flynn, Sara Henderson, Kevin Hopper, Doreen Jezek, Allen Kingsland, Andy Klapper, Katie Knowles, Van Knowles, Teri Koontz, Betty Maxson (compiler), Dan Morris, Robert L. Morris, Kay Neikerk, Nell Newton, Brian Perry, Susan Pollack, John Poundstone, Mary Poundstone, David Powers, Joe Pulliam, Glenn Raleigh, Alicia Rodrian, Tami Sanderson, Lew Shain, Marie Sutton, Rea Swan, Dave Svetich, Susie Svetich, Jackie Van Willigen, Jim Williams, and Bernice Wood.

Burlington (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center near Camp Michaels.) Habitat as described in 1992. Dec. 31; 6:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Sky overcast; temp. 37° to 44°F; wind W, 5-10 m.p.h. All water was open.

Nine observers in four parties. Total party-hours 29 (7 on foot, 22 by car). Total party-miles 157 (4 on foot, 153 by car). Total species 61; total individuals 3,694.

Observers: Linda Altevers, Vivian Brun, Joe Caminiti, Kathy Caminiti, Lee McNeely (compiler), Gayle Pille, Janet Scanlon, Carmen Schulte, and Tommy Stephens. Feeder watchers: Tom Compte, Kurt Fromme, Marjorie Hill and Lynda McNeely.

Rock Pigeon was missed for the first time in count history. The House Wren was seen in the Big Bone area.

Warsaw (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Gallatin County Court-house.) Habitat as described in 1992. Dec. 17; 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Sky clear to partly cloudy; temp. 23° to 36°F; wind SSW, 0-6 m.p.h. Ohio River open, most other water frozen.

Five observers in three parties. Total party-hours 22 (7 on foot, 15 by car). Total party-miles 157 (3 on foot, 154 by car). Total species 72; total individuals 4,213.

Observers: Joe Caminiti, Kathy Caminiti, Ed Groneman, and Lee McNeely (compiler), and Tommy Stephens.

Waterfowl diversity was above average. Noticeable by their absence were both vulture species.

Falmouth (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center near Caddo, Ky.) Habitat 50% woodland and forest edge, 25% river and lake shoreline, 20% agricultural, and 5% residential. Jan. 2; 6:30 a.m. to 5:45 p.m. Sky partly cloudy; temp. 50° to 61°F; wind SW, 0-10 m.p.h. Water open.

Five observers in three parties. Total party-hours 20.5 (4.0 on foot, 16.5 by car). Total party-miles 158 (2 on foot, 156 by car). Total species 61; total individuals 2,996.

Observers: Rhonda Bryant, Ed Groneman, Scott Marsh, Lee McNeely (compiler), and Tommy Stephens.

Both Bald Eagles and the Peregrine Falcon were seen in the vicinity of Meldahl Dam. The House Wren was found in rural farmland east of Falmouth.

Richmond (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center 0.75 miles north of intersection of Bobtown Road and the Kingston-Berea Road). Habitat: fencerows and roadsides (20%), woodland (20%), pasture and open fields (55%), lawns (4%), lakes and ponds (1%). Dec. 17; 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Sky partly cloudy; temp. 37° to 54°F; wind, calm.

Eleven observers in seven parties. Total party-hours 30 (5 on foot, 25 by car). Total party-miles 294.8 (4.5 on foot, 290.3 by car). Total species 74; total individuals 4,165.

Observers: Sarah Asher, Rebecca Bates, Jacqueline Bennett, Paul Hager, Sarah Martin, Erin O'Brien, Nicole Ranalli, Art Ricketts, Tina Ricketts, Brandon Ritchison, and Gary Ritchison (compiler).

Somerset (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center junction of Bypass Hwy. 80 and Hwy. 39.) Habitat as described in 2000. Dec. 31; 5:45 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Sky partly clear to clear; temp. 49° to 67°F; wind SW, 0-25 m.p.h. All water open.

