

Western Kentucky University

TopSCHOLAR®

Kentucky Warbler

Kentucky Library - Serials

8-2020

Kentucky Warbler (Vol. 96, no. 3)

Kentucky Library Research Collections

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.wku.edu/ky_warbler



Part of the [Ornithology Commons](#)

This Other is brought to you for free and open access by TopSCHOLAR®. It has been accepted for inclusion in Kentucky Warbler by an authorized administrator of TopSCHOLAR®. For more information, please contact topscholar@wku.edu.

The Kentucky Warbler

Published by the Kentucky Ornithological Society

Vol. 96

AUGUST 2020

No. 3



LETTER FROM THE EDITOR.....	63
THE SPRING SEASON, MARCH – MAY 2020	
Ronan O’Carra.....	64
FIELD NOTES	80
MEMBERSHIP/DONATION FORM	81
NEWS AND VIEWS.....	82

THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

birdky.org

President.....	James A. Wheat, Taylorsville
Vice-President	Teresa Noel, Lexington
Corresponding Secretary	Debby Tyson
	3601 Schochoh Road, Adairville, KY 42202-8030
Treasurer.....	Steve Kistler
	1335 Sam Goodman Road, Munfordville, KY 42765-7105
Recording Secretary	Janet Kistler, Munfordville
Councillors	
2018-2021	Clay Bliznick, Hartford
2018-2021	Mary Yandell, Louisville
2019-2022	Jeremy Teague, Calvert City
2019-2022	Ray Bontrager, Monticello
2019-2022	JoAnn Bochman, Beckham Bird Club representative
2020-2023	Meg Brown, Louisville
2020-2022	Steve Brown, Louisville
Past President	Jeff Sole, Frankfort
Curator.....	Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., Louisville
Secretary, Kentucky Bird Records Committee (KBRC).....	Brian Wulker
	3476 Alta Vista Ave, Cincinnati, OH 45211
	kbrc@birdky.org

Affiliate

Beckham Bird Club (Louisville)

The Kentucky Warbler

The Kentucky Warbler is the journal of the Kentucky Ornithological Society. It is published quarterly in February, May, August and November, and is sent to current members. Membership dues are: Regular \$15.00; Contributing \$25.00; Student \$10.00; Family \$20.00; and Life \$300.00. Send articles, field notes and other communications relevant to *The Kentucky Warbler* to the Editor. Send membership dues to the Treasurer. Requests for back issues should be sent to the Corresponding Secretary.

Editor.....	Ronan O’Carra
	1212 Litchfield Lane, Lexington, KY 40513-1794
	editor.thekywarbler@birdky.org

Production Assistant	Steve Brown
Photo Assistant	Meg Brown
Editorial Advisory Board.....	Carol Besse, Blaine Ferrell

THE COVER

We thank Greg Walker for his photograph of the White-faced Ibis (*Plegadis chihi*) taken 6 May 2020 in Jefferson County.

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Birders,

Although we are stuck in limbo, it is heartening to see the natural world continue on around us. As most people are seeing, there's an irruption of northern finches coming into our state. We are seeing birds we don't usually see and luckily these are birds that frequent bird feeders in our own garden so some people don't have to travel far. There are a number of considerations to having birds come to the feeders.

- Providing a food source will help the birds survive the winter, and no they won't become dependent on it. One needs to maintain clean feeder areas to reduce the risk of birds contracting diseases.
- Be careful to position feeders to reduce the chance of window collisions.
- Realize that feeding will concentrate birds in a location and will more than likely entice birds of prey, especially Cooper's Hawk, to become regular visitors. It's also likely to attract introduced birds and require the use of different food and/or feeders to deter their continued presence.
- If you are lucky enough to have a rare bird visit, many birders will want to visit to try to see it.

To expand on the last note, birders are always interested in seeing a rare bird; however, having them turn up at private locations can cause angst for both parties. If the sighting is reported to eBird, an alert will be sent to subscribers noting the presence and location of the bird. From the perspective of the reporter, it is perfectly acceptable to add a note to a checklist submission to state the location is or is not open to the public. Another means for not having your sighting emailed out is to wait for a week to submit the checklist.

From the perspective of the birder looking to see the bird, I would ask that no one go unannounced to the location and ask to see the bird. One does not know the status of the location or those living there. I suggest you reach out to eBird reviewers or leaders in the birding community to ascertain the status of the location. As a group we need to ensure that all birders can post sightings knowing that it won't interfere with the daily lives of property owners or others.

Stay safe and happy birding,

Ronan O'Carra

THE SPRING SEASON, MARCH – MAY 2020

Ronan O'Carra

Climatic conditions during spring 2020 started out warmer and wetter, a continuation from the previous season, but normalized as the season went on. Temperatures during March were 5-6°F warmer than average across the state, whereas temperatures in April and May were 2-3°F below normal. Precipitation levels were variable throughout the state. March rainfall was 2-3 inches above average across the state, except in the Bluegrass Region where it was only slightly above normal. During April rainfall levels increased from one inch below average in the west to two inches above average in the east. A similar precipitation pattern was seen in May when western and central parts of the state received close to the average amounts of rain, while the Bluegrass and eastern regions of the state received two inches above normal.

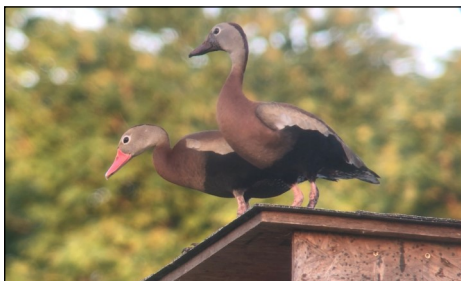
Sightings are extracted from eBird with supplementary records from the BirdKy listserv. Comments about previous Kentucky bird records rely on the *Annotated Checklist* by Palmer-Ball, Jr. 2019. The species order is based on the Kentucky State List of Birds (Yandell 2019), with review species being capitalized and state firsts underlined. Highlights for the season include the continuing Burrowing Owl, Whimbrel, Red Knot, Pacific Loon, a seventh record for Neotropic Cormorant, Glossy and White-Faced Ibis, a first Bewick's Wren since 2011, and singular reports of Harris's Sparrow and Yellow-headed Blackbird.

Publication of any unusual sightings in the seasonal report does not imply that these reports have been accepted for inclusion in the official checklist of Kentucky birds. Reports of out-of-season birds and rarities should be accompanied by written and/or photographic documentation. This documentation is reviewed by 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”; “ba.” next to an observer's initials indicates that the bird was banded; “ph.” next to an observer's initials indicates that the observation was documented with photograph(s); “au.” next to an observer's initials indicates that the observation was documented with a voice recording; “†” next to an observer's initials indicates that written details about identification or number were submitted with the report; “m.ob.” within observer initials indicates that the observation was seen by multiple observers. “per. comm.” after an observer's initials indicates that the report was personally communicated to the subsequent reporter.

BLACK-BELLIED WHISTLING DUCK –

KBRC review required. 8 reports for the season; 4 north of Barlow, *Ballard*, 22 April (JFe, per. comm. BPa) were the first reported; 2 at Campbellsville Reservoir, *Taylor*, 26 April (ph. RKe); 2 at Bandana, *Ballard*, 29 April (ph. †SRe); 1 at Van Cleave, *Callo-way*, (TBk, per. comm. BPa); 6 at Ledbetter, *Livingston*, 15 May (DDk, per. comm. BPa); 11 at Golo, *Graves*, 20 May (TBk, per. comm. BPa); 2 at Harvey, *Marshall*, 24 May and after were apparently nesting (GBi, per. comm. BPa); 8 at Haywood, *Barren*, 27-28 May (JKi, per. comm. BPa).



Black-bellied Whistling Duck – Marshall Co.
29 May 2020, Clay Bliznick

Snow Goose – 600 at Sloughs WMA, Sauerheber Unit, *Henderson*, 1 March (JMe) was the highest number reported. A single bird at Basil Griffin Park, *Warren*, 15 March (RCh, DCh) was the last reported.

Ross's Goose – There were 5 reports. 3 at Open Pond, *Fulton*, 5 March (MEa, HCh) was the highest number reported. 1 at Basil Griffin Park, *Warren*, 20 March (JBr) was the last reported.

Greater White-fronted Goose – 147 at Lake Number 9, *Fulton*, 7 March (ALy) was the highest number reported. 20 at Open Pond, *Fulton*, 21 March (HCh) were the last reported.

Cackling Goose – 1 at Camp Ernst Lake Park, *Boone*, 1 March (ph. RCr) was the last reported.

