

THE **OHIO CARDINAL**
DEVOTED TO THE STUDY AND APPRECIATION OF OHIO'S BIRDLIFE • VOL. 44, NO. 4, SUMMER 2021





*This Evening Grosbeak fairly glows with health, and a plump tummy, from the feast of seeds Ed Wransky provided at his home on 02 Jun, in **Lorain**.*

On the cover:

The arrival of courting Piping Plovers in May at Maumee Bay, and the subsequent mating, egg laying, hatching, banding, and fledging of four chicks throughout the summer was a celebration for many birders enjoying these events in Ohio for the first time in over 80 years. Clockwise from upper left: Nellie, the adult female, photo by Mandy Roberts; Kickapoo, one of the chicks, photo by Mandy Roberts; Nish, the adult male, photo by Joshua Vardous; "The Four we Adore", photo by Joshua Vardous; Nish still pursuing Nellie the day after the first laid egg was discovered, photo by Paul Jacyk. Special thanks to Laura Keene for the cover design.

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Devoted to the Study and Appreciation of Ohio's Birdlife

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COMMENTS ON THE SEASON

By Craig Caldwell

The Ohio Cardinal is pleased to welcome Tom Fishburn as our new Photo Editor. After Jamie Cunningham's departure, Roger Lau graciously stepped in to choose the photos for the spring issue. Roger has done the Cardinal's layout since the fall 2012 issue, preparing each for publication, and I greatly appreciate his adding the additional workload. Tom and Roger jointly assembled the photos for this summer's issue and Tom will fly solo beginning with fall's.

Tom got into birding in 1980 and his interests soon broadened to include butterflies, dragonflies, and wildflowers. His career in accounting brought him temporarily to Ohio in 2006, and when he realized "how wonderful the birding and the birding community is here", staying was easy. He quickly joined Western Cuyahoga Audubon and OOS. Tom started serious photography 10 years ago and since then has contributed photos to the Cardinal. With his retirement last year he's now able to use his discerning eye to benefit the publication even more. New Jersey's loss was Ohio's gain!

The Jun rainfall amount was about average for the state as a whole. However, the Dayton area and the Ohio River Valley mostly received double to triple their norms with a few pockets getting even more. A band across the middle third of the state was the driest, with stations having between 75 and 150% of their usual amounts. Temperature was a different story. The average ranked number 111 with 127 being the hottest; that means that only 13% of previous Juns were hotter. The heat was driven by the average low temperature that was the fifth highest of all time.

We got drenched in Jul, with a rank of 113 compared to the wettest number 127. Most of the state got up to double its usual amount. Only the southeast had areas well below their typical rainfall. Large areas in the northeast had more than double their usual amounts and one station near Akron had more than four times its long term average. With the rain came lower temperatures, with an overall average at number 70 of the 127. Though the lows were higher than usual, the highs were significantly lower.

Weather data are from the National Weather Service (<http://water.weather.gov/precip/>), the NOAA (<http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/temp-and-precip/maps.php>), and the Cleveland Plain Dealer.

A few waterfowl that should have been further north or west were here this summer; though injuries weren't noted that's often the reason for not completing migration. Sightings of Common Merganser families continue to increase. Shorebirds followed their usual pattern of early Jun stragglers, early to mid-Jul arrivals, and a few that could have been traveling either direction. Black-necked stilts nested at two locations, and the Piping Plovers at Maumee Bay SP were media stars – the fall issue of the *Cardinal* will have the full story. A mid-Jul Snowy Owl was an inexplicable (for me, anyway) wonder. Merlins nested in *Franklin* for the third year in a row.

Passerine migration, like that of shorebirds, followed the usual pattern, though perhaps a few more spring migrants than usual were slow to pass through. The formerly reliable Heritage Trail, *Franklin*, had no Bell's Vireo reports; I suspect that the burgeoning housing developments along it made it unattractive. Fish Crows are regular in *Cuyahoga* now but one unexpectedly showed up in *Franklin*. Grassland bird reports were helped by the extra attention that the *Harrison* White-tailed Kite brought to that county. Midsummer sightings of White-crowned and White-throated sparrows and Yellow-rumped Warblers were very unusual.

This issue of the *Cardinal* contains reports of 251 species, well over the ten year average of 244 and second only to last year's 253. One hybrid and five entries at the genus or family level are also listed. Twelve species were reported in all 88 counties and 13 more were seen in 87. Thirty-five were seen in between 80 and 86 counties. Only 36 species were reported in underbirded *Henry*.

The Ohio Bird Records Committee (OBRC) under Secretary Jon Cefus has continued to evaluate reports of Review Species. The Committee's most recent report is presented in this issue. In addition to the results of 25 reviews, it notes the removal of Neotropical Cormorant and Yellow Rail from the Review List. Because these actions didn't become effective until Aug, those two are still treated as Review Species in this account, and reports of their sightings through Jul remain eligible for review. The Committee completed another round of voting in September and its results will be reported in the fall *Cardinal*.

Ten review species were reported during this season; their names are underlined. Half of them generated at least one report to the OBRC; four of the five also had different sightings that did not

produce formal reports. Most of the posts contained enough descriptions or photos to allow review, and many are so definitive that acceptance is sure. (As always, these numbers don't include Trumpeter Swans, whose establishment or not is under study.)

The OBRC and this editor continue to urge birders to formally report all sightings of Review List species, of Core List species found at unusual times, of nesting by birds previously not known to nest in the state, and of course sightings of birds never before found in Ohio. An easy-to-use on-line form is available at <http://ohiobirds.org/rare-birds/report-a-rare-bird-sighting/>.

A quick note—counts ending with two or more zeros should be taken as estimates even if I don't specifically say so!

Data for the following Species Accounts come from reports submitted directly to *The Cardinal* and *The Bobolink* (the latter courtesy of its publisher, Robert Hershberger), eBird (<http://ebird.org/content/ebird>), and the Ohio-birds listserv (<http://birding.aba.org/maillist/OH>). In the species accounts, “normal” departure and arrival dates are from Harlan *et al.*, *Ohio Bird Records Committee Annotated Checklist of the Birds of Ohio*, 2008.

Taxonomic sequence and nomenclature follow the *Check-List of North and Middle American Birds*, 7th Edition (1998) as updated through the 62nd Supplement (2021). These documents are produced by the North American Classification Committee of the American Ornithological Society and are available at <http://www.checklist.aou.org/>.

County names are in bold italics. Locations whose counties are of the same name, for example Ashtabula (city) and Delaware Wildlife Area, usually do not have the counties repeated. County names for sites described in Cincinnati (*Hamilton*), Cleveland (*Cuyahoga*), Columbus (*Franklin*), Dayton (*Montgomery*), and Toledo (*Lucas*) are also omitted. Shortened names and a few sets of initials are used for locations and organizations that occur repeatedly; these abbreviations are listed here. The term “*vide*” is used in some citations; it means “in trust of” and is used where the reporter was not the observer.