Fifteen observers in six parties. Total party-hours 54.50 (11.75 by foot, 42.75 by car). Total party-miles 418.5 (5.5 on foot, 413.0 by car). Total species 84; total individuals 13,428.

Observers: Judy Brant, Jean Brickell, Rhonda Bryant, Granville Cox, Roseanna Denton (compiler), Steve Denton, Kimberly Feltner, Gay Hodges, James Kiser, Scott Marsh, Linda McClendon, Lynda Mills, Tom Mills, Arlene Morton, and Stephen Stedman. Feeder watchers: Irene Broyles, Julie Denton, Jo Ann Digby, Grace Floyd, Floyd Halcomb, Susan Huffman, Dottie Kinnamon, Joe Richards, Hazel Spears, Pauline Vault, and Dee Whitis.

[One of the American Black Ducks included on the table was actually a hybrid American Black Duck x Mallard – ed.]

Wayne County (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Junction Hwy. 1275 and 3106.) Habitat as described in 2002. Dec. 20; 5:45 a.m. to 5:45 p.m. Sky clear; temp. 16°F to 38°F; wind variable, 0-5 m.p.h. Still water mostly frozen, running water mostly open.

Seven observers in four parties. Total party hours 36 (11.5 on foot, 24.5 by car). Total party-miles 337 (1.5 on foot, 335.5 by car). Total species 86; total individuals 6,365.

Observers: Jean Brickell, Terry Campbell, Roseanna Denton (compiler), Gay Hodges, Arlene Morton, Stephen Stedman, and Jason Troyer.

Natural Bridge State Park (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Whittleton Branch Trailhead.) Habitat: mostly mixed mesophytic forest, some roadside fields, some streambanks. Dec 17; 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sky partly cloudy to sunny; temp. 30° to 45°F; wind SSW, 8 m.p.h.

Seven observers in three parties. Total party-hours 20 (15 on foot, 5 by car). Total party-miles 40 (10 on foot, 30 by car). Total species 36; total individuals 412.

Observers: George Hardebeck, Patricia Hartman, Mary Seeger, Marty Simione, Nancy Sullivan, Noelle Theres and Zeb Weese (compiler).

Dewey Lake (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Dewey Lake, approximately UTM 17 347811E 4175855N (WGS84/NAD83).) Habitat is lake, golf course, strip mine, open fields, and northern hardwoods. Dec. 29; 8:00 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. Sky overcast to very rainy; temp. 29° to 41°F; wind 0-5 m.p.h. Lake not frozen this year.

Two observers in one party. Total party-hours 7 (2 on foot, 5 by car). Total party-miles 31 (1 on foot, 30 by car). Total species 49; total individuals 664.

Observers: Chris Evans and Troy Evans (compiler).

Mermet Lake (KY portion) (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center 37°12'N, 88°45'W in Massac Co, IL). A portion of this circle extends south into McCracken County, KY, and those results are included in the summary table. Dec. 31; 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Variable sky; temp 36° to 50° F; light winds.

Two observers in two parties. Total party-hours: 10.5 (3.5 on foot, 7 by car). Total party-miles 58 (3 on foot, 55 by car). Total species 47; total individuals 5183.

Observers: Frank Bennett (compiler) and Andrea Douglas.

HURRICANE-RELATED BIRDS IN KENTUCKY – SUMMER 2005

Mark Monroe, Donald Morse, Jr., Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.,
David Roemer, Mary Walter, and Ben Yandell

It is likely that 2005 will serve as a benchmark for Kentucky ornithological record-keeping for many years due to the occurrence of several noteworthy pelagic rarities that appeared during the passage of the remnants of two tropical cyclones, Hurricane Dennis in mid-July and Hurricane Katrina in late August. These storms were both quite powerful when they struck the Gulf Coast of the United States, imparting massive amounts of damage from winds and storm surge. Their fury extended into the mid-south region, where both dissipated, but not before depositing a number of pelagic species either never or seldom seen that far inland. A summary of these storms' histories and their attendant fallout of avian vagrants in Kentucky follows.