Tundra Swan – There was one report of an injured bird near the Sloughs WMA, *Henderson*, 22 May (ph. CCr).

Blue-winged Teal – 350 at Morgan Pond, *Christian*, 31 March (JHa) was the highest number reported with the species being reported through the end of the season.

Northern Shoveler – More than 600 at Mud Creek, *Fulton*, 5 March (MEa) was the highest number reported. 3 at McElroy Lake, *Warren*, 27 May (†RSh) were the last reported.

Gadwall – 750 at Mud Creek, *Fulton*, 15 March (†BPa) was the highest number reported. 2 at University of Kentucky, CAFE, Research Farm, *Fayette*, 29 May (†TSa) continued into the summer season.

American Wigeon – 100 at McElroy Lake, *Warren*, 17 March (RSh) was the highest number reported. 1 at McElroy Lake, *Warren*, 6 May (†RBo) was the last reported.

Mallard – 1000 at Mud Creek, *Fulton*, 15 March (BPa) was the highest number reported.

American Black Duck – 30 at Blue Grass Army Depot, *Madison*, 1 March (DMi) was

the highest number reported. 2 in *Daviess*, 24 March (RRo) were the last to be reported.

Northern Pintail – 250 at Mud Creek, *Fulton*, 15 March (BPa) was the highest number reported. 3 at Open Pond, *Fulton*, 5 April (HCh) were the last reported.

Green-winged Teal – 1000 at Lake Number 9, *Fulton*, 7 March (†ALy) was the highest number reported. 2 at McElroy Lake, *Warren*, 29 April (JBe) were the last reported.

Canvasback – 45 at McElroy Lake, *Warren*, 3 March (RBo) were the most reported. 1, possibly injured, northwest of Glasgow, *Barren*, 31 May (ph. †RSh) was the last reported.

Redhead – 100 at McElroy Lake, *Warren*, 5 March (BPa) was the highest number reported. 3 south of Hopkinsville, *Christian*, 4 May (TGr) were the last reported.

Ring-necked Duck – 200 at Sloughs WMA, Sauerheber Unit, *Henderson*, 17 March (†CCr) was the highest number reported. 1 at McElroy Lake, *Warren*, 22 May (†Vsa) was the last reported.

Greater Scaup – 25 on the Ohio river, *Jefferson*, 11 March (†PBI) was the highest number reported. 1 south of Hopkinsville, *Christian*, 20 May (ph. †JHa) was the last reported.

Lesser Scaup – 800 at McElroy Lake, *Warren*, 3 March (RBo) was the highest number reported. 1 at McElroy Lake, *Warren*, 23 May (RSh) was the last reported.

Surf Scoter – Only 1 report of a single bird northeast of Shelbyville, *Shelby*, 24 March (†RRa, mo. ob., per. comm. BPa).

White-winged Scoter – 2 continued from the previous season at KY Dam Village SRP, *Marshall*, 1 March (ph. ENa) with the last being a single bird reported at the same location 5 March (ph. ALy).

Bufflehead – 85 at Open Pond, *Fulton*, 19 March (ALy) was the highest number

reported. 1 at Jacobson Park, *Fayette*, 10 May (ph. TNo) was the last reported.

Common Goldeneye – 55 at Green Turtle Bay, *Livingston*, 5 March (ALy) was the highest number reported. 1 at Land Between the Lakes, *Lyon*, 12 May (†EHo) was the last reported.

Hooded Merganser – 60 at Lexington Reservoirs #2 & 3, *Fayette*, 11 March (DSv) was the highest number reported with reports recorded throughout the season.

Common Merganser – The last migratory sighting was a report of a single bird north of Madisonville, *Hopkins*, 25 March (NRo). Successful breeding was noted in eastern Kentucky with a family unit of 13 being reported at Rockcastle River, *Jackson*, 12 May (ph. DPi). Reports from *Menifee* (ph.†ECl), and *McCreary* (ph. RDe) in the same period may indicate further breeding spots.

Red-breasted Merganser – 150 at KY Lake Dam, *Marshall*, 18 March (JTe) was the highest number reported. 2 at Morgan Pond, *Christian*, 15 May (ph. †JHa) were the last reported.

Ruddy Duck – 202 at Open Pond, *Fulton*, 5 March (†HCh) was the highest number reported. 1 at McElroy Lake, *Warren*, 20 May (LBo) was the last reported.

Ruffed Grouse – 6 Reports from *Menifee*, *Madison*, *Bell* and *McCreary*.



White-winged Dove – Fayette Co.
4 April 2020, Teresa Noel

Pied-billed Grebe – 40 at Lake Peewee, *Hopkins*, 12 March (RRo) was the highest

number reported with reports posted throughout the season.

Horned Grebe – 43 at Green River Lake SP, *Taylor*, 7 March (†BPa) was the highest number reported. 1 at KY Dam Village SRP, *Marshall*, 28 April (ph. TVi) was the last reported.

Red-necked Grebe – There were a number of reports of a single bird, the only one for the season, at Barren River Lake, *Allen*, 22-25 April (†TDu ph. EHo m.ob.).



Eared Grebe – Fulton Co.
16 March 2020, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.

Eared Grebe – There were reports at 4 locations. 1-2 birds were reported at Wolf Creek Dam, *Russell*, until 21 March (ph. TNo). Single birds were reported at Freeman Lake, *Hardin*, 16 March (†JSn); Open Pond, *Fulton*, 16/17 March († ph. BPa, MGr); again at Open Pond, *Fulton*, 5/6 April (†HCh, ALy); 1 at McElroy Lake, *Warren*, 19 March (DRo, ph. KOe) was the last reported.

WHITE-WINGED DOVE – KBRC Review Required. A returning bird to Lexington, *Fayette*, was first reported 4 April (†EMo) until 9 May (†MEr). A single bird was also reported at Melco Flood Retention Basin, *Jefferson*, 23 May (ph. †BPa).

Yellow-billed Cuckoo – 1 at Land Between the Lakes, *Lyon*, 27 April (MEa) was the first reported. 10 at Meadow Creek, *Whitley*, 24 May (DSv) was the highest number reported.



Common Gallinule – Rowan Co.
20 May 2020, Teresa Noel

Black-billed Cuckoo – 1 nighttime flyover in Murray, Calloway, 2 May (†ALy) was the first reported.

Common Nighthawk – 1 near Somerset, Pulaski, 24 April (EWe) was the first reported. 16 in east Jefferson, 16 May (†MYa) was the highest number reported.

Chuck-Will's Widow – 1 southwest of Edmonton, Metcalfe, 19 April (au. RSh) was the first reported.

Eastern Whip-poor-will – 1 on the Sheltoewe Trace Trail, Rowan, 23 March (CNi) was the first reported.

Chimney Swift – 1 at Beckley Creek Park, Jefferson, 27 March (JPu) was the first reported. 500 in Bowling Green, Warren, 12 May (ph. †RSh) was the highest number reported.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird – 1 in Murray, Calloway, 31 March (†MEa) was the first reported.

Rufous Hummingbird – The last report of the continuing Oldham bird was 4 March.

Virginia Rail – 2 at Long Point, Fulton, 16 March (†BPa) was an early report for the species. 1 north of Paradise, Muhlenberg, 12 May (†MMo, EHo) was the last reported.

Sora – 1 at John James Audubon SP, Henderson, 12 March (ph. †JFa) was a record early sighting for the species. 1 at Sloughs WMA, Sauerheber Unit, Henderson, 19 May (†EHo) was the last reported.

Common Gallinule – There were reports at 2 locations. 1 at McElroy Lake, Warren, 5 May (ph. †RSh) and 1 at Minor E Clark Fish Hatchery, Rowan, 19/20 May (ph.VSa, NBr, TNo).

American Coot – 3000 at McElroy Lake, Warren, 23 March (†RSh) was the highest number reported with the species being reported through the season.

Sandhill Crane – 245 flying over east Lexington, Fayette, 3 March (KMa) was the highest number reported. 2 lingered at Sloughs WMA, Sauerheber Unit, Henderson, from 11 May (ph CCr) through 30 May (†RRo) which was a late sighting for the species.

Black-necked Stilt – 2 off KY 94, Fulton, 27 March (†JTe) was an early sighting for the species. 46 at the same location 6 May (au. †JTe) was the highest number reported.



Black-necked Stilt – Fulton Co.
24 May 2020, Rob Chadwick

American Avocet – Reports were noted from 4 counties. 15 at Basil Griffin Park, Warren, 17 April (ph. RSh, m.ob.) were the first reported. 42 at Oak Grove, Christian, 24 April (JHa, ph. TGr) was the highest number reported. 6 at McElroy Lake, Warren, 15 May (ph. RSh) were the last reported.