Abbreviations:

Alum Creek = Alum Creek Reservoir, *Dela-ware*, unless otherwise noted
 Armleder Park = a Cincinnati city park on the Little Miami River, *Hamilton*
 Audubon = the National Audubon Society (<http://www.audubon.org>)

Aullwood = Aullwood Audubon Farm and Sanctuary, *Montgomery*
 Bayshore = a fishing access site near a power plant a bit east of Toledo
 Barrow FS = James H. Barrow Field Station, *Portage*
 BBS = the North American Breeding Bird Survey, a joint project of the United States Geological Survey (USGS) and the Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS)
 Berlin Lake = Berlin Lake (or Reservoir), *Ma-honing* and *Portage*
 Big Island = Big Island Wildlife Area, *Marion*
 Blendon Woods = Blendon Woods Metro Park, *Franklin*
 The Bowl = a limited-access area near the *Har-ri-son* airport
 BRAS = Black River Audubon Society
 BSBO = Black Swamp Bird Observatory, *Otta-wa* (<http://www.bsbo.org>)
 Buck Creek = Buck Creek State Park, *Clark*
 Burke Airport = Cleveland Burke Lakefront Air-port, *Cuyahoga*
 Caesar Creek = Caesar Creek State Park, *War-ren*, unless the lake itself is specified; a bit of the lake is also in *Clinton*
 CBC = Audubon's Christmas Bird Count
 CCE = Crane Creek Estuary, *Lucas* and *Otta-wa*, viewable from both ONWR and the CCE Trail that originates at Magee
 Clear Creek = Clear Creek Metro Park; the eastern 2/3 is in *Hocking*, the rest in *Fairfield*
 Clear Fork = Clear Fork Reservoir (or Lake), partly in *Morrow* but most of the birding is done in the larger *Richland* section
 CLNP = Cleveland Lakefront Nature Preserve (the former Dike 14), *Cuyahoga*
 CNC = Cincinnati Nature Center, a non-govern-mental entity whose Long Branch Farm and Rowe Woods units are in *Clermont*
 Conneaut = the mudflats to the west of Con-neaut Harbor, *Ashtabula*
 CP = County Park
 CPNWR = Cedar Point National Wildlife Ref-uge, *Lucas*
 CVNP = Cuyahoga Valley National Park, *Cuyahoga* and (mostly) *Summit*
 Darby Creek = Battelle Darby Creek Metro Park, almost entirely in *Franklin* but with bits in other counties as well. The Wet Prairie, Teal, and Harrier Trails are the most often cited.
 Deer Creek = the State Park is in *Pickaway*, the Wildlife Area is in *Fayette*, and Deer Creek Lake is in both but mostly *Pickaway*
 EcOhio = EcOhio Farm and Wetland, *Warren*
 East Fork = East Fork State Park, *Clermont*
 East Harbor = East Harbor State Park, *Ottawa*

Edge Preserve = The Nature Conservancy's Edge of Appalachia Preserve, multiple parcels mostly in **Adams** and extending a bit into **Scioto**.

Edgewater = the Edgewater unit of Cleveland Lakefront Metroparks, **Cuyahoga**

Ellis Lake = the eBird hotspot Ellis Lake Wetlands, outside Fairfield, **Butler**

Englewood = Englewood MetroPark, **Montgomery**

Fernald = Fernald Preserve, **Butler** and **Hamilton**

Findlay Reservoirs = several contiguous water bodies east of town in **Hancock**

Funk = Funk Bottoms Wildlife Area, **Ashland** and (mostly) **Wayne**

Gilmore = Gilmore MP, **Butler**

Grand Lake = Grand Lake St. Marys. The State Park, the state fish hatchery, and the eastern 20% of the lake itself are in **Auglaize**. The rest of the lake is in **Mercer**.

Great Miami WMB = Great Miami Wetlands Mitigation Bank, **Montgomery**

Headlands = Headlands Dunes State Nature Preserve, Headlands Beach State Park, and adjoining waters, **Lake**

Holden = Holden Arboretum, **Lake**, except for its Stebbins Gulch unit in **Geauga**

Hoover NP = Hoover Nature Preserve, **Delaware**

Hoover Reservoir = the northern 80% is in **Delaware**, the rest and the dam in **Franklin**

Howard Marsh = Howard Marsh Metropark, a bird magnet in **Lucas**

Hueston Woods = Hueston Woods State Park, which contains Acton Lake; about half is in each of **Butler** and **Preble**.

Huron = the harbor, breakwalls, and old dredge spoil impoundment in that **Erie** city, unless noted otherwise

Indian Lake = Indian Lake State Park, **Logan**

Jones Preserve = Jones Preserve at Long Point, on Kelleys Island, **Erie**

Kelleys Island = the island and adjoining waters, **Erie**

Killbuck = Killbuck State Wildlife Area, **Holmes** and **Wayne**

Killdeer = Killdeer Plains State Wildlife Area; a bit is in **Marion** but it's mostly in **Wyandot**

Kiwanis Park = Kiwanis Riverway Park, on the Scioto River in Dublin, **Franklin**

LaDue = LaDue Reservoir, **Geauga**

Lake Erie Bluffs = a **Lake** Metroparks parcel overlooking the eponymous water body

Lake Hope/Zaleski = Lake Hope State Park and surrounding Zaleski State Forest, **Vinton**

Lake Loramie = Lake Loramie State Park, **Shelby**

Lorain = the dredge spoil impoundment east of downtown in the city and county of the same name, unless otherwise noted

Lost Bridge = a Great Miami River crossing on Lawrenceburg Road near Elizabethtown, **Hamilton**, where a covered bridge was lost to fire in 1903

m. obs. = multiple observers

Magee = the boardwalk and immediate vicinity in Magee Marsh Wildlife Area, **Lucas**, unless otherwise noted. The northern third of the causeway is also in **Lucas**, the rest in **Ottawa**.

Malek Park = a city park on the west side of Conneaut, **Ashtabula**

Mallard Club = Mallard Club Marsh Wildlife Area, **Lucas**

Marblehead Light = Marblehead Lighthouse State Park, **Ottawa**

Maumee Bay = Maumee Bay State Park, **Lucas**, unless otherwise noted

Medusa = Medusa Marsh, **Erie**, an informally named and privately owned area between Sandusky and Bay View

Mentor Lagoons = Mentor Lagoons Nature Preserve, **Lake**

Mentor Marsh = Mentor Marsh State Nature Preserve, **Lake**

Metzger = Metzger Marsh Wildlife Area, **Lucas**, not to be confused with Metzger Reservoir, **Allen**

Mill Creek = Mill Creek Wildlife Sanctuary, a limited-access area in **Mahoning**

Mohican = Mohican State Forest and State Park. Many trails cross the boundaries so some reports include sightings from both without distinction.

Mohican SF = Mohican State Forest, **Ashland**

Mohican SP = Mohican State Park, (mostly) **Ashland** and (slightly) **Richland**

Mosquito Lake = Mosquito Lake State Park, formerly Mosquito Creek SP, and also called Mosquito Creek Reservoir, **Trumbull**. Mosquito (Creek) Wildlife Area adjoins it.