Hurricane Dennis

The tropical wave that spawned Dennis formed in the Atlantic Ocean during the first few days of July. It reached Tropical Storm status in the eastern Caribbean 5 July and strengthened rapidly to a Category 4 hurricane as it proceeded west-northwestward, skirting the southern coast of Cuba 7-8 July. After crossing western Cuba, it entered the eastern Gulf of Mexico 9 July, reintensified, and shifted to a more north-northwesterly track, making landfall as a Category 3 hurricane at the extreme western end of the Florida panhandle near the Alabama state line on the afternoon of 10 July. Overnight the storm weakened rapidly but continued north-northwest during the daylight hours of 11 July; the center of the depression reached far western Kentucky during the evening hours of 11 July (20 miles [32 km]) south of Paducah at 2200 CDT). The lack of steering currents present at that time resulted in the low pressure system stalling in southern Illinois during 12 July, and it moved little over the next three days, slowly meandering northeast, then east, and back to the southwest across southern Illinois and Indiana. The system finally dissipated when an eastward moving frontal boundary picked it up, resulting in a rapid exit to the northeast 17-18 July (all information above from National Hurricane Center 2005a and Hydrometeorological Prediction Center 2005a).

With far western Kentucky right along the path of the center of lowest pressure, it appeared that the large reservoirs and the lower Ohio River would be the most likely sites

for pelagic waifs to appear. On the morning of 12 July, Monroe and Roemer were the first to arrive at Kentucky Dam; winds were blustery from the southwest with intermittent light to moderate rain showers. Soon after first-light it became apparent that the storm had brought with it pelagic waifs, as within only a few minutes an adult Sooty Tern (*Sterna fuscata*) was in view and within a half-hour, a loose flock was milling about over the northern end of Kentucky Lake. It was difficult to keep track of the birds as they periodically disappeared into the wind-driven mist and rain showers, but at one point in the early morning, both Roemer and Monroe detected at least seven large, dark terns during independent scans of the lake. In retrospect, these scans may have included an unidentified dark tern discussed below, so the maximum count of confirmed Sooty Terns obtained 12 July was decreased by one. It is very possible, and perhaps likely, that more individuals were present, but the maximum count of six was never repeated during subsequent observations. Early in the morning, with viewing conditions poorest, the distinction between adults and juveniles was not always clear, but it eventually became evident that all but one or two were adults. The Sooty Terns were never observed resting on the water, shoreline, or debris, but always in flight, typically at 10-50 ft (3-15 m) above the water, but occasionally much higher.

While scanning for birds at about 0800 CDT, Roemer found a small shearwater flying low over the water, some 0.25 to 0.5 miles (0.4 to 0.8 km) above the dam on the eastern side. Monroe and Palmer-Ball were able to locate the bird, as it alternately flew and sat on the water, slowly approaching the dam from the south. It came within 0.25 miles (0.4 km) before returning south and disappearing into the mist and fog. All aspects of the bird were consistent with Audubon's Shearwater (*Puffinus lherminieri*). Its upperparts were rather uniformly dark sooty-brown. The underparts of the body were white except for the undertail coverts, which were dark but somewhat lighter than the upperparts. The underwing was largely dark, but with a relatively narrow region of light (whitish) color in the mid-linings. The dark on the face extended below the eye. The bill and feet appeared dark. The tail was relatively long, and the wings were not excessively long. No other bird was ever observed close to the shearwater for size comparison, but all observers considered the bird to be smallish for a shearwater. Palmer-Ball, who had had extensive experience with Audubon's from numerous trips off North Carolina, considered it typical in coloration and flight behavior for that species.