Black-bellied Plover – Reported in 3 counties. 1 at Horseshoe Rd. Sloughs, Henderson, 25 April (†BPa) was the first reported. 25 at McElroy Lake, Warren, 13 May (†BPa) was the highest number reported. 1 at McElroy Lake, Warren, 27 May (BPa) was the last reported.

American Golden-Plover – Reported in 6 counties. 1 at McElroy Lake, *Warren*, 10 March (ph. RSh) was the first reported. 75 at Sand Slough, *Henderson*, 9 April (†KMi) was the highest number reported. 3 at McElroy Lake, *Warren*, 22 May (†VSa) were the last reported.

Semipalmated Plover – 2 at Swallow Spring Pond, *Christian*, 13 April (JHa) were the first reported. 500 at McElroy Lake, *Warren*, 18 May (†RSh) was the highest number reported.

Upland Sandpiper – There was only one report, a single bird at Melco Flood Retention Basin, *Jefferson*, 17 April (†EHO).

WHIMBREL – KBRC Review Required. There were two reports for Whimbrel; 3 at McElroy Lake, *Warren*, 8 May (ph. †DLa) and a single bird at KY Dam Village SRP, *Marshall*, 21 May (ph. †JTe).



Whimbrel – Warren Co.
8 May 2020, David Lang

Ruddy Turnstone – 1 at McElroy Lake, *Warren*, 6 May (ph. RSh) was an early sighting for the species. Birds persisted at McElroy lake until 20 May (ph. OZa) with numbers peaking at 11 on 18 May (ph. †BPa). Away from McElroy, 1 was reported at Minor E Clark Fish Hatchery, *Rowan*, 19 May (ph. TSh).

RED KNOT – KBRC Review Required. 2 at McElroy Lake, *Warren*, 13 May (DRo, ph. TGr, m.ob.) were the only birds reported. This is only the fourth spring report, the last being reported in 1974.

Stilt Sandpiper – 1 at Walter Garrett Lane transient ponds, *Christian*, 21 April (MMo, ph. BPa) was the first reported. 16 at McElroy Lake, *Warren*, 16 May (†JWh, m.ob.) was the highest number reported. 4 south of Hopkinsville, *Christian*, 22 May (JHa) were the last reported.

Sanderling – There were two reports. 1 at McElroy Lake, *Warren*, 18/19 May (ph. †RSh/†DRo, m.ob.) and 1 at Upper Bottom Road, *Fulton*, 19 May (CBI).

Dunlin – 2 off KY 2134 near Lake Number 9, *Fulton*, 16 March (ph. BPa) were an early sighting for the species. 200 at Sloughs WMA, Sauerheber Unit, *Henderson*, 14 May (ph. CCR) was the highest number reported. 1 at McElroy Lake, *Warren*, 25 May (ph. TVi) was the last reported.

Baird's Sandpiper – 1 at J Ferguson Road, *Simpson*, 21 April (ph. BPa, MMo) was the only report for the species.

Least Sandpiper – 500 at McElroy Lake, *Warren*, 13 May (†BPa, MMo) was the highest number reported with the species present throughout the season.

White-rumped Sandpiper – 1 at Sand Slough, *Henderson*, 25 April (†BPa) was the first reported with the species present through the season. 150 at Upper Bottom Road, *Fulton*, 19 May (†CBI) was the highest number reported.

Pectoral Sandpiper – 1 at Lawson-Poindexter Rd. Farm Pond, *Todd*, 5 March (†JHa) was a relatively early bird with the species present through the season. 275 at Kentucky Bend Rd., *Fulton*, 9 April (EHO) was the highest number reported.

Semipalmated Sandpiper – 2 at Swallow Spring Pond, *Christian*, 24 April (TGr) were the first reported and were a relatively early sighting. 2500 at McElroy Lake, *Warren*, 18 May (ph. †BPa) was a near record high number reported, which persisted for a few days.

Western Sandpiper – There were 4 reports. 1 at Hiseville Park Rd, *Barren*, 23 April

(†MMo, EHo, RSh) was the first reported; 1 at Sand Slough, *Henderson*, 25 April (†BPa); 1 at McElroy Lake, *Warren*, 29 April (LBo, m.ob.); 1 at Melco Flood Retention Basin, *Jefferson*, 3 May (†BPa) was a good spring bird for central Kentucky.

Short-billed Dowitcher – 1 at Swallow Spring Pond, *Christian*, 24 April (JHa) was the first reported. 375 at McElroy Lake, *Warren*, 13 May (†MMo, BPa) more than doubled the previous record high for the species in Kentucky. Away from western Kentucky, 72 were reported north of Wilmore, *Jessamine*, 13 May (SPe, ph. KBi, m.ob.). 3 near Hopkinsville, *Christian*, 22 May (JHa) were the last reported. A Short-billed Dowitcher, of the subspecies *griseus*, was reported at Melco Flood Retention Basin, *Jefferson*, 3 May (ph. †BPa), this being the fourth documented record with photographic evidence.

Long-billed Dowitcher – 2 at McElroy Lake, *Warren*, 31 March (ph. RSh) were the first reported. 250 at Lake Number 9, *Fulton*, 20 April (†CBl) was the second highest number ever reported. 1 at McElroy Lake, *Warren*, 14 May (†DRo, m.ob.) was the last reported.

Wilson's Snipe – 54 at JC Jones Rd Sinkhole Ponds, *Hart*, 7 March (JWh, m.ob.) was the highest number reported. 1 at McElroy Lake, *Warren*, 14 May (†HCh, m.ob.) was the last reported.

Spotted Sandpiper – 1 at Melco Flood Retention Basin, *Jefferson*, 29 March (ph. †BPa) was a relatively early report. 30 at McElroy Lake, *Warren*, 7 May (†RDe) was the highest number reported.

Solitary Sandpiper – 1 at Longview Golf Club, *Scott*, 21 March (ph. †DLa) was the first reported. 40 at Sloughs WMA, Sauerheber Unit, *Henderson*, 24 April (†RRo) was the highest number reported.

Lesser Yellowlegs – 1 at McElroy Lake, *Warren*, 9 March (TDu) was the first reported. 500 at Sloughs WMA, Sauerheber

Unit, *Henderson*, 22 April (†CCr) was the highest number reported.

Willet – 4 at McElroy Lake, *Warren*, 17 April (ph. †RSh) were the first reported. 53 at McElroy Lake, *Warren*, 29 April (ph. †JBe) was the highest number reported. 25 at McElroy Lake, *Warren*, 10 May (ph. †BYa, MYa) were the last reported.

Greater Yellowlegs – 160 at Lower Hickman Bottoms, *Fulton*, 9 April (†EHo) was the highest number reported.

Wilson's Phalarope – 1 at Morgan Pond, *Christian*, 26 March (†JHa, TDe) was the first reported. 9 at Swallow Spring Pond, *Christian*, 25 April (ph. SAr) was the highest number reported. 2 at McElroy Lake, *Warren*, 7 May (†RDe) were the last reported.

Red-necked Phalarope – There were reports from one location. 1-2 birds were at McElroy Lake, *Warren*, 6-27 May (ph. RSh, m.ob.).



Red-necked Phalarope – Warren Co.
14 May 2020, Steve Graham

Bonaparte's Gull – 600 at KY Dam Village SRP, *Marshall*, 23 March (†ALy) was the highest number reported. 80 at Land Between the Lakes, *Lyon*, 25 April (RBo) were the last reported.

Laughing Gull – There were 3 reports. Single birds were seen at McElroy Lake, *Warren*, 17 April (ph. †RSh); Lake Barkley, *Lyon*, 19

April (ph. JTe, m.ob.) until 29 May (†BPa); Jacobson Park, *Fayette*, 27 May (DSv, ph. LCo, m.ob.).

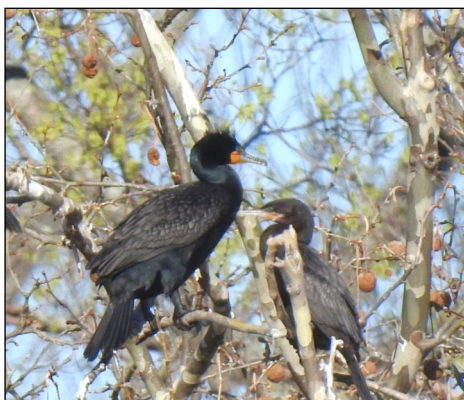
Franklin's Gull – There was 1 report of a single bird at McElroy Lake, *Warren*, 13/20 May (†BPa, m.ob./†BPa, ph. RSh).