Motus = a wildlife tracking system managed by Bird Studies Canada

Nimisila = Nimisila Reservoir, **Summit**

MP = Metro Park, MetroPark, or Metropark depending on the system

NC = Nature Center

NF = National Forest

NP = Nature Preserve, except as part of CVNP

OBBA II = the second Ohio Breeding Bird Atlas

OBRC = Ohio Bird Records Committee

Old Highland Stone = that company's water-filled gravel pits, **Highland**

- Old Woman Creek = Old Woman Creek (National Estuarine Research Reserve) State Nature Preserve, **Erie**
- OOPMP = Oak Openings Preserve MetroPark, **Lucas**
- ONWR = Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge, **Lucas** and **Ottawa**
- ONWR Blausey, Boss, Koontz, and Navarre = units of ONWR separate from the main area, all in **Ottawa**; of them Boss and Koontz are open to the public
- ONWR WD = Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge Wildlife Drive, the monthly opening of areas otherwise closed to vehicles, **Lucas** and **Ottawa**
- OSU = The Ohio State University, of course; sites are in **Franklin** unless noted otherwise
- Painesville TP = Painesville Township Park, overlooking Lake Erie in **Lake**
- Pearson MP = Pearson Metro Park, **Lucas**
- Pickrel Creek = Pickrel Creek Wildlife Area, **Sandusky**
- Pickerington Ponds = Pickerington Ponds Metro Park, **Fairfield** and **Franklin**
- Pipe Creek = Pipe Creek Wildlife Area, in the city of Sandusky, **Erie**
- Pleasant Hill Lake = an impoundment straddling the **Ashland/Richland** line
- Quail Hollow = Quail Hollow State Park, **Stark**
- Rocky Fork = Rocky Fork State Park, **Highland**
- Salt Fork = Salt Fork State Park, **Guernsey**
- Sandy Ridge = Sandy Ridge Reservation, **Lorain**
- Seneca Lake = most of the lake and the (non-state) Park are in **Noble**, while the dam is in **Guernsey**
- SF = State Forest
- Shawnee = Shawnee State Forest, **Scioto**, unless otherwise noted
- Shawnee Lookout = Shawnee Lookout County Park, **Hamilton**
- Sheldon Marsh = Sheldon Marsh State Nature Preserve, **Erie**
- Sherod Park = a city park overlooking Lake Erie in Vermilion, **Erie**
- SNP = State Nature Preserve
- SP = State Park
- Springfield Lake = in Greater Akron, **Summit**
- Springville Marsh = Springville Marsh State Nature Preserve, **Seneca**
- Spring Valley = Spring Valley Wildlife Area, almost entirely in **Greene** but extending into **Warren**
- Stillfork = The Nature Conservancy's Stillfork Swamp Preserve, **Carroll**
- Sunset Park = a city park overlooking Lake Erie in Willoughby, **Lake**
- SWA = State Wildlife Area
- TNC = The Nature Conservancy (<http://www.nature.org>)
- TP = Township Park
- Vinton Furnace = Vinton Furnace Experimental Forest, **Vinton**
- Villa Angela = the Villa Angela unit of Cleveland's Lakefront Reservation
- Volunteer Bay = a private neighborhood on Lake Erie in **Erie**
- WA = Wildlife Area
- Wake Robin = a trail and boardwalk in Mentor Marsh State Nature Preserve, **Lake**
- Wendy Park = a lakeshore Cleveland park, **Cuyahoga**
- Wilderness Road = a road that traverses Funk Bottoms Wildlife Area, **Wayne**, and adjoining farmland
- The Wilds = a limited-access big-mammal breeding and research facility in **Muskingum**, also used generically to include the surrounding reclaimed strip mines
- Willow Point = Willow Point Wildlife Area, **Erie**
- Winous Horseshoe = a limited-access part of Winous Point Shooting Club, **Ottawa**
- Winous Point = Winous Point Shooting Club, **Ottawa**
- Wintergarden Woods = Wintergarden Woods and Saint Johns Nature Preserve, **Wood**
- Woodman Fen = a natural area, part of Dayton's Five Rivers MetroParks system, **Montgomery**
- WRGBT = Western Reserve Greenway Bike Trail, **Trumbull**
- Wright Marsh = a hotspot in Killbuck WA north of Shreve, **Wayne**
- WWTP = Wastewater Treatment Plant
- Zaleski = Zaleski State Forest, **Vinton**

SPECIES ACCOUNTS

By Craig Caldwell

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck

At the time of these reports, this was a review species. The OBRC has reports from **Lucas** and **Marion** and posts from **Summit** and **Ottawa** with descriptions and photos.

Snow Goose

Chris Ross saw one at the Hebron fish hatchery, **Licking**, on 03 Jun and it was still there for Matt Mason on 04 Jun. Matt saw the same bird after it moved to the **Licking** section of nearby Buckeye Lake SP later that day.

Canada Goose

Douglas Vogus and his ONWR census crews provided the two highest counts, 426 on 06 Jun and 397 on 04 Jul. Kurt Emmert saw the most elsewhere, about 350 in Toledo on 30 Jul. (all 88 counties)

Mute Swan

Observers saw 12 at Pickerington Ponds on several dates. The most elsewhere were six, at both ONWR on 05 Jun (Benjamin Miller) and a family at Buckeye Lake SP, **Fairfield**, on 31 Jul (Amy Longley and Betsy MacMillan) (25 counties)

Trumpeter Swan

The ONWR censuses again produced the two highest numbers, 206 on 06 Jun and 182 on 07 Jul (Douglas Vogus *et al.*). The most elsewhere were the 44 that Rick Nelson counted at Mosquito WA on both 19 and 21 Jul. (26 counties)



Patty McKeley photographed this juvenile Trumpeter Swan enjoying a leisurely swim at Sandy Ridge, **Lorain**, on 26 Jun.

Wood Duck

Douglas Vogus *et al.* counted 186 at ONWR on 06 Jun and Rick Asamoto counted 111 at Englewood on 31 Jul. (74 counties)

Blue-winged Teal

Three locations each hosted 12. (24 counties)

Godwall

The reports are:

Four at Howard Marsh on 17 Jun (Corinna Honscheid and Beth Lenoble)

One along the ONWR WD on 04 Jul (Greg Lawrence, Debra Sweeney)

One along the Magee causeway on 12 Jul (Ken Limmer)

American Wigeon

The reports are:

Eight along the ONWR WD on 04 Jul (Greg Lawrence, Debra Sweeney)

One at Howard Marsh on 18 Jul (Gregory Hartman)

Two at Walnut Beach Park, **Ashtabula**, on 31 Jul (James Smallwood)

Mallard

The ONWR WD produced about 240 for Josh Yoder on 12 Jun. The next most were George Novosel's 218 in the Portage Lakes North Reservoir, **Summit**, on 23 Jul. (81 counties)

American Black Duck

Brenda Ray saw eight at Hidden Harbor Lake, **Lucas**, on 05 Jul, and Monte Tarbox saw five at Shaker Lakes, **Cuyahoga**, on 31 Jul. (9 counties)

[Mallard x American Black Duck]

The reports are:

One at the Westlake Recreation Center, **Cuyahoga**, on 23 Jun (Bill Ohlsen)

One at Arcola, **Lake**, on 11 Jul (Brenda Ray)

One at North Chagrin Reservation, **Cuyahoga**, on 31 Jul (Marty Calabrese)

Green-winged Teal

Reports were scattered throughout the season. A trio of birders saw the most, 13 along the ONWR WD on 31 Jul. The most away from **Lucas** and **Ottawa** were duos at several locations. Reports also came from **Lorain**, **Mahoning**, **Marion**, and **Sandusky**.

Canvasback

Chad Carroll photographed one near Bluffton, **Hancock**, on 07 Jun.

Redhead

Geoffrey A. Williamson counted 10 at Big Island on 10 Jul and up to six were seen there on other dates between 01 Jun and 19 Jul. The most elsewhere were duos at Mosquito on 04 Jun (Larry Richardson) and at Howard Marsh on 05

Jun (John Durback). *Medina* also contributed a sighting.

Ring-necked Duck

Sightings were intermittent until 07 Jul, after which the only sighting was Beth and James Sybrandy's at Kiser Lake SP, *Champaign*, on 29 Jul. Two remained from May at Evans Park, *Licking*, on 01 Jun for Jeffrey Roth. (7 counties)

Lesser Scaup

Reports of solo birds were scattered throughout the season. The only greater number was Paul Jacyk's four at Cullen Park, *Lucas*, on 20 Jul. The reports came from *Ashtabula*, *Champaign*, *Cuyahoga*, *Lucas*, and *Trumbull*.

Bufflehead

Giselle Guevara and Marissa Johnston separately reported one at Alum Creek on 16 Jun. Another was at Howard Marsh on 09 Jul for Richard Stanton.

Common Goldeneye

One was seen at Alum Creek on 02 Jun (Rob Thorn), 16 Jun (Natalie Carusillo), and 17 Jun (Susan Brauning). Another was at Mosquito SP on 12 Jun (Rick Nelson).

Hooded Merganser

Pickel Creek hosted 19 for Amy Didion on 17 Jun. (34 counties)

Common Merganser

Karen Zeleznik saw a family of 21 on the Cuyahoga River at Station Road in CVNP on 12 Jun, and they were still there on 18 Jun for David Chernack. (Was that large number of young the result of nest dumping? Or a creche?) Nesting was also confirmed in *Knox* and was probable in several other counties of the 10 with sightings.

Red-breasted Merganser

The only multiple sighting was of three at ONWR Boss on 04 Jun by Kathy and Rose Jakischa. An injured bird spent at least 02 to 10 Jul at Alum Creek (m. obs.). Reports also came from *Cuyahoga* and *Lucas*.

Ruddy Duck

George Billman counted 17 at Big Island on 08 Jun and up to 16 were seen there on other dates. David Smith saw the most elsewhere, 13 at the Ferguson and Metzger Reservoirs, *Allen*, on 09 Jul. (20 counties)

Northern Bobwhite

Sandra Keller encountered 12 at Old Highland Stone on 03 Jun; most of them were calling from cover. (23 counties)

Wild Turkey

Heather Aubke counted 26 at Mohican SP on 22 Jun and wrote "4 adults, 22 (!) fledglings, all

crossing the road just before the gorge overlook trailhead parking lot." (71 counties)

Ruffed Grouse

Terry Bronson heard one along Deans Fork Road, *Washington*, on 01 Jun.