About an hour later, presumably the same bird was noted a second time, this time flying parallel to the dam from the east within 50 ft (15 m) of it. As the bird passed very close to the easternmost pull-off on the dam, Roemer was able to obtain some video of the bird (see cover and p. 40) as Monroe and Palmer-Ball studied its field marks more closely. Reviews of images by authorities familiar with eastern North American shearwaters have corroborated the field identification. Moreover, this record appears to be only the second for interior North America, the only other record occurring at Lanmark, Ontario, 8 September 1975 (Godfrey 1986).

Throughout the late morning and mid-day, Sooty Terns were almost always in view from the dam with up to four or five still present late in the afternoon. During the course of the day, various observers fanned out to other observation points in the vicinity, but nearly all of the pelagic bird activity remained at the northern end of Kentucky Lake just above the dam. In fact, the only bird observed at another location was an adult Sooty Tern seen by Roemer and Monroe in the late morning on northern Lake Barkley southeast of the Green Turtle Bay marina.

With dreary weather continuing for several days, Sooty Terns lingered in the vicinity, and the following observations were reported subsequent to 12 July. On 13 July, Roemer and others observed up to four (three adults and a juvenile) from Kentucky Dam and at least two and possibly three adults over the Ohio River below Smithland Dam, Livingston County (a location that, unfortunately, was not checked 12 July). On 14 July, Roemer and others observed five Sooties (four adults and a juvenile) above Kentucky Dam, where three

adults were last observed 15 July by Roemer and Scott Record. On a few occasions during this period, Roemer observed the juvenile bird sitting on the water for brief periods. He was successful in obtaining video of two of the adults and a juvenile 12 July, but the best images of an adult were obtained 13 July (see p. 40).

The only other location in Kentucky that yielded a pelagic bird from Hurricane Dennis was the Ohio River, Campbell County, near New Richmond, Ohio, where Morse observed an adult Sooty Tern for about five minutes at about 1900 EDT on the evening of 12 July. This bird was seen quite well as it flew downstream to the north, allowing study of the blackish upperparts contrasting with white underparts, light forehead, and dark bill.

One of the most intriguing observations at Kentucky Dam on 12 July was a bird that will likely remain unconfirmed, but that was observed reasonably well on at least two occasions by Roemer, Monroe, Palmer-Ball, and perhaps others. The bird was a nearly or completely all-dark tern that was thought to be a juvenile or sub-adult Brown Noddy (*Anous stolidus*). On its closest pass, sometime during the mid-morning, all three observers believed they detected no light feathering in the undertail and non-white underwing linings. Moreover, all detected a distinct carpal bar, noticeably lighter than the rest of the upperwing, a feature that possibly eliminates juvenile Sooty Tern from consideration. Determination of the shape of the tail was inconclusive. Unfortunately, the best observations were brief, and retrospective analysis suggests the prudent stance is to consider the identification unconfirmed. Weather conditions and distance did not allow for photography of this bird, but notes on its field marks and behavior have been filed in personal archives by Roemer and Palmer-Ball.

Non-pelagic birds observed during the passage of the remnants of Dennis that were probably grounded southbound migrants included two Marbled Godwits (*Limosa fedoa*) at Kentucky Dam on 12 July by Yandell, Monroe, and others; a remarkable number of Willets (*Catoptrophorus semipalmatus*) at scattered localities 12-18 July, including peak counts of 22 at the Falls of the Ohio and 15 at Kentucky Dam 13 July; an above-average number of reports of adult Western Sandpipers (*Calidris mauri*); a few Laughing Gulls (*Larus atricilla*) (probably not driven north by the hurricane); and a few Common Terns (*Sterna hirundo*) and Black Terns (*Chlidonias niger*) (Palmer-Ball and McNeely 2005).