Ring-billed Gull – The species was reported throughout the season with 750 at Barren River Lake, *Allen*, 5 March (BPa) the highest number reported.

Herring Gull – 30 at Lake Barkley, *Lyon*, 25 March (HCh) was the highest number reported.

Lesser Black-backed Gull – There were 3 reports; 1 at Sledd Creek Boat Ramp, *Marshall*, 6 March (HCh); 1 at Green Turtle Bay, *Livingston*, 13 March (CBl); 1 at KY Dam, *Livingston*, 25 March (HCh).

Least Tern – Sightings were first reported 14 May. 13 at Open Pond, *Fulton* (CBl) and 2 at Sand Slough, *Henderson*, 14 May (KMi). 23 at Wolf Island, *Hickman*, 23 May (CBl) was the highest number reported.



Neotropic Cormorant – Fayette Co.
30 March 2020, Corey Critchfield

Caspian Tern – 1 at Haddox Ferry Boat Ramp & Industrial Ponds, *Marshall*, 13 April (ph. TVi) was the first seen. 58 at KY Dam Village SRP, *Marshall*, 10 May († JTe) was the highest number reported.

Black Tern – 1 at McElroy Lake, *Warren*, 28 April (ph. †JBe) was the first seen. 9 at

Osprey Cove Subdivision Lake, *Shelby*, 13 May (†AHZ, LHZ) was the highest number reported.

Common Tern – 2 at Lake Barkley, *Lyon*, 25 April (†RBo) were the first reported. 48 at Land Between the Lakes, *Lyon*, 12 May (MMo, BPa, EHo) was the highest number reported.

Forster's Tern – 58 at Crappie Hollow (Blood River), *Calloway*, 4 March (†HCh) was the highest number reported.

Red-throated Loon – There was one report of a single bird at Barren River Lake, *Allen*, 25 April (ph. †RCh, DCh).

PACIFIC LOON – KBRC Review Required. There was one report of a single bird at Sledd Creek Boat Ramp, *Marshall*, 19 April (ph. †BPa).

Common Loon – 26 at Barren River Lake, *Allen*, 25 April (ph. DCh, RCh) was the highest number reported.

NEOTROPIC CORMORANT – KBRC Review Required. First reported at Reservoir #4, *Fayette*, 28 March (ph. †DSv, LCo), it was subsequently relocated at Lexington Reservoir #1, *Fayette*, 29 March (ph. ROc, m.ob.) where it remained until 10 April (†DSv) providing great views for the many who came looking for it. A subsequent report was made at the Louisville Water Company Ponds, *Jefferson*, 20 April (ph. ITh, STh).

Double-crested Cormorant – 1000 at Land Between the Lakes, *Trigg*, 9 April (HCh) and 21 May (HCh) was the highest number reported. Away from LBL, 200+ at Lexington Reservoir #1, *Fayette*, 29 March (ph. †ROc, m.ob.) was a large increase in numbers on a breeding colony established in 2019.

American White Pelican – 250 at Open Pond, *Fulton*, 12 March (ALy) was the highest number reported.

American Bittern – There were 4 reports. 1 at Big Eagle Creek Wetland, *Scott*, 4 April (ph.

MHI); 1 at Melco Flood Retention Basin, *Jefferson*, 6 April (ph. JBa, m.ob.); 1 at Sloughs WMA, Sauerheber Unit, *Henderson*, 27 April and 1/14 May (†RRo, m.ob.); 1 flyover in *Kenton* 29 April (†DMn).

Least Bittern – There were reports from 2 locations. 1 at Peabody WMA, Sinclair Unit, *Muhlenberg*, 17 April (†BNo) was the first reported with 4 further reports from there through the season. 1 at the Sloughs WMA, Sauerheber Unit, *Henderson*, 1 May (†CGi) was the first of 3 reports for that location.



Glossy Ibis – Warren Co.
20 May 2020, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.

Great Egret – 1 at Lentz Pond, River Road, *Jefferson*, 10 March (ph. †EHo) was the first reported. 60 at Ballard WMA, *Ballard*, 30 April (†SRe) was the highest number reported.

Snowy Egret – 1 at Land Between the Lakes, *Trigg*, 11 April (HCh) was the first reported. Reports for the season were restricted to *Trigg*, *Warren*, *Henderson* and *Lyon*.

Little Blue Heron – 1 at Melco Flood Retention Basin, *Jefferson*, 19 April (ph. †EHo) was the first reported. 6 at Land Between the Lakes, *Trigg*, 25 May (ph. RCh, DCh) was the highest number reported. Reports for the

season were restricted to *Jefferson*, *Trigg* and *Ballard*.

Cattle Egret – 1 at Reelfoot NWR, Long Point Unit, *Fulton*, 1 April (RPr) was the first reported. 35 west of Murray, *Calloway*, 25 May (HCh) was the highest number reported.

Green Heron – 3 in *Adair*, 28 March (MBn) were the first reported.

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron – 2 at a private residence in Louisville, *Jefferson*, 18 March (†PSP) were early returning birds to a fifth-year nesting site. The pair hatched four chicks during the season.

GLOSSY IBIS – KBRC review required. There was a single report of 1 at McElroy Lake, *Warren*, 20 May (DRo, ph. †LBo, m.ob.).

WHITE-FACED IBIS – KBRC review required. There were 3 reports. A single bird was documented at J Ferguson Road, *Simpson*, 20 April (ph. RSh, JLe). A single bird was also reported at Hays Kennedy Park, *Jefferson*, 6 May (ph. SWa, m.ob.).

Plegadis Sp. – There were 4 reports of Glossy/White-faced Ibis that could not be identified to species; 5 at Sloughs WMA, Sauerheber Unit, *Henderson*, 18 April (ph. †KMi); 1 reported as a White-faced Ibis (DRo, per. comm. TDu) at McElroy Lake, *Warren*, 25 April (ph. †BPa); 2 at McElroy Lake, *Warren*, 5 May (DRo, per. comm. TDu); 1 in *Christian* 14 May (†DHa).

Osprey – 1 at Hancock Biological Station, *Calloway*, 8 March (ALy) was the first reported.

SWALLOW-TAILED KITE – KBRC Review required. There was one report of a single bird in *Whitley*, 9 May (†SBw, ADp, per. comm. RDe).

Mississippi Kite – 2 in east Louisville, *Jefferson*, 29 April (ph. MYa, BYa) and 1 at Murray, *Calloway*, 29 April (ALy) were the first reported. 72 at Kentucky Bend Rd.,

Fulton, 11 May (†DRe) was the highest number on record.

Broad-winged Hawk – 1 at DBNF, *McCreary*, 28 March (†RDe) was the first reported. 88 at Louisville, *Jefferson*, 18 April (ph. †MMo) was the highest number reported.

Red-tailed Hawk – Of note for subspecies, a single *B. j. calurus/abieticola* was reported in Hickman, *Fulton*, 11 March (†HCh, MEa) and a Harlan's was last spotted in Schochoh, *Logan*, 28 March (†STy).

BURROWING OWL – The single bird near Allensville, *Todd*, was last reported 21 April (SAR).



Burrowing Owl – Todd Co.
18 April 2020, Pam Spaulding

Short-eared Owl – 1 at Talon Winery, *Fayette*, 7 March (LPa) was the last reported.

Merlin – 1 in *Hart*, 28 May (†JSo) was a late sighting for the species. The previous report to this was 1 at McElroy Lake, *Warren*, 29 April (†JBe).

Great Crested Flycatcher – 1 at Mammoth Cave, *Edmonson*, 17 April (NBr, TNo) was the first reported.

Eastern Kingbird – 1 in *Logan*, 6 April (ph. FLy) was the first reported.

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher – 1 at Land Between the Lakes, *Lyon*, remained from 19 April (ph. JTe) until 12 May (ph. BPa) with many getting good looks at the bird during that time.

Olive-sided Flycatcher – 1 at Sloughs WMA, Sauerheber Unit, *Henderson*, 1 May (ph. CCr) was the first reported. 1 at Anchorage Trail, *Jefferson*, 25 May (PNI) was the last reported.

Eastern Wood-Pewee – 1 at Shaker Village, *Mercer*, 20 April (†BLE) was the first reported.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher – 1 at Cave Hill Cemetery, *Jefferson*, (LPa) and 1 at E.P. "Tom" Sawyer SP, *Jefferson*, (PPi) both 11 May were the first reported. 1 in *Oldham*, 24 May (EMe) was the last reported.

Acadian Flycatcher – 1 at E.P. "Tom" Sawyer SP, *Jefferson*, 22 April (PPi) was the first reported.