Ring-necked Pheasant

Ryan Taylor found six at Germantown MP, *Montgomery*, on 27 Jun. (21 counties)

Pied-billed Grebe

Gary Cowell and Lisa Durham counted 79 at Big Island on 17 Jul, and up to 77 were seen there on other dates. Jeff Goff's 40 at Howard Marsh on 31 Jul were the most elsewhere. (34 counties)

Rock Pigeon

Randy Morgan saw about 550 in downtown Hamilton, *Butler*, on 13 Jul. The next most were Rob Thorn's 220 in Clinton Township, *Franklin*, on 16 Jun. (83 counties)

Eurasian Collared-Dove

Carl Winstead saw the most, five along the South Charleston Bike Trail, *Clark*, on 01 Jun. (8 counties)

Mourning Dove

About 250 were at Fernald on 15 Jul for Brian Wulker and about 200 were at Lake Snowden, *Athens*, on both 09 and 12 Jul for William Kelly. (all 88 counties)

Yellow-billed Cuckoo

The high count of six was shared by Kurk Dorsy at each of two sections of the Edge Preserve and Landon Roberts at Slate Run MP, *Pickaway*, all on 14 Jun. (80 counties)

Black-billed Cuckoo

Marla and Troy Hibbits counted four at Mohican on 18 Jun and four sites each hosted duos. (39 counties)

Common Nighthawk

Tom Frankel counted 16 over Mentor Lagoons on 03 Jun and Cole DiFabio saw 18 there later that evening. Ron Sempier saw the next most, eight over Marion (city) on 30 Jul. (44 counties)

Chuck-will's-widow

All of the reports came from *Adams*. John Habig's four at the Edge Preserve's Rieveschel Overlook on 05 Jun were the most. The last was one that Amy Longley and Betsy MacMillan heard along Howard Road on 28 Jun.

Eastern Whip-poor-will

Kyle Brooks heard seven in the *Lawrence* section of Wayne NF on 14 Jun. (12 counties)

Chimney Swift

About 350 were over Wendy Park on 21 Jul for Jen Brumfield. Only *Pike* didn't have a sighting.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird

Huffman Prairie, **Greene**, hosted nine for Ted Ossege on 25 Jul. **Henry**, **Paulding**, and **Pike** didn't have sightings.

Rufous/Allen's Hummingbird

Sam Koch provided a description of one flying free at the Cincinnati Zoo on 05 Jul; of course it could have escaped from the aviary there.

King Rail

David Wilkins saw three near Fremont, **Sandusky**, on 01 Jul. (see Field Notes for more.) Alexander Teliak saw one at Howard marsh on 22 Jul.

Virginia Rail

The Honda Wetlands, **Union**, hosted six on 25 Jun for Cynthia Norris. (24 counties)

Sora

The high count was four; it was shared by Terri Gorney at Howard Marsh on 10 Jul and Jim Proffitt at Metzger on 30 Jul. (23 counties)

Common Gallinule

These nested at Howard Marsh; Kurt Emmert counted 41 there on 30 Jul and up to 25 were seen on other dates. David Lehner's 17 at Big Island on 01 Jul were the most elsewhere. (25 counties)

American Coot

Observers found up to about 50 at Big Island on several dates. The 20 at Howard Marsh on 22 Jun were the most elsewhere (Chad Wilson). (20 counties)

Sandhill Crane

Gaylee and Richard Dean enjoyed the sight of about 130 at Funk on 28 Jul. Nearby Wilderness Road hosted 77 for a trio of birders on 19 Jul. Douglas Vogus' ONWR census team found the most elsewhere, 29 on 06 Jun. (31 counties)



A pair of Sandhill Cranes dotting on their baby had their photo taken by Sheri Stone King on 13 Jun at Sandy Ridge Reservation.

Black-necked Stilt

These nested at both Howard Marsh and Mercer

WA. Other than the birds at those sites, the last northbound migrant was seen on 10 Jun, at Maumee Bay (Diana Steele) and the first southbound bird was near Mosquito Lake on 17 Jul (m. obs.). **Ottawa** and **Pickaway** also had sightings.

American Avocet

The first of the season showed up at Conneaut on 11 Jun for m. obs., and sightings were scattered throughout the rest of summer. The most were the six that Jamie Koller saw at Headlands on 24 Jul. (14 counties)



This American Avocet gave an athletic pose for Jim Smallwood on 11 Jun at Conneaut sandspit in Ashtabula.

Black-bellied Plover

One spent 03 to 05 Jun on the grounds of Hilliard Bradley High School, **Franklin**, for m. obs.; it was probably the last northbound bird. Carol Bates saw the first that was certainly southbound, at Howard Marsh on 04 Jul. **Trumbull** also had reports.

American Golden-Plover

Philip Runyon provided the only two reports, from the I-90 rest center in **Ashtabula** on 29 Jul and the Ira Road area of CVNP on 31 Jul.

**Black Bellied Plover/
American Golden-Plover**

Patrick Coy saw an indeterminate bird at Haskell Run, **Summit**, on 11 Jul.

Killdeer

About 175 to 180 were reported thrice. Eric Juterbock's were at the Grand Lake hatchery on 28 Jun, Philip A. Hershberger's at Prairie Lane, **Wayne**, on 24 Jul, and Ron Bicknell's at Englewood on 31 Jul. Only **Scioto** and **Vinton** didn't have sightings.

Semipalmated Plover

One (not necessarily the same one) was seen daily between 12 and 22 Jun at Maumee Bay (m. obs.). The next sighting was of the first southbound

birds; Lydia Machczynski saw two at Conneaut on 19 Jul. Helen and Ken Ostermiller counted 15 at Funk in the mid-morning of 01 Jun; later that day Jeff Goff and Aaron M. Yoder separately found about 50 there. The most elsewhere were six, at Killdeer on 28 Jul for Alexander Teliak and also at ONWR for a trio of birders. (16 counties)

Piping Plover

The pair that nested at Maumee Bay fledged four chicks; occasionally the family of six was joined by a seventh bird. Headlands also hosted one, on 19 Jul (m. obs.)

Upland Sandpiper

Sightings were steady until 06 Jul, after which the next were singles on 31 Jul at Huffman Prairie, *Greene* (Timothy Spahr) and near Cadiz, *Harrison* (Scott Pendleton). A trio of birders saw six at the *Harrison* site on 10 Jun, as did Scott alone on nearby Busby Road on 04 Jun. The most not in Harrison were three along Stollacker Road, *Ashtabula*, for Gustavo Lanese on 29 Jun. The reports came from the named *Ashtabula* and *Greene* sites, one site in each of *Franklin* and *Lucas*, and at least eight locations in *Harrison*.



Jim Smallwood spotted this elusive Upland Sandpiper in the grass on 21 Jun at Stollacker Road, *Ashland*.

Whimbrel

The first flew past Conneaut on 11 Jul for Bob Krajewski; he also saw the only duo, also at Conneaut, on 18 Jul. Conneaut produced three other sightings as well and *Lake* contributed three more.

Marbled Godwit

The reports are:

One along the ONWR WD on 13 Jun (Marie Hu)

One at Euclid Beach Park, *Cuyahoga*, on 05 Jul (Bob Helton)

One at Maumee Bay on 13 Jul (Mandy Roberts) and it or another there on 15 Jul (Paul Jacyk)

Ruddy Turnstone

Mandy Roberts saw the last “spring” migrant, at Maumee Bay on 15 Jun. Joseph Boros saw the first of “fall”, at Prairie Lane, *Wayne*, on 27 Jul. The only report exceeding one bird was Ed Wransky’s three that passed the Lorain (city) fishing pier on 31 Jul. *Ashtabula* and *Erie* also had sightings.