Hurricane Katrina

The tropical depression that subsequently evolved into one of the most destructive hurricanes in United States history formed over the southeastern Bahamas 23 August. The depression soon developed into Tropical Storm Katrina as it moved slowly northwestward and then rapidly strengthened to a Category 1 hurricane as it turned westward and crossed the southern tip of Florida overnight 25-26 August. Once it entered the Gulf of Mexico, the storm reorganized, deepened in intensity, and began a gradual turn towards the northwest. Between 26 and 28 August, Katrina underwent two periods of rapid intensification and became a Category 5 hurricane with an abnormally extensive wind field by late in the day 28 August. During 29 August, the storm weakened somewhat as it neared the coasts of Louisiana and Mississippi but still dealt its now infamous blow on a nearly due-north track, striking the coast during the morning of 29 August as a strong Category 3 storm. Katrina continued to move northward across Mississippi during 29 August, and it was downgraded to a tropical depression during the early morning of 30 August, about the time it arrived at the southern border of Tennessee. During the morning of 30 August, the remnants of the storm continued to move north-northeastward across west-central Tennessee and into Kentucky with the center of circulation passing somewhere in the vicinity of Russellville, Logan County, around mid-day. The remnants of Katrina gradually picked up speed, and by late afternoon the system was centered near Louisville and became extratropical as it continued northeastward; during 31 August, the low pressure was absorbed within a frontal zone over the eastern Great Lakes and rapidly dissipated (all information above from National Hurricane Center (2005b) and Hydrometeorological Prediction Center (2005b)).

Numerous pelagic rarities were documented from scattered localities across the eastern United States during the passage of the remnants of Hurricane Katrina. Just before dawn on the morning of 30 August, remnants of the storm were centered near the convergence of the state boundaries of Alabama, Mississippi, and Tennessee, some 120 miles (192 km) to the south of Kentucky. Pickwick Lake and environs, where the center of circulation was located about an hour before sunrise, experienced one of the most concentrated fallouts of hurricane-borne rarities ever documented in the interior of the United States. In contrast, Kentucky reports were limited to the observation of Band-rumped Storm-Petrels (*Oceanodroma castro*) at two locations.

On the morning of 30 August light to heavy rain showers and moderate winds were present across western Kentucky, making observation conditions difficult. Throughout the day, rain spread north and east, with the worst conditions in north-central Kentucky during the afternoon. Across south-central Kentucky, precipitation was intermittent, but winds were persistent and gusty. By afternoon, most of the rain had exited western Kentucky, but skies remained cloudy.

During much of 30 August, Roemer watched for hurricane-borne birds at various locales in the Kentucky Dam-Barkley Dam-Smithland Dam area, also stopping briefly at other spots on Lake Barkley including overlooks at Kuttawa and Eddyville, Lyon County, and near Canton, Trigg County. Although small groups of terns and a few Laughing Gulls were observed at several locations, no birds clearly of coastal or pelagic origin were observed. Several other observers were also out during the day at a variety of locations across central Kentucky including the Falls of the Ohio at Louisville, Taylorsville Lake, Lake Cumberland, Barren River Lake, and the Green River corridor in Ohio and Muhlenberg counties. Unfortunately, results of their efforts were similar—an above-average fallout of terns and a few Laughing Gulls, but no definitely coastal or pelagic species observed.

On the morning of 31 August, weather conditions had improved with all precipitation having ended and skies beginning to clear. Yandell and Walter were at the Falls of the Ohio at Louisville, Jefferson County, early in the morning when they located a storm-petrel flying back and forth over the rapids below McAlpine Dam. Over the course of approximately 45 minutes of study, they were able to compare the bird to field guide images and look closely for distinguishing characters noted in the guides. The storm-petrel flew with steady wing beats, alternatively gliding for short periods on slightly bowed wings and only a few times settling on the water to rest. The bird was all dark (blackish) other than a white patch that extended completely across the rump and a lighter, golden or light brownish carpal bar on the upper wings. The tail was not forked, even appearing squared off, and the feet did not protrude beyond the tips of the rectrices. The underwings appeared to be entirely dark. This combination of characters clearly identified the bird as a Band-rumped Storm-Petrel. Yandell obtained some video that shows a discernible storm-petrel foraging over the water, but specific identification remains confirmed only through the observation of field marks and resulting written descriptions. Palmer-Ball arrived just in time to observe the bird for perhaps a minute or so, flying low over the water and resting on the surface. It floated out of sight behind some trees and was inexplicably never observed again. It was assumed that the bird either continued to float downstream or departed by flying downstream.