Alder Flycatcher – 1 at Bens Cliff, *Wayne*, 10 May (†LBo) was the first reported. 1 at Sloughs WMA, Sauerheber Unit, *Henderson*, 30 May (†RRo) was the last reported.

Willow Flycatcher – 1 at Melco Flood Retention Basin, *Jefferson*, 3 May (†BPa) was the first reported. 7 at Hisle Farm Park, *Fayette*, 23 May (ph. †DLa) was the highest number reported.

Least Flycatcher – 1 at Cherokee Park, *Jefferson*, 25 April (JWh) was the first seen. 25 at Big Black Mountain, *Harlan*, 31 May (†RDe) was the highest number reported.

White-eyed Vireo – 1 at Mayfield, *Graves*, 1 April (†CBI) was the first reported. 25 at Land Between the Lakes, *Lyon*, 19 April (†BPa) was the highest number reported.

Bell's Vireo – 1 at Beaverdam Slough Rd, *Ballard*, 27 April (ph. †SRe) was the first reported. 14 at Sloughs Area, *Henderson*, 25 May (ph. †JMe) was the highest number reported.

Yellow-throated Vireo – 1 heard at Mammoth Cave NP, *Edmonson*, 3 April (SKi) was the first reported.

Blue-headed Vireo – 1 at Berea, *Madison*, 19 March (ph. RBa, RFo) was the first reported.

Philadelphia Vireo – 1 at KY Higginson-Henry WMA, *Union*, 27 April (CCr) was the first reported. 1 at E.P. "Tom" Sawyer SP, *Jefferson*, 24 May (PPi) was the last reported.

Warbling Vireo – 1 at Wilmore, *Jessamine*, 9 April (†KBi) was the first reported.

Red-eyed Vireo – 2 at Sheltolee Trace Trail, *Whitley*, 7 April (†CNI) were the first reported. 87 at Stephens Knob DBNF, *McCreary*, 2 May (†RDe) was the highest number reported.

Common Raven – The report furthest into the interior of the state was a single bird off the Mountain Parkway, *Magoffin*, 10 May (†ZHa). A first breeding record for *Lawrence*, 6 April (HWe, per. comm. KSI) was also notable for being the first nest in Kentucky to be built on a man-made bridge.

Bank Swallow – 1 at Somerset, *Pulaski*, 27 March (RBo) was the first reported. 200 at Sand Slough, *Henderson*, 10 May (KMj) was the highest number reported.

Tree Swallow – 500 at Lexington Reservoirs #2 & 3, *Fayette*, 26 April (DSv) was the highest number reported.

Northern Rough-winged Swallow – 2 at Reelfoot NWR, *Fulton*, 19 March (ALy) were the first reported. 150 at Melco Flood Retention Basin, *Jefferson*, 26 April (ph. MAu) was the highest spring count on record.

Purple Martin – 500 at McElroy Lake, *Warren*, 27 May (†RSh) was the highest number reported.

Barn Swallow – 1 at Lake Linville, *Rockcastle*, 14 March (†NKi) was the first reported. 1000 at McElroy Lake, *Warren*, 26 April (†RSh) was the highest spring number reported (1000 were reported at the same location in 1989).

Cliff Swallow – 2 at Land Between the Lakes, *Trigg*, 20 March (†ALy) were the first reported. 550 at Land Between the Lakes, *Trigg*, 27 April (†HCh) was the highest

number reported although a report of 2500 swallow sp. of which Cliff Swallows were noted to have been the most common at McElroy Lake, *Warren*, 13 May (†BPa, MMo) was equally as impressive.

BROWN-HEADED NUTHATCH – KBRC Review required. 2 to 3 were reported from the regular location in London, *Laurel*, and were reported through the season.

Brown Creeper – 1 at Cypress Creek, *Marshall*, 29 May (†BPa) was a late sighting for the species. This location has had reports of birds found in the breeding season in the past.

House Wren – 1 at Bens Cliff, *Wayne*, 8 March (LBo) was a continuation from the previous season. The next earliest bird was 1 in *Oldham* 22 March (RFR).

Winter Wren – 1 at Cherokee Park, *Jefferson*, 26 April (ph. †JWh) was the last reported.

Sedge Wren – 2 at Midway Area, *Fulton*, 21 March (†MEa, HCh) were the first reported. Birds had been noted in the winter season in nearby Reelfoot and these may represent overwintering birds. The subsequent report to these was a single bird at Bogle Road, *Warren*, 21 April (au. BPa, MMo). 1 at Melco Flood Retention Basin, *Jefferson*, 13 May (EHo) was the last reported.



Marsh Wren – Fulton Co.
30 March 2020, Daniel Redwine

Marsh Wren – 1 at Sloughs WMA, Sauerheber Unit, *Henderson*, 20 March (†RRo) probably represented an overwintering bird. Away from wintering areas, 1 at Capital

View Park, *Franklin*, 18 April (†NSa) was the first migratory bird reported. 1 at Cherokee Park, *Jefferson*, 21 May (ph. JBa) was the last reported.

BEWICK'S WREN – KBRC Review required. Having not been seen since 2011, 1 turned up at Bowling Green, *Warren*, first noted at the beginning of May (VBr) before being documented 3 May (ph. LCo, †DSv, m.ob.). The bird remained in place until 25 May (†VBr).



Bewick's Wren – Warren Co.
8 May 2020, David Lang

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher – 1 at Lake Cumberland WMA, *Pulaski*, 24 March (RDe) was the first reported.

Golden-crowned Kinglet – 1 at KY Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources Headquarters, *Franklin*, 4 May (†KRi) was the last reported.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet – 50 at Lexington Cemetery, *Fayette*, 18 April (†KBi) was the highest number reported. 1 at Nettleloth Bird Sanctuary, *Jefferson*, 17 May (PBe) was the last reported.

Veery – 1 in *Kenton*, 23 April (†HWr) was the first reported.

Gray-cheeked Thrush – 1 at Frenchburg, *Menifee*, 27 April (THn) was the first reported. 1 at Cherokee Park, *Jefferson*, 23 May (JWh) was the last reported.

Swainson's Thrush – 1 at Muhlenberg County Rail Trail, *Muhlenberg*, 19 April (†DSn) was the first reported. 35 at Lexington Cemetery, *Fayette*, 16 May (†ROc) was the highest

number reported. 1 at Beargrass Creek SNP, *Jefferson*, (MHb, BWc) and 1 at Campbell County Environmental Education Center, *Campbell*, (JNe) both 30 May were the last reported.

Hermit Thrush – 2 at Seneca Park, *Jefferson*, 9 May (ph. †BWr) were the last reported. 18 at Cherokee Park, *Jefferson*, 17 April (†JBa) was the highest number reported.

Wood Thrush – 1 at Mayfield, *Graves*, 8 April (†TMc) was the first reported. 20 at Lexington Cemetery, *Fayette*, 25/28 April (ROc/TQu) was the highest number reported.

American Pipit – 100 at McElroy Lake, *Warren*, 5 March (†BPa) was the highest number reported. 1 at McElroy Lake, *Warren*, 7 May (RSh) was the last reported.

Purple Finch – There were a number of reports of Purple Finches during the season. There was little detail added to confirm the reports and as such it is difficult to determine a verifiable date for last-reported.

Pine Siskin – Reports from 10 locations, all single birds. A single bird near Stanford, *Lincoln*, 15 May (JEI) was the last reported.

Lapland Longspur – There was only one report of 4 birds at Sloughs WMA, Sauerheber Unit, *Henderson*, 1 March (ph. †JMe).

Grasshopper Sparrow – 1 near Winchester, *Clark*, 6 April (†NSk) was the first reported.

Lark Sparrow – 1 in Louisville, *Jefferson*, 19 April (†VSa) was the first reported. 1-4 birds were also reported in *Henderson*, *Calloway* and *Warren*.

Fox Sparrow – 1 at Rose Hill, *Oldham*, 7 April (RFR) was the last reported.

American Tree Sparrow – Few reports with sightings at only 12 locations. 1 at KY River WMA, *Henry*, (GSp) and 1 in *Oldham*, (RFR) both on 22 March were the last reported.

Dark-eyed Junco – The continuing Oregon Junco (*J. hyemalis oregonus*) at Douglass Hills, *Jefferson*, was last reported 16 March

(†MYa). The last report away from Black Mountain was of a single bird at Berea College Forest, *Madison*, 17 April (RBa, RFo).

White-crowned Sparrow – 1 near Mayfield, *Graves*, 17 May (ph. TMc) was the last reported.