Stilt Sandpiper

The first were two at Mosquito WA on 17 Jul (m. obs.). Andy Brown saw the most, 29 along the ONWR WD on 31 Jul, and others saw up to 15 there that day. The most not at ONWR were Kim Pastrick’s four at Howard Marsh on 30 Jul. The two at Mosquito and two others at Funk on 30 Jul (Paul Sherwood) were the most not in *Lucas* or *Ottawa*. Reports also came from *Ashtabula*, *Mercer*, and *Pickaway*.

Sanderling

Two sightings on 04 Jun preceded the last northbound report, which was by Mandy Roberts of two birds at Maumee Bay on 15 Jun. Dave Chase and Tom Frankel saw the first southbound bird, at Headlands on 11 Jul. Conneaut hosted nine on 18 Jul for Kari Warner Matsko and John Pogacnik. *Cuyahoga*, *Lorain*, *Mahoning*, and *Ottawa* also produced reports.

Dunlin

This season’s sightings are hard to decipher. Cynthia Beans saw the last that were certainly northbound; they were five at Howard Marsh on 04 Jun. One at Maumee Bay on 15 Jun was probably also heading that way (Mandy Roberts). The next, one at the Lorain (city) fishing pier on 23 Jun, was injured and might never have made it to the breeding grounds (Debbie Parker). Reports then came almost daily until 10 July after which the next was on 24 Jul, along the ONWR WD (Paul Jacyk). Another gap ensued until more ONWR sightings on 31 Jul (m. obs.). The high count was Nate Koszycki’s 16 at Howard Marsh on 01 Jun. All of the reports came from *Erie*, *Lorain*, *Lucas*, and *Ottawa*.

Least Sandpiper

Like Dunlin, these present a confusing picture. The last sure spring migrant was at Pickerel Creek on 05 Jun for Paul Sherwood. Jim Proffitt saw the next, at Howard Marsh on 15 Jun. The next after it were two at Medusa on 22 Jun (Paul Sherwood) and daily reports began on 27 Jun. James Smallwood saw about 50 at Conneaut on 07 Jul. Josh King saw the second most, about 30 at the Beaver Creek Treatment Train, *Mercer*, on 23 Jul. (37 counties)

White-rumped Sandpiper

Rick Luchrs' three at Deer Creek WA on 06 Jun were the last surely northbound. Singles were at Conneaut on 12 and 17 Jun (m. obs.), and then reports were fairly steady until 23 Jun. Were all of them heading north? Because there were no sightings between 23 Jun and 26 Jul. Sigh. The high count of four was shared by Jeff Goff at Funk on 01 Jun and Josh King at the Beaver Creek Treatment Train, **Mercer**, on 22 Jun. (10 counties)

Pectoral Sandpiper

An injured bird was at Killdeer on 22 and 23 Jun (m. obs.) for the only reports that month. The next were four that Michael Crouse saw at Howard Marsh on 03 Jul. Up to 26 were reported at ONWR on 31 Jul (m. obs.), and the most elsewhere were nine at Killdeer that same day (Cam Lee). (16 counties)

Semipalmated Sandpiper

Reports came almost daily until 23 Jun, when James Smallwood saw one at Conneaut. The next were Michael Crouse's four at Howard Marsh on 03 Jul. Funk hosted about 125 on 01 Jun for Aaron M. Yoder. (26 counties)

Western Sandpiper

One was at Funk on 01 Jun (Jeff Goff). Another spent 25 and 26 Jul at a pond in **Champaign** (Susan Brauning), but most observers were standing by North Darby Coe Road in **Union** so the eBird reports were in that county.

Short-billed Dowitcher

Observers saw the first on 02 Jul, one or two at Howard Marsh. Jonathan Strassfeld and Alexander Teliak weren't together, but both noted 45 along the ONWR WD on 31 Jul, and up to 40 were reported there on other dates. The most not in **Lucas** or **Ottawa** were the 31 that Alex Eberts and Leslie Sours counted at Pickerel Creek on 13 Jul. (18 counties)



A Short-billed Dowitcher was in full breeding plumage colors that Ed Wransky photographed at Lorain fishing pier on 15 Jul.

Long-billed Dowitcher

Paul Jacyk saw the first, two along the ONWR WD on 24 Jul. He saw six there on 25 Jul as did Ami Horowitz on 31 Jul. All of the reports came from **Lucas** and **Ottawa**.

American Woodcock

Bruce and Kelly Miller found four juveniles and three adults at Scioto Grove MP, **Franklin**, on 19 Jun. (29 counties)

Wilson's Snipe

Greg Lawrence and Bill Ohlsen independently reported three from ONWR on 31 Jul. (13 counties)

Spotted Sandpiper

Bill Ohlsen counted 22 along the Cleveland Harbor breakwall while kayaking on 06 Jul. (65 counties)



Chuck Slusarczyk Jr. spotted this Spotted Sandpiper juvenile bouncing along at Scranton Flats, **Cuyahoga** on 08 Jul.

Solitary Sandpiper

One at Mentor Lagoons on 03 Jun (Dave Chase) and two at Ellis Lake on 05 Jun (Randy Morgan) were the last northbound birds. Bob Lane's at Howard Marsh on 02 Jul was the first reported southbound. Observers saw up to 15 at Englewood on 31 Jul. (39 counties)

Lesser Yellowlegs

The first showed up on 12 Jun, one at each of Howard Marsh and along the ONWR WD (both Josh Yoder). Bill Ohlsen counted 34 along the ONWR WD on 31 Jul. Twenty shared the **Champaign** pond that held the Western Sandpiper; Matt Bystrom saw them on 25 Jul. (25 counties)

Willet

Several birders saw the first, at Headlands on 22 Jun. Another group of birders saw the most, six at Euclid Beach Park, **Cuyahoga**, on 25 Jun. (9 counties)

Greater Yellowlegs

Bryan Smith saw one at Proctorville Park, **Lawrence**, on 01 Jun, and Randy Morgan another at Ellis Lake on 05 Jun, which finished their north-

bound migration. Ned DeLamatre saw the first southbound bird, at Howard Marsh on 23 Jun. Paul Dornbusch's 30 along the ONWR WD on 24 Jul were the most and Alexander Teliak's 24 at Deer Creek WA on 09 Jul were the second most. (20 counties)

Wilson's Phalarope

The reports are:

One at Ellis Lake on both 01 and 05 Jun (m. obs.)
One at Deer Creek WA from 04 to 08 Jul (Rick Luehrs)

Possibly multiple birds, but only seen one at a time, at Howard from 09 Jul well into Aug (m. obs.)
One at Englewood from 30 Jul into Aug (m. obs.)

Bonaparte's Gull

Greg Lawrence saw about 125 at Huron harbor, **Erie**, on 30 Jul. The next most were Luke Robertson's 30 off Bradstreet's Landing, **Cuyahoga**, on 28 Jul. Two duos were the most inland, m. obs. saw them at Alum Creek on 15 and 16 Jun and at Big Island on 30 Jul. (11 counties)

Laughing Gull

Single birds were seen thus:

At Alum Creek on 05 Jun (m. obs.)
On 12, 13, and 28 to 30 Jun at Conneaut (m. obs.)
At Maumee Bay on 16 Jun (Loren Hintz)
At Dillon SP, **Muskingum**, on 08 Jul (m. obs.)

Franklin's Gull

The reports, all of single birds, are:

At Alum Creek from 14 to 18 Jun (m. obs.)
At Walnut Beach Park, **Ashtabula**, on 07 Jul (Kim Nordquest)
At Maumee Bay from 12 to 14 Jul (m. obs.)
At Harrison Lake SP, **Fulton**, on 21 Jul (Bruce Matasick)



*This lovely Franklin's Gull, in sharp breeding plumage was captured by Jim Smallwood's camera in glorious late afternoon sun at Alum Creek State Park, **Delaware**, on 16 Jun.*

Ring-billed Gull

Paul Sherwood saw about 2000 at Meinke Marina, **Lucas**, on 17 Jul. The most inland were the

400 that Andy Brown saw at Alum Creek on 26 Jul. (58 counties)



A well-camouflaged juvenile Ring-billed Gull didn't fool Patty McKelvey's sharp eye in this photo taken on 11 Jul at Lorain fishing pier.