On the morning of 1 September, Palmer-Ball retrieved from voice mail a message from Mike Larimore, superintendent of the Frankfort Fish Hatchery, northern Franklin County, saying that he had observed two storm-petrels in poor condition on ponds at the hatchery for most of the previous day (31 August). He had, in fact, picked up one of the two birds in a state of exhaustion and kept it in his possession for a time, but when he noticed the second bird, he returned the first to the edge of the pond where the second was seen. A visit to the hatchery 1 September yielded no observations of a live bird, but the remnants of one were present along the shore of the pond where Larimore had placed it the day before.

It was presumably located and eaten by a predator during the night. Palmer-Ball retrieved the front of the head (including nearly intact bill), one relatively intact wing, and several rectrices. Measurement of these parts yielded the following data: wing 6.1" (155mm); exposed culmen ca. 0.5" (12.5 mm) as measured from feathers at dorsal point of base of upper mandible to tip or ca. 0.55" (14 mm) as measured from base of gape to tip (due to the odd shape of storm-petrel bills, this measurement is difficult to obtain); tail (based on average length of two rectrices from tip to the base of the most basal veins) 28.75" (73 mm). All of these measurements clearly place the bird well within normal values for Band-rumped, but although they are greater than similar measurements for Wilson's Storm-Petrel (*Oceanites oceanicus*) and smaller than similar measurements for Leach's Storm-Petrel (*Oceanodroma leucorhoa*), they would not necessarily rule out an extremely large female Wilson's or a small male Leach's. Another character appears to confirm the identity of the bird as Band-rumped, however; two of the three rectrices are white on the basal third, a character that appears to be diagnostic for Band-rumped (Roberson 2005). The "specimen" represents the second collected in Kentucky and will eventually be submitted to the U.S. National Museum for curation. Larimore's description of the second storm-petrel would suggest it also was a Band-rumped, but in the absence of detailed description, it must be regarded as unidentified.

The only other birds clearly brought inland by the remnants of Katrina were Laughing Gulls, which although somewhat regular in Kentucky during late summer, were observed in record numbers and at several new locales during and after late August. In fact, the only bird probably driven north by the storm that was observed in Kentucky 30 August was a juvenile Laughing Gull found on the Green River at Rochester, Ohio County, by Roseanna Denton. Most remarkable among numerous reports of Laughing Gulls was a flock of at least 10 at Freeman Lake, Hardin County, observed by Richard Healy on the morning of 31 August but likely deposited there late 30 August.

Other than specific pelagic or coastal species, the passage of Katrina grounded a number of southbound migrant waterbirds. As noted previously, a large number of terns, especially Common and Black terns, were observed 30 August–1 September. A Red Phalarope (*Phalaropus fulicarius*) molting out of juvenile plumage was observed at the mouth of the Licking River, Campbell/Kenton counties, across the river from Cincinnati, Ohio, 31 August by David Brinkman and Frank Renfrow. The bird was photographed by Renfrow and Jon Dunn. Also of interest was the fact that Laughing Gulls appeared to linger in the region for a few weeks, with abnormally large numbers still observed in western Kentucky during late September. Of specific interest was Roemer's tally of at least 12 birds in the tri-dam area 27 September (five at Kentucky Dam, five at Smithland Dam, two at Barkley Dam). Although late September is a time when Laughing Gulls appear regularly in western Kentucky, it would seem that the large number of birds was probably related to the passage of Katrina.