HARRIS'S SPARROW – KBRC Review required. 1 continuing from the previous season at Kingston Rd., *Graves*, was last reported 15 March (†BPa).

White-throated Sparrow – 1 at Cherokee Park, *Jefferson*, 23 May (ph. TNo, NBr) was the last reported.

Vesper Sparrow – A continuation from the previous season was a single bird seen at Kentucky Bend Rd., *Fulton*, 1 March (ph. †ALy NKI). Birds were also reported in *Daviess*, *Jefferson* (4 different locations), *Campbell*, *Calloway* and *Muhlenberg*.

LeConte's Sparrow – There was 1 report. A single bird at Sutton Road, *Fulton*, 11 March (†ALy).

Henslow's Sparrow – Recorded in 13 counties. 1 at Surrey Hills Farm, *Jefferson*, 2 April (†LMc, ph. JBa, m.ob.) was the first reported. 40 north of Caneyville, *Grayson*, 14 April (ph. †JBe) was the highest number reported.

Lincoln's Sparrow – 1 at Kentucky Bend Rd., *Fulton*, 1 March (ph. †ALy) was probably a continuation from the previous season but last reported at the end of January. Away from overwintering sites the first report was a single bird at Virginia Mills Nature Center, *Daviess*, 11 April (†RRo). 1 at Melco Flood Retention Basin, *Jefferson*, 23 May (†CBe) was the last reported.

Swamp Sparrow – 1 at Surrey Hills Farm, *Jefferson*, 16 May (†EHo) was the last reported.

Yellow-breasted Chat – 1 north of Canmer, *Hart*, 18 April (†SKi, m.ob.) was the first reported. 32 at Sloughs Area, *Henderson*, 25

May (ph. †JMe) was the highest number reported.

YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD – KBRC Review required. 1 at McElroy Lake, *Warren*, 18 May (†BPa, RSh) was the only report for the season.

Bobolink – 2 at Lake Number 9, *Fulton*, 20 April (CBI) were the first reported. 175 at Sutton Road, *Fulton*, 5 May (HCh) was the highest number reported.

Western Meadowlark – There were 5 reports, including 3 at Elbow Slough Road, *Fulton*, 16 March (ph. †BPa); 1 at Morgan Pond, *Christian*, 20/22 March (ph. †BPa, JBr/†JTe); 1 at McElroy Lake, *Warren*, 20 March (†BPa, m.ob.); 1 near Allensville, *Todd*, 22 March (†JTe); 1 at Sutton Road, *Fulton*, 29 March (†JTe).

Orchard Oriole – 1 at Anchorage Trail, *Jefferson*, 14 April (ph. MKo) was the first reported.



Henslow's Sparrow – Jefferson Co.
2 April 2020, Jamie Baker

Baltimore Oriole – 1 north of Glasgow, *Barren*, 17 April (SMo) was the first reported.

Rusty Blackbird – The last reported was a single bird at Jacobson Park, *Fayette*, 27 April (ph. TNo).

Brewer's Blackbird – 230 northeast of Madisonville, *Hopkins*, 23 March (ph. †BPa) was the highest number reported. 1 at Surrey Hills Farm, *Jefferson*, 28 April (ph. †BPa) was a late bird.

Ovenbird – 2 at Sheltowee Trace Trail, *Whitley*, 7 April (†CNI) were the first reported.

Worm-eating Warbler – 1 at Alpine Rec. Area DBNF, *Pulaski*, 9 April (RDe) was the first reported.

Louisiana Waterthrush – 1 at Land Between the Lakes, *Trigg*, 15 March (†JHa, TDe) was an early first report.

Northern Waterthrush – 2 at Broad Run Park, *Jefferson*, 14 April (†LSc) were the first reported. 1 at Turkey Run Park, *Jefferson*, 30 May (†MBr, SBr) was the last reported.

Golden-winged Warbler – 1 at Craigmoor Estates, *Scott*, 28 April (DLA) was the first reported. 2 at Land Between the Lakes, *Lyon*, 12 May (†EHo) were the last reported.

Blue-winged Warbler – 1 at Bens Cliff, *Wayne*, 29 March (†LBo) was an early sighting for the species.



Blue-winged Warbler – Owen Co.
3 May 2020, Jeff Sole

Black-and-white Warbler – 1 at Little Lick Rec. Area DBNF, *Pulaski*, 22 March (†RDe) was the first reported.

Prothonotary Warbler – 1 at Carter Dock, *Wayne*, 28 March (†LBo) was the first reported. 25 at Sloughs Area, *Henderson*, 25 May (ph. JMe) was the highest number reported.

Swainson's Warbler – 1 at Crappie Hollow (Blood River), *Calloway*, 8 April (ph. †HCh) was a record early sighting for the species.

The second report was 2 at Old Fidelity Rd. Loop DBNF, *McCreary*, 17 April (ph. RDe) which in itself was a relatively early sighting. 7 at Rock Creek Rd., *McCreary*, 9 May (†RDe) was the highest number reported.

Tennessee Warbler – 1 at Lexington Cemetery, *Fayette*, 15 April (†DPa) was the first reported. 2 at E.P. "Tom" Sawyer SP, *Jefferson*, 24 May (PPi) were the last reported.

Orange-crowned Warbler – A number of March reports may be indicative of wintering birds and are included here. 1 at Rolling Hills, *Jefferson*, 6 March (ph. BPa) was a continuing bird from the previous season and was still coming to a suet feeder until 25 March (ph. †ITH, STk); 1 at Lexington Reservoir #4, *Fayette*, 6 March (†ROc); 1 at South Beargrass Creek Retention Basin, *Jefferson*, 7 March (†EHo); 1 at Owensboro, *Daviess*, 26 March (†RRo); 1 at Melco Flood Retention Basin, *Jefferson*, 28 March (†MBr, m.ob.). Spring migrants first arrived at Kentucky Lake WMA, *Calloway*, 12 April (†ALy) after which date they were regularly noted across the central and western parts of the state. 1 at Public Service Park, *Kenton*, 12 May (†EGr) was the last reported.

Nashville Warbler – 1 at Land Between the Lakes, *Trigg*, 11 April (†MEa, HCh) was the first reported. 1 at Cherokee Park, *Jefferson*, 24 May (†JWh, m.ob.) was the last reported.

Connecticut Warbler – 1 at Cherokee Park, *Jefferson*, 14 May (†CBe, RHi) was the first reported. Single birds at Sloughs Area, *Henderson*, (ph. †JMe) and northeast Lexington, *Fayette*, (†KBu) on 25 May were the last reported.

Mourning Warbler – 1 at Bens Cliff, *Wayne*, 4 May (ph. LBo) was the first reported. 1 at Louisville, *Jefferson*, 25 May (†SWa) was the last reported. A recording taken at Lexington Cemetery, *Fayette*, 23 May (au. ROc) was identified as coming from the eastern regiolect population (1 of 4 population ranges) whose breeding ground is spread from Ontario to Maine.

Kentucky Warbler – 1 at Old Fidelity Rd. Loop DBNF, *McCreary*, (RDe) and 1 at Mammoth Cave NP, *Edmonson*, (SKi) both 17 April were the first reported.

Common Yellowthroat – 1 at Reelfoot NWR, *Fulton*, 19 March (†ALy) was a probable overwintering bird. The first reported migrating bird was 1 at Old Fidelity Rd. Loop DBNF, *McCreary*, (RDe) 5 April.

Hooded Warbler – 1 at Sheltopee Trace Trail, *Whitley*, 7 April (†CNI) was the first reported.

American Redstart – 1 at Rock Creek Rd., *McCreary*, 17 April (RDe) was the first reported. 30 at Veterans Park, *Fayette*, 14 May (†SPe) was the highest number reported.

Cape May Warbler – 1 at Land Between the Lakes, *Lyon*, 19 April (†BPa) was the first reported. 1 at Land Between the Lakes, *Lyon*, 22 May (†WAh) was the last reported.

Cerulean Warbler – 1 at Mammoth Cave NP, *Edmonson*, 12 April (BPa) was the first reported.

Northern Parula – 1 at Land Between the Lakes, *Trigg*, 26 March (†ALy) was the first reported.

Magnolia Warbler – 1 at Land Between the Lakes, *Lyon*, 25 April (†RBo) was the first reported and sightings persisted into the first week of the summer season.

Bay-breasted Warbler – 1 at Land Between the Lakes, *Lyon*, 27 April (LHe) was the first reported. 25 at Lexington Cemetery, *Fayette*, 17 May (†KMa) was the record high number reported. 1 north of Carlisle, *Nicholas*, 25 May (†RSa, PSa) was the last reported.