Herring Gull

About 1000 were along the Sandusky (city) waterfront, **Erie**, on 13 Jun (Janet Hughes). For the second most, Tom Bartlett made a "conservative estimate" of 400 on and near West Sister Island, **Lucas**, on 06 Jul. Tom Hissong provided the inland high count of 50, from Grand Lake SP on 06 Jun. (29 counties)

Lesser Black-backed Gull

The high count of four was shared by Alex Eberts and Leslie Sours at Maumee Bay on 13 Jul and by Kenn Kaufman there on 28 Jul. **Allen, Ashtabula, Delaware, Lake, and Lorain** also had sightings.

Great Black-backed Gull

There were only a few Jun sightings, but they were regular in Jul. Counts of five came from Lorain (city) harbor on 26 Jun (Nathan and Stella Tea) and on 25 Jul (Debbie Parker). Reports also came from **Cuyahoga, Lake, and Lucas**.

Caspian Tern

Maumee Bay hosted about 40 for Debra Sweeney on 16 Jul. Gary Cowell's 21 at Clear Fork on 27 Jul were the most at an inland site. (30 counties)

Forster's Tern

Cynthia Beans saw the first of the season, five at Howard Marsh on 04 Jun. About 100 were at Maumee Bay for Mandy Roberts on 13 Jul and up to 85 were reported there on other dates. Gary Cowell's four at Clear Fork on 18 Jun were the most inland. (11 counties)

Common Tern

Between 150 and 160 were reported at Howard Marsh on 14 Jun (m. obs.). The most elsewhere were 80 at Maumee Bay on 15 Jul (Paul Jacyk) and the most inland were seven at Alum Creek on 16 Jun (Josh Yoder). (11 counties)

Black Tern

Sightings were fairly regular throughout the season but for a curious gap between 04 and 16 Jun. Beth Lenoble counted six at Howard Marsh on 09 Jul and up to four were seen there on other dates. Four inland sites each hosted two. (7 counties)

Wood Stork

The OBRC has reports from two *Lucas* locations and gleanings from *Erie* and *Ottawa* posts.



Patty McKelvey took a great close-up on 30 Jul of the elusive Wood Stork that visited *Erie* for many days.

Common Loon

The high count of three was shared by Rick Nelson at Mosquito Lake on 01 Jun and Kim Nordquest at Pymatuning SP, *Ashtabula*, on 16 Jun. (13 counties)

Double-crested Cormorant

Janet Hughes's sojourn on the Sandusky (city) waterfront, *Erie*, on 13 Jun produced about 2000, and up to 1700 were reported there on other dates. The most elsewhere were 900, a number shared by Tom Bartlett at West Sister Island, *Lucas*, on 06 Jul and Lori Brumbaugh at Euclid Beach Park, *Cuyahoga*, on 31 Jul. Jennifer Allison saw almost 400 at Nimisila on 04 Jul for the inland high number. (67 counties)

Neotropic Cormorant

Reports came from two *Cuyahoga* locations; posts from one site had photos but the single post from the other had no details. Posts from *Clermont* had photos.

American White Pelican

Sightings were scattered throughout the season. Regina Schieltz saw about 50 at Grand Lake on 21 Jul. Zachary Nordstrom counted 32 off Gibraltar Island, *Ottawa*, on 24 Jul. Reports came from many *Lucas* and *Ottawa* locations, two sites in each of *Erie* and *Hancock*, and one in each of *Mercer*, *Sandusky*, and *Seneca*.

American Bittern

Darby Creek hosted five on 09 Jun for Irina

Shulgina, and one or two were reported there on other dates. Two at Howard Marsh on 02 Jul were the most elsewhere (Warren Leow). (10 counties)

Least Bittern

Up to four were seen at Howard Marsh (m. obs.), and three sites each hosted three. (20 counties)

Great Blue Heron

Tom Bartlett saw about 250 on West Sister Island, *Lucas*, on 06 Jul. Next most were Kahanti Greene's 180 at a rookery on Akron's Waterloo Road on 09 Jun. (all 88 counties)

Great Egret

ONWR census teams provided the two highest counts, 141 on 06 Jun and 142 on 04 Jul (Douglas Vogus *et al.*). James Muller made the inland high count, 86 at the McKinley Quarry, *Franklin*, on each of three early Jul dates. (62 counties)

Snowy Egret

Bill Ohlsen and Chris Pierce counted 12 along the ONWR WD on 25 Jul, and up to six were seen there on other dates. Patricia Pitts' six in the *Ottawa* section of Magee on 17 Jun were the most elsewhere, and David Wilkins' three at Pickerel Creek on 31 Jul were the most not in *Lucas* or *Ottawa*. One spent most of Jul at Pickerington Ponds. *Erie* and *Lake* also had sightings.

Little Blue Heron

It was a banner year for these; reports came from nine counties. Four birds were at Huffman MP, *Greene*, from 28 to 30 Jun (m. obs.).

Cattle Egret

The reports are:

Two at Ellis Lake from 06 to 08 Jun (m. obs.)

One at ONWR on 12 Jun (Paul Moser) and it or another there on 17 Jul (Tajinder Singh)

One at Howard Marsh between 21 Jun and 02 Jul (m. obs., but not seen daily)

One at a pond by the Route 2/Route 269 interchange, *Erie*, on 09 Jul (Paul Sherwood)

One off Sandusky, *Erie*, on 15 Jul (Kenn Kaufman)

Green Heron

Lisa Mollhan saw about 25 in Auburn Township, *Geauga*, on 25 Jun. A trio of birders kayaking Buckeye Lake, *Licking*, on 15 Jul counted 17. (82 counties)

Black-crowned Night-Heron

The multi-species rookery on West Sister Island, *Lucas*, hosted 35 on 06 Jul (Tom Bartlett). The next most were 29 at Howard Marsh on 04 Jul (Carol Bates). The most not in *Lucas* or *Ottawa* were 16 at the McKinley Quarry, *Franklin*, on 17 Jun (James Muller). (27 counties)

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron

One or two were seen at Gilmore MP from 18 May into Jun. The first elsewhere was at LaDue on 07 Jul (m. obs.). They nested at Gilmore: Two counts there of three each included a juvenile. They were on 14 Jul (Steven Yockey) and 29 Jul (Marianne Gorman). (8 counties)

White Ibis

One that spent two days in *Jefferson* produced a report to the OBRC and many posts with photos. A post from *Lucas* had a description.

Glossy Ibis

The reports are:

Eight at Pickerel Creek on 31 May and 01 Jun (Jeff Lamson)

One at Ellis Lake on 04 Jun (Steven Yockey)

One at the Great Miami WMB on 05 Jun (Ron Bicknell, Ken Lebo)

One in Lucas near ONWR on 06 Jun (Douglas Vogus)

One at Pipe Creek from 22 to 27 Jun (m. obs.)

Glossy/White-faced Ibis

One flew past Kim Nordquest at Conneaut on 14 Jun.

Roseate Spoonbill

Posts from *Hancock* had photos.

Black Vulture

Kurt Emmert counted 106 near Loudonville, *Ashland*, on 31 Jul. Robin Densmore's 66 at the Senecaville fish hatchery, Guernsey, on 18 Jul were the second most. (55 counties all the way north to *Cuyahoga* and *Lorain*)



The graceful flight of a Black Vulture was captured at Funk Bottoms, Wayne, on 15 Jul by Su Snyder.

Turkey Vulture

A trio of birders counted 66 along Cadiz-Flushing Road, *Harrison*, on 04 Jun. (all 88 counties)

Osprey

Joli Reising saw "4 platforms with nests occupied with adults and young" for a total of 16 birds at

the north end of Alum Creek on 03 Jul. Brian Tinker saw the next most, nine at Nimisila on 12 Jun. (65 counties)

White-tailed Kite

The long-staying *Harrison* bird prompted a report to the OBRC and many photos.