Summary

The summer of 2005 saw the passage of the remnants of two major hurricanes through Kentucky. Although fallouts of coastal and pelagic species from each storm were more impressive to the south, the assemblage of rarities that was observed in the Commonwealth represents the most significant ever documented. Although both storms entered the state from the south and crossed northeastward, they were vastly different in character. The remnants of Dennis were moving slower and in the absence of steering winds, lingered over the general region for several days. In contrast, Katrina arrived about a day sooner after landfall and was influenced by steering currents that quickly carried it out of the region.

It is believed that most pelagic waifs become "trapped" within the relatively calm region of the eye of landfalling hurricanes, and once the storm begins to wind down and the eye closes in, these birds remain disoriented until barometric pressure rises and winds calm to about the level of a tropical depression. Until that time, most birds either continue to be

driven along by prevailing winds or perish. This may in part be responsible for the overall lack of significant reports of pelagic species that often occurs within the initial period following landfall, as well as for the dearth of reports for most species once the system becomes extratropical. That being said, widely distributed reports of frigatebirds subsequent to the passage of the remnants of Katrina are a testament to the great distances to which some strong-flying species can end up as a result of such an event. With most birds having an affinity for water, it is not surprising that most storm waifs are found on water bodies, but each bird's level of stamina likely determines how successful it is in surviving, and some are found dead or exhausted far from water. Another trend that seems borne out by these two tropical systems is that most waifs are distributed along and to the east of the center of the deteriorating circulation. With both Dennis and Katrina, however, there were exceptions to this trend in eastern Tennessee, which was far removed from the path of both. In fact, the pattern of distribution of pelagic birds left in Katrina's wake across the region suggests that birders pursuing such species should focus attention on bodies of water—no matter how large or small—lying along and just to the east of the path of the center of circulation. Of particular note during the passage of the remnants of Katrina was the flock of Laughing Gulls at Freeman Lake and the two storm-petrels on the relatively small surface area of water provided by the hatchery ponds in Franklin County.

The study of hurricane-borne birds will continue as birders become accustomed to the conditions and locations that favor the appearance of these wayward individuals. It must be presumed that for every one that is located alive, many more must perish, and some surely return safely to coastal areas and oceans without ever being noticed.

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AN 18TH-CENTURY REFERENCE TO IVORY-BILLED WOODPECKER (*Campephilus principalis*) IN KENTUCKY

Benjamin E. Leese

Introduction

There is firm evidence of the existence of the Ivory-billed Woodpecker (*Campephilus principalis*) in Kentucky during historical times. The earliest record is from Colonel William Fleming, who saw two Ivory-billed Woodpeckers in March of 1780 in what is now Lincoln County (McKinley 1958; Schorger 1949), far away from the species' traditional bottomland swamp habitat. Other records include Audubon's note that the species occurred

near the confluence of the Ohio and the Mississippi rivers, in the western part of Kentucky, up to Henderson on the Ohio River (Audubon 1840). Audubon even refers to the species' nesting in Kentucky and Indiana (Audubon 1840).

The other main source of information for the species' past existence in Kentucky comes from L. Otley Pindar, who suggested that the species had been fairly common at one time in Fulton County (Pindar 1889). While Pindar doubted late 19th-century records from that southwestern Kentucky county, he believed that the bird lived in Kentucky as late as 1872 or 1874 (Pindar 1925). Hasbrouck (1891), on Pindar's and Audubon's authority, drew the range of the species well up the Ohio River to include Cincinnati, Ohio, and the adjacent parts of Kentucky. Tanner (1942) did not believe that the species occurred that far up the Ohio River but still included Kentucky within the Ivory-billed Woodpecker's former range. There are no specimens of the Ivory-billed Woodpecker from Kentucky, nor have there been any sight records in over 100 years (Jackson 2004; Mengel 1965).