Blackburnian Warbler – 1 at Lexington Cemetery, *Fayette*, 16 April (†LTh) was the first reported. Last report away from summer range was 1 at Veterans Park, *Fayette*, 25 May (†NBr, TNo).

Yellow Warbler – 1 at Land Between the Lakes, *Trigg*, 11 April (HCh) was the first reported.

Chestnut-sided Warbler – 1 at Owsley Fork Reservoir, *Madison*, 25 April (JAb) was the first reported.

Blackpoll Warbler – 2 at KY Dam Village SRP, *Marshall*, 19 April (†BPa) were the first reported. 1 at Anchorage Trail, *Jefferson*, 26 May (†MKo) was the last reported.



Blackpoll Warbler – Jefferson Co.
3 May 2020, Sunil Thirkannad

Black-throated Blue Warbler – 1 at east Lexington, *Fayette*, 12 April (†DSv) was the first reported.

Palm Warbler – 2 at Veterans Park, *Fayette*, 22 May (MSr) were the last reported.

Yellow-rumped Warbler – 1 at Cherokee Park, *Jefferson*, 22 May (†PPi) was a late date for the species.

Yellow-throated Warbler – 1 at Sheltopee Trace Trail, *Bath*, 25 March (CNI) was the first reported.

Prairie Warbler – 2 at E.P. "Tom" Sawyer SP, *Jefferson*, 4 April (PPi) were the first reported.

Black-throated Green Warbler – 1 at Big South Fork NRR, *McCreary*, 25 March (RDe) was the first reported.

Canada Warbler – 2 at Pope Lick Park, *Jefferson*, 1 May (JSp) were the first reported. The last reported away from breeding locations was 1 at Arthur K. Draut Park, *Jefferson*, 23 May (NBr, TNo).

Wilson's Warbler – 1 at Ballard WMA, *Ballard*, 30 April (SRe) was the first reported.

ed. 1 in *Kenton*, 31 May (ph. ELn) was the last reported.

Summer Tanager – 1 in east Lexington, *Fayette*, 12 April (DSv) was the first reported.

Scarlet Tanager – 2 at Mammoth Cave National Park, *Hart*, 15 April (JFo) were the first reported.

Western Tanager – Overwintering bird in *Jefferson* was last reported 30 March (LSq, per. comm. BPa).

Rose-breasted Grosbeak – It was a good season for Rose-breasted Grosbeaks. There were many double digit reports. 1 at Han-

cock Biological Station, *Calloway*, 17 April (CBl, ALy) was the first reported. 30 southwest of Dunnville, *Russell*, 8 May (ph. JTa) was the highest number reported.

Blue Grosbeak – 1 at Calvert City, *Marshall*, 9 April (†JTe) was the first reported.

Indigo Bunting – 1 at Lower Hickman Bottoms, *Fulton*, 11 March (ph. †ALy) was probably an overwintering bird. The first migrant was 1 at E.P. “Tom” Sawyer SP, *Jefferson*, 12 April (†PPi).

Dickcissel – 1 at Open Pond, transient (restricted access, roadside viewing), *Fulton*, 5 April (†HCh) was a record early sighting for the species.

REFERENCES

eBird Basic Dataset. Version: EBD_relMay-2020. Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Ithaca, New York. May 2020.

Palmer-Ball, Jr., B. *Annotated Checklist of the Birds of Kentucky*, Third Edition. The Kentucky Ornithological Society, 2019.

Yandell, B. 2019. 19th Report of the Kentucky Bird Records Committee. *The Kentucky Warbler*, 95: 112-120.

LOCATIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS (*Italics* indicate a county name)

Most locations are based on their eBird Hotspot Name

Blood River = Blood River embayment of Ky Lake, *Calloway*

Jonathan Creek = Jonathan Creek embayment, Ky Lake, *Marshall*

KY Bend = Kentucky Bend, w. *Fulton*

KY Dam = Kentucky Dam, *Livingston*/*Marshall*

KY Lake = Kentucky Lake, *Calloway*/*Marshall*/*Trigg*

Lower Hickman Bottoms, w. *Fulton*

Sledd Creek = Sledd Creek embayment of Ky Lake, *Marshall*

SP = State Park

SRP = State Resort Park

University of Kentucky, CAFE, Research Farm, *Fayette*, formerly Spindletop Research Farm.

WMA = Wildlife Management Area.

KEY TO OBSERVER CODES

ADp – Alvin Draper

AHz – Allison Henze

ALy – Andrew Lydeard

BLe – Ben Leffew

BNo – Brandon Nooner

BPa – Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.

BWc – Ben Wichser

BWr – B Woerner

BYa – Ben Yandell

CBe – Carol Besse

CBl – Clay Bliznick

CCr – Charles Crawford

CGi – Christopher Gilbert

CNi – Charles Nicholson

DCh – Debbie Chadwick

DDk – Dan Dolak	JSp – Josh Stapleton	PSp – Pam Spaulding
DHa – Debbie Hamilton	JTa – Joy Tarter	RBa – Rebecca Bates
DLa – David Lang	JTe – Jeremy Teague	RBo – Ray Bontrager
DMi – Doug Mitchell	JWh – James A. Wheat	RCh – Robert Chadwick
DMn – Don Martin	KBi – Kyle Bixler	RCr – Rodney Crice
DPa – Daniel Patrick	KBu – Katey Buster	RDe – Roseanna Denton
DPi – Diana Piep	KMa – Kevin Scott Marsh	RFo – Robert Foster
DRe – Daniel Redwine	KMi – Keith Michalski	RFr – Richard A Fischer Sr.
DRo – David Roemer	KOe – Ken Oeser	RHi – Ron Hirsch
DSn – Douglas Simpson	KRi – Keith Richardson	RKe – Richard Kessler
DSv – David Svetich	KSl – Kate Slankard	ROc – Ronan O'Carra
ECl – Elizabeth Caudill	LHe – Lorraine Hetzler	RPr – Richard Preston
EGr – Ed Groneman	LHz – Lea Henze	RRa – Reuben Raber
EHo – Eric Hope	LMc – Lindsey McMahon	RRo – Robert Rold
ELn – Elizabeth Lindemann	LPa – Lee Payne	RSa – Randall Sale
EMe – Ellen Mershon	LSc – Liz Schaffner	RSh – Rickey Shive
EMo – Ellen Molle	LSq – Lee Squires	SAr – Sharon Arnold
ENa – Eric Nally	LTh – Laurie Thomas	SBr – Steve Brown
EWe – Ethan Wells	MAu – Michael Autin	SBw – Stella Brown
FLy – Frank Lyne	MBn – Mike Breen	SKi – Steve Kistler
GBi – Gloria Birtell	MBr – Meg Brown	SMo – Sandra Moss
GSp – Gary Sprandel	MEa – Melissa Easley	SPe – Sydney Penner
HCh – Happy Chambers	MEr – Mark Ernstes	SRe – Scott Record
HWe – Harley Weaver	MGr – Mark Greene	STh – Sunil Thirkannad
HWr – Helen Wright-North	MHb – Megan Halaburda	STk – Sneha Thirkannad
ITh – Indira Thirkannad	MHl – Mason Howell	STy – Stephen Tyson
JAb – John Abrams	MKo – Maria Koukoulas	SWa – Sean Ward
JBa – Jamie Baker	MMo – Mark Monroe	TBk – Tony Black
JBe – Jamin Beachy	MSr – Michael Strother	TDe – Tammy Devine
JBr – John Brunjes	MYa – Mary Yandell	TDu – Tom Durbin
JEI – Jackie Elmore	NBr – Nancy Braun	TGr – Teresa Graham
JFa – Julia Farmer	NKi – Nancy Kitchen	THn – Troy Hutchison
JFe – James Ferrell	NKl – Niklas Klauss	TMc – TJ McGary
JFo – John Forman	NRo – Nikki Rothwell	TNo – Teresa Noel
JHa – Joseph Hall	NSa – Nour Salam	TQu – Tommy Quarles
JKi – Jason King	NSk – Nathan Skinner	TSa – Tim Salzman
JLe – Jannah Lee	OZa – Olyver Zahn	TSh – Tanner Shepard
JMe – John Meredig	PBe – Patti Bell	TVi – Tammie Vied Smith
JNe – John Neack	PBl – Pat Bell	VBr – Valerie Brown
JPu – Joseph Purdy	PNl – Patricia Noll	VSa – Vicki Sandage
JSn – Jennifer Snyder	PPi – Patrice Pittman	WAh – Win Ahrens
JSo – Jeffery Sole	PSa – Pam Sale	ZHa – Zack Hackworth