Swallow-tailed Kite

Posts from *Lake* have descriptions and photos.



This Swallow-tailed Kite's unmistakable silhouette etched on a cloudless sky, at Holden Arboretum, Lake, was taken by Sarah Preston on 24 Jul.

Northern Harrier

Duos were seen at the Oberlin Reservoir, *Lorain*, on 04 Jun (Debbie and Mark Raven) and at Crown City WA, *Gallia*, on 05 Jun (Lisa Phelps). (26 counties)

Sharp-shinned Hawk

The Sharpie high count was also two, and also shared. Chris Anders saw one duo at West Liberty, *Logan*, on 26 Jun, and Scott Albaugh the other at the Brown Family Environmental Center, *Knox*, on 26 Jul. (24 counties)

Cooper's Hawk

Six locations hosted families of four. (68 counties)

Bald Eagle

The high count of 25 was shared by Pam Rogers at ONWR on 05 Jun, David Wilkins at Pickerel Creek on 21 Jul, and Denyse Carone at Grand Lake WA on 23 Jul. (80 counties)

Mississippi Kite

Sightings were scattered throughout the season. Duos were seen at Englewood on 03 Jun (Ron Bicknell) and 04 Jun (Emily Raymond) and at Junction Earthworks, *Ross*, on 30 Jul (Rob Thorn). One was seen at the Earthworks almost daily from 29 Jun into Aug. (9 counties)

Red-shouldered Hawk

Larry Richardson counted seven at Grand River WA, *Trumbull*, on 26 Jul. Five sites each hosted four. (69 counties)

Broad-winged Hawk

Kurk Dorsey saw four at the Edge's Lynx Prairie, *Adams*, on 14 Jun, as did Bob Lane at Jefferson Lake SP, *Jefferson*, on 14 Jul. (43 counties)

Red-tailed Hawk

Killdeer hosted nine for Mark Humpert and Brooke Levey on 30 Jun. Three sites each held the second highest number, six. *Crawford*, *Monroe*, and *Scioto* didn't have sightings.

Barn Owl

Javin Blake saw the last of the season, on Smokey Lane, *Tuscarawas*, on 11 Jul. Counts of seven came from three different *Holmes* locations and one in *Muskingum*, all on 04 or 05 Jun. *Adams* also had a sighting.

Eastern Screech-Owl

Patrick Doran counted five near Newark, *Licking*, on 09 Jul. (34 counties)

Great Horned Owl

The high count of three was shared by Jessica McQuigg in Oxford, *Butler*, on 10 Jul and Jacob Raber along the Chippewa Inlet Trail, *Medina*, on 11 Jul. (33 counties)

Snowy Owl

One was photographed several times during its 12 to 13 Jul stay in Dublin, *Franklin*. Karie Kirkpatrick reported what had to have been the same bird in next door Plain City, *Union*, on 17 Jul.

Barred Owl

Michael Crist found five in Poland Municipal Forest, *Mahoning*, on 10 Jul. (50 counties)

Belted Kingfisher

James Smallwood counted 13 at Conneaut on 29 Jun. The next most were Lori Brumbaugh's 10 at Euclid Beach Park, *Cuyahoga*, on 12 Jul. (82 counties)

Red-headed Woodpecker

Kim Miller found 20 at OOPMP on 14 Jun, and up to 12 were reported there on other dates. Tom Frankel provided the highest count elsewhere, 12 at Headlands on 31 Jul. (83 counties)

Red-bellied Woodpecker

Three hours in the Rocky River Reservation, *Cuyahoga*, on 14 Jun, produced 27 for Jen Brumfield; up to 23 were seen there on other dates. Jen needed four hours in the Hinckley Reservation, *Medina*, on 12 Jun to find 18. Only *Paulding* didn't have a sighting.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker

Shane Myers saw the last apparent migrant, at his *Hancock* home on 06 Jun. Marc Hanneman found three at Dorset WA, *Ashtabula*, on 10

Jul. One *Lake* site, several in *Geauga*, and additional *Ashtabula* sites provided the rest of the sightings.

Downy Woodpecker

In addition to the 18 Red-bellieds, Jen Brumfield found 14 Downies in the Hinckley Reservation, *Medina*, on 12 Jun. Only *Pike* didn't have a sighting.

Hairy Woodpecker

Julie Zickefoose counted eight at her Indigo Hill property, *Washington*, on 01 Jun. (77 counties)

Northern Flicker

Michael DeLong counted 11 in Toledo's Woodlawn Cemetery on 17 Jul. So did Chris Pierce in his *Cuyahoga* neighborhood on 19 Jul. Only *Pike* and *Shelby* lacked sightings.

Pileated Woodpecker

The high count was five and was achieved twice. Steve Jones saw his at Lawrence Woods SNP, *Hardin*, on 16 Jul and Karen Zeleznik hers in the Station Road area of CVNP on 24 Jul. (78 counties)

American Kestrel

Irina Shulgina counted 16 at the OSU Livestock Facility on 16 Jul, and up to 11 were seen there on other dates. Irina also found seven along the Case Road Prairie Trail, *Franklin*, on 31 Jul for the second highest number. Only *Paulding* and *Scioto* didn't have sightings.

Merlin

James Smallwood saw the first two of the season; they were Conneaut flybys on 10 and 24 Jun. After that, sightings came almost daily. A nest in Upper Arlington, *Franklin*, produced five young. The next most, two, were seen at four locations. (8 counties)



Leslie Sours captured two Merlins conversing on a branch in *Franklin* on 29 Jun.

Peregrine Falcon

Jonathan Strassfeld saw five at a church on West Boulevard, *Cleveland*, on 23 Jun. (19 counties)

Great Crested Flycatcher

Twelve miles along the Little Miami River in *Warren* produced 12 for Austin and Mollie

Langdon on 05 Jun. Three other sites each held eight, the second highest number. **Henry**, **Putnam**, and **Shelby** didn't have sightings.

Eastern Kingbird

Janice Emrick counted 21 along five miles of roads near New Athens, **Harrison**, on 04 Jun. Douglas Vogus *et al.* edged her with 22 at ONWR on 04 Jul. **Crawford**, **Henry**, **Pike**, and **Shelby** didn't have sightings.



Su Snyder snapped this Eastern Kingbird on patrol for insects along Valley Road at Killbuck Marsh, Wayne, on 24 Jul.

Olive-sided Flycatcher

Michael Crist saw one at Poland Township Park, **Mahoning**, on 02 Jun, and Ann and Dwight Chasar it or another along the **Summit** section of the Ohio and Erie Canal Towpath on 06 Jun.

Eastern Wood-Pewee

A survey along five miles of Rocky Fork Creek, **Highland**, on 01 Jun produced 25 for Linda Ar. Only **Henry** and **Paulding** didn't have sightings.



This Eastern Wood-Pewee stood at attention along the Clinton towpath on 31 Jul in Summit for Kathy Mock's camera.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher

The reports are:

One in Lisbon, **Columbiana**, on 01 Jun (William Addis)

One at CLNP, also on 01 Jun (Bill Ohlsen)

One at Lakeshore Reservation, **Lake**, on 03 Jun (Megan Hart)

One in Alliance, **Stark**, on 04 Jun (Chuck McClaugherty)

Acadian Flycatcher

Marvin R. Yoder spent a long day at Mohican on 19 Jun and found 71. Linda Ar's 01 Jun survey along Rocky Fork Creek, **Highland**, yielded 70. Jelmer Poelstra provided the third highest number, 30 at Wooster Memorial Park, **Wayne**, on 19 Jun. (77 counties)



Kathy Mock spotted this Acadian Flycatcher quietly sitting within the shaded forest on 05 Jun along Clinton towpath, Summit.

Alder Flycatcher

Three reports each had three: Eldon Russell Park, **Geauga**, on 06 Jun (John Kolar and Kelly Kozlowski), Eldon Russell on 20 Jul (Greg Harrington), and the James H. Barrow Field Station, **Portage**, on 27 Jun (David Factor). (Hereafter this last will be called simply Barrow FS.) (24 counties)

Willow Flycatcher

Bill Ohlsen counted 28 at CLNP on 01 Jun, and up to 17 were tallied there on other dates. The next most were 20 that Douglas Vogus' census team found at ONWR on 06 Jun. (78 counties)



A well-hidden Willow Flycatcher couldn't evade Chuck Staszczuk Jr.'s camera as it snapped this photo taken at the drydock in Cleveland, on 22 Jun.