Another 18th-Century Reference

About the time of Colonel Fleming's early sighting of the Ivory-billed Woodpecker in Kentucky, John Filson (1784 *in* Imlay 1793) also wrote in reference to the species' occurrence in Kentucky. Filson's text provides an early description, albeit cursory, of the soil, resources, flora, and fauna of Kentucky. His brief description of the Ivory-bill follows in its entirety (the traditional 18th-century *s*, which was written as an *f* of sorts, is rendered into modern English style):

"... the ivory-bill woodcock, of a whitish colour, with a white plume, flies screaming exceeding sharp [sic]. It is asserted, that the bill of this bird is pure ivory, a circumstance very singular in the plummy tribe."

This reference has gone largely undescribed in the previous literature. Although Wright (1912, 1915) was aware of this early American document and used it to describe Wild Turkeys (*Meleagris gallopavo*) and Carolina Parakeets (*Conuropsis carolinensis*) in early Kentucky, he apparently was uninterested in or unable to decipher this reference to the Ivory-billed Woodpecker. Also, curiously, Mengel (1965) notes the reference in his discussion of the history of ornithology in Kentucky, but he does not describe the reference further or include it in his species account.

It also should be noted at this juncture that Imlay includes the Ivory-billed Woodpecker in his own list of birds in the western frontier region, including Kentucky. However, Imlay was obviously familiar with Filson's record, as he published it as an addendum to his volume. Therefore, Imlay's reference does not stand as an independent reference to the species' past occurrence in Kentucky.

Discussion

While it seems that Filson clearly described an Ivory-billed Woodpecker, there are some points in his reference that merit further discussion.

First, Filson refers to the species as a "woodcock," which obviously is an altogether different group of birds than the woodpeckers. However, the Pileated Woodpecker (*Dryocopus pileatus*) was commonly referred to as the logcock in early American history (Thwaites (1905) includes such usage in the Lewis and Clark journals) and up until the early 20th Century (Eifrig 1927). It is therefore not difficult to see how the name woodcock might also be attached to the Ivory-billed Woodpecker, and there is at least one example of the species' being called the Ivory-billed Woodcock in more recent literature (Basset 1938).

Second, the description of the species as "of a whitish colour, with a white plume" seems an unusual description for a bird that many people might characterize as black with a red crest. However, Filson may have used the phrase to point out a field mark to separate the Ivory-billed from the Pileated Woodpecker, as the Ivory-billed Woodpecker does, in fact, have a great deal of white on its body in comparison to the Pileated Woodpecker. The

issue of the white plume remains ambiguous, but it could refer to the white patch of feathers in the crest that is revealed only when the crest is held erect (Jackson 2002, illustrated in Wilson 1829) or perhaps to the stripe down the back of the head and neck.

Last, the description of the voice as “exceeding sharp [sic]” seems unusual if one thinks only of the “kent” call of this species. However, Jackson (2002) notes a variety of alarm calls that might make sense of Filson’s description of its call.

Filson’s observation clearly does not stand on a par with the details of Colonel Fleming’s record of the species for Kentucky, as Filson does not give a full description or a location at which he or his source saw an Ivory-billed Woodpecker. Still, his description is thorough enough to indicate that he or a close associate saw the bird during his stay in the state in 1783. A clearer location for this reference to the species cannot be established, because although Filson owned land near Lexington, he was also very familiar with other frontier settlers, including Daniel Boone (see Wisconsin Historical Society 2003 for a full description). Despite this deficiency, Filson’s reference provides excellent validation of other sightings of the species in Kentucky during historical times and allows greater confidence in claiming the species’ former presence in the state.

Acknowledgments

The Wisconsin Historical Society sponsors the American Journeys Online Library and Learning Center, and the University of Wisconsin provides the Digital Library for the Decorative Arts and Material Culture: Image and Text Collections. Those collections made this work much easier than it would have been in a traditional library. Both of those online libraries provide excellent collections and search processes that will be a treasure for anyone interested in the historical aspects of ornithology.

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Audubon's Shearwater 12 July 2005 (above) and adult Sooty Tern 13 July 2005 (below) at Kentucky Lake above Kentucky Dam, Livingston/Marshall cos., KY (see accompanying article, p. 32). Video captures by David Roemer.