FIELD NOTES

Burt L. Monroe, Jr. Avian Research Report

Authors:

Gage Barnes¹, John Hewlett¹, Kate Slankard², Loren Taylor², Andrea Darracq¹

1. Department of Biological Sciences, Murray State University
2. Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources

Extended Abstract:

Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*) nests located on telecommunication towers (TCTs) are approximately 3-8 times higher than natural or constructed nests. Consequently, nestlings reared on TCTs may be exposed to harsher weather conditions and ultimately have lower survival rates. Additionally, adults may use more energy during food provisioning because of TCT heights, which could influence foraging or nest guarding behaviors. The objective of our study was to evaluate the influence of TCTs on Osprey nest productivity, adult foraging, and nest guarding behaviors. We observed 30 Osprey nests [TCTs (n=11), navigation daymarkers (DMs; n=10), natural substrates (NATs; n=9)] from aircraft, vehicle, or on foot. To assess differences in adult behaviors and nest success and productivity, we monitored each nest for adult foraging behaviors (i.e., number of fish delivered to the nest) and the number of successful fledglings produced throughout the 2019 breeding season. We also quantified the number of human disturbances that occurred at each nest site. Nest success and nest productivity were similar across all nesting substrates (range: 1 – 1.2 fledglings per nest). Nests on DMs received 2 to 2.6 times more fish compared to nests on NATs and TCTs, respectively. Moreover, DMs (20.2 disturbances/hr) experienced 4.7 to 65.2 times more disturbances than NATs (4.3 disturbance/hr) and TCTs (0.31 disturbance/hr), respectively. The most prolonged disturbances at nests were when photographers and birders encroached the nest such that the adult birds departed.

The height of TCTs did not appear to influence nest productivity or success. We hypothesize the potential costs associated with TCT height may be counteracted by reduced human disturbances. Moreover, though DMs had high rates of human disturbance, increased provisioning of fish to offspring may offset these costs. Consequently, there may be a trade-off between intensity of human disturbance and fish provisioning. As this study was observational, we could not assess the physical condition of the fledglings at nest departure. As a result, the differing amounts of fish delivered between the nesting substrates could have resulted in unmeasured consequences to the fledglings, such as body condition (i.e., fat stores), which correlates with greater first year survivorship and may ultimately increase reproductive output. A future study tracking Osprey post-fledgling would help elucidate potential long-term effects TCTs and other artificial substrates may have on Osprey.

Membership Application for the Kentucky Ornithological Society

We prefer that you renew on join online at www.birdky.org. That saves our volunteers time and effort. But if for some reason you can't use our online methods, use this form instead.

Please mail this form plus your dues to Steve Kistler, 1335 Sam Goodman Rd, Munfordville KY 42765. Please make checks payable to Kentucky Ornithological Society.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Membership Category (check one):

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| _____ Regular - \$15.00 | _____ Family (Contributing) - \$30.00 |
| _____ Family (Regular) - \$20.00 | _____ Student - \$10.00 |
| _____ Contributing - \$25.00 | _____ Life - \$300.00 |

Membership Total _____

Donations

- | | |
|---|-------|
| Area of greatest need | _____ |
| Monroe Fund for research in ornithology | _____ |
| Anne Stamm Fund for educational grants to educators | _____ |
| Gordon Wilson Fund to support our publications | _____ |

Total enclosed _____

NEWS AND VIEWS

Virginia and Wendell Kingsolver Scholarship Available

The Virginia & Wendell Kingsolver Scholarship Fund was established in 2013 to honor the memory of Virginia “Ginny” Kingsolver and the legacy and contributions of Ginny and her husband, Wendell, to KOS and to environmental education efforts across Kentucky. The scholarship is available to birders between the ages of 13 and 18 who live in Kentucky. The Fund will pay tuition to attend an American Birding Association (ABA) Summer Camp. Details about the ABA camps can be found on the ABA website. To apply for a Kingsolver Scholarship, applicants should fill out the form found on the KOS website (<http://birdky.org/wendell-and-ginny-kingsolver-fund.html>), write a short essay (500 words or less) on why he or she wants to attend, and include a brief recommendation from a parent, teacher, or mentor. Applications should be sent to Carol Besse (csbesse@bellsouth.net). Recipients will be asked to report on their camp experience either in person to their local bird club, to KOS at a meeting, or in writing. Scholarship applications are due by May 1 each year, however grants will be subject to ABA camp’s space availability.

At the time of publication the Virginia & Wendell Kingsolver Scholarship is well funded and donations are currently closed. Donations to the general funds, and to those funds below, are still welcome.

Anne L. Stamm Avian Education Fund Grants Available

The Anne L. Stamm Avian Education Fund supports the education of children in the deeper appreciation of birds and ornithology. For guidelines on how to apply for grants of up to \$5000, visit the KOS website (<http://www.birdky.org/anne-stamm-fund.html>) or contact Scott Marsh by mail at 4401 Athens-Boonesboro Road, Lexington, KY, 40509, or via email at (SMarsh@Clayingels.com).

Burt L. Monroe, Jr. Avian Research Grants Available

The Burt L. Monroe, Jr. Avian Research Fund supports research on birds in Kentucky with monetary awards of up to \$5000. For guidelines on how to apply, visit the KOS website (<http://www.birdky.org/burt-monroe-jr-fund.html>) or contact Kate Slankard, Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, #1 Sportsman’s Lane, Frankfort, KY, 40601 (kate.slankard@ky.gov).

Recipients of KOS grants are expected to submit research articles or summary reports, which will be published in future issues of *The Kentucky Warbler*.

Gordon Wilson Fund Grants Available

The Gordon Wilson Fund was established in honor of Dr. Gordon Wilson, respected Kentucky ornithologist and one of the three founders of KOS. Grants of up to \$5,000 may be requested to fund research, publication costs, and environmental education projects. Members of the Society will receive preference for funding, but others are encouraged to apply. For guidelines on how to apply, visit the KOS website (<http://www.birdky.org/kos-funds-scholarships-and-endowments.html>) or contact Teresa Noel by mail at 1713 Beacon Hill Rd, Lexington, KY, 40504, or via email at (teresanoel@gmail.com).

NEWS AND VIEWS

Annotated Checklist of the Birds of Kentucky (3rd ed.) now available.

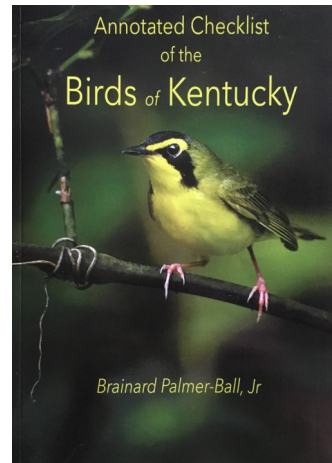
By Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.

(Kentucky Ornithological Society).

Paperback 276 pages. 1 August 2019.

“The 3rd edition of the *Annotated Checklist of the Birds of Kentucky* updates the status and abundance of 390 species that have been documented to have occurred in Kentucky. The 3rd edition has been expanded to include more detailed lists of county distribution of many less common species. Included in species descriptions are brief summaries of status, distribution, seasonal occurrence, and abundance.”

– Kentucky Ornithological Society website.



This important reference is available at meetings of the society, through Aerio Book Sales (<https://aerbook.com/maker/productcard-4886075-6955.html>) and wherever books are sold.



Ruddy Turnstone – Warren Co.
12 May 2020, Rickey Shive



Wilson's Phalarope – Warren Co.
29 April 2020, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.

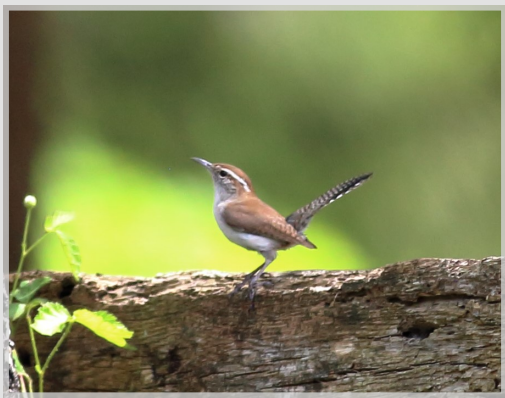


Scissor-tailed Flycatcher
Lyon Co., 24 April 2020
Rickey Shive



Yellow-crowned Night-Heron
Jefferson Co., 23 March 2020
John Mann

Blue-winged Warbler
Owen Co., 3 May 2020
Jeff Sole



Bewick's Wren
Warren Co., 4 May 2020
Ben Yandell

Red Knot
Warren Co., 13 May 2020
Jamie Baker