Alder/Willow “Trail’s” Flycatcher

Indeterminate birds were seen in 23 counties.

Least Flycatcher

Five sites each hosted three. (23 counties)

Eastern Phoebe

Linda Ar’s 01 Jun survey along Rocky Fork Creek, **Highland**, produced 12. Janet Wertz saw the next most, eight at Sand Run MP, **Summit**, on 11 Jun. (82 counties)

White-eyed Vireo

Josh Yoder counted 16 throughout Tri-Valley WA, **Muskingum**, on 03 Jul. (68 counties)

Bell’s Vireo

The high count of three came from a trio of birders near New Holland, **Pickaway**, on 26 Jun. (11 counties)

Yellow-throated Vireo

Scott Albaugh found 13 in three miles of travel in Wolf Run Regional Park, **Knox**, on 14 Jul. (71 counties)

Blue-headed Vireo

Marvin R. Yoder’s 19 Jun foray in Mohican yielded eight. Holden’s Little Mountain held four when Haans Petruschke and Mike Watson visited on 30 Jun. (16 counties)

Philadelphia Vireo

Paul Jacyk saw one at his **Lucas** home on 02 Jun and Allen Rand another at Margaret Peak NP, **Lorain**, on 03 Jun.

Warbling Vireo

The ONWR census teams produced the two highest counts, 80 on 06 Jun and 51 on 04 Jul (Douglas Vogus *et al.*). The most elsewhere were Tom Hissong’s 25 at Grand Lake SP on 06 Jun. (84 counties)

Red-eyed Vireo

Marvin R. Yoder counted 97 throughout Mohican on 19 Jun. Craig Caldwell tallied 62 along 18 miles of roads in Shawnee SF on 24 Jun. Jelmer Poelstra needed only 5.5 miles in Wooster Memorial Park, **Wayne**, on 19 Jun to find 47. (all 88 counties)

Loggerhead Shrike

Posts from **Harrison** and **Lake** had photos.

Blue Jay

Jen Brumfield counted 36 throughout the Rocky River Reservation, **Cuyahoga**, on 14 Jun. Only **Henry** didn’t have a sighting.

American Crow

Irina Shulgina saw about 80 at OSU’s Waterman Farm on 30 Jul. William Kerrigan saw about 60

along five miles of **Muskingum** roads on 08 Jul. **Henry** and **Van Wert** didn’t have sightings.



*This juvenile American Crow seems to be eyeing Kathy Mock as she eyes it through her camera lens taken at Greenlawn Memorial Park, **Summit**, on 02 Jun.*

Fish Crow

Jen Brumfield counted seven in Shaker Heights, **Cuyahoga**, on 05 Jul and up to five were in that area on other dates. The Solon landfill, **Cuyahoga**, hosted four on 15 Jun for Bela Anand-Apte. Irina Shulgina photographed one in Columbus on 10 Jun and Travis Philo saw it again an hour later. The **Franklin** site and at least six locations in **Cuyahoga** accounted for all of the reports.

Common Raven

Matt Mason saw five along Busby Road, **Harrison**, on 17 Jun. (8 counties)

Carolina Chickadee

Gregory Allen found about 20 at Hoover Dam Park, **Franklin**, on 02 Jun. The next most were Neill Cade’s 16 at Fernald on 19 Jul. (65 counties)

Black-capped Chickadee

Mill Stream Run Reservation, **Cuyahoga**, hosted 19 for Jen Brumfield on 19 Jun. (30 counties including out-of-range **Allen** and **Jefferson**)



These Blue Jays seem to be in heaven, enjoying the buffet of seeds provided through someone’s kindness, that Su Snyder photographed at Maumee Bay, on 21 Jun.

Carolina/Black-capped Chickadee

Indeterminate birds were reported in nine counties.

Tufted Titmouse

Jen Brumfield counted 31 in the Hinckley Reservation, *Medina*, on 12 Jun. The next most were 18 at two sites; Doug Marcum saw them in CVNP on 17 Jun and Scott Albaugh in Wolf Run Regional Park, *Knox*, on 14 Jul. Only *Pike* and *Putnam* didn't have sightings.

Horned Lark

Ten miles of biking near Pandora, *Putnam*, yielded 30 for David Smith on 21 Jul. Margaret Bowman found 20 near Hartford, *Licking*, on 01 Jun. (52 counties)



This adult Horned Lark struck an independent pose on 04 Jul, showing off its sharp, detailed plumage for Su Snyder as it visited Howard Marsh.

Bank Swallow

About 400 were at Howard Marsh for Karl Overman on 28 Jul and up to 300 were there on other dates. Kenn Kaufman's 250 at Maumee Bay on 29 Jul were the most elsewhere. (57 counties)

Tree Swallow

Douglas Vogus *et al.* tallied 650 at ONWR on 04 Jul. Donna Kuhn and Lisa Phelps saw the second most, about 500 at Pickerel Creek on 03 Jul. Only *Shelby* didn't have a sighting.

Northern Rough-winged Swallow

Larry Early saw about 100 at Cowan Lake, *Clinton*, on 26 July. So did Andrew Simon and Ethan Urban at the Wood Stork stakeout in *Erie* on 31 Jul. The next most were the 60 that Kim Nordquest saw at Walnut Beach Park, *Ashtabula*, on 13 Jul. (83 counties)

Purple Martin

David Wilkins noted about 450 while banding at a colony on Toussaint-Portage Road, *Ottawa*, on 30 Jun, and about 400 at Winous Point

on 09 Jul. At both sites about half of the birds were juveniles. The most away from a banding station were an exact count of 197 by Peter King at Seldom Seen Park, *Delaware*, on 21 Jul. (83 counties)



The hectic duties of parent life were captured by Patty McKevey as the Purple Martin parent brought food to junior in Sheffield Village, Lorain, on 01 Jul.

Barn Swallow

About 300 were at Howard Marsh on 05 Jul (Joe Kollar) and also at Euclid Beach Park, *Cuyahoga*, on 27 to 31 Jul (m. obs.). Only *Henry* didn't have a sighting.

Cliff Swallow

Irina Shulgina saw about 100 at OSU's Waterman Farm on both 29 and 30 Jun. (59 counties)

Golden-crowned Kinglet

Jacob Raber, James Stammen, and Trevor Zook found one in the Hinckley Reservation, *Medina*, on 17 Jul. Jacob went back there on 24 Jul and found two.

Cedar Waxwing

Austin and Molly Langdon counted 95 along five miles of the Little Miami River in *Warren* on 05 Jun and wrote, "Most numerous bird. Scattered throughout in several medium to large flocks overhead." Dominick Fenech saw about 80 at OOPMP on 03 Jun. Only *Paulding* didn't have a sighting.

Red-breasted Nuthatch

Billi Krollchuk found three in Newton Falls, *Trumbull*, on both 02 and 03 Jun. (16 counties)

White-breasted Nuthatch

Douglas Vogus *et al.* counted 15 during the 04 Jun CVNP census. Three sites each hosted 14. (all 88 counties)

Brown Creeper

Dan Best and Rachel McKinney saw three along the upper Cuyahoga River, *Geauga*, on 05 Jul. (17 counties)

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher

Eight miles of canoeing on the Little Miami River, **Warren**, on 05 Jun produced 20 for Austin and Mollie Langdon. Two sites each hosted 13: Rocky Fork Creek, **Highland**, on 01 Jun (Linda Ar) and Eastwood MP, **Montgomery**, on 04 Jun (Laura Jenkins). (81 counties)

House Wren

Douglas Vogus' ONWR census teams provided the two highest counts, 75 on 04 Jul and 64 on 06 Jun. Chris Pierce biked 42 miles in **Cuyahoga** and **Lorain** on 05 Jul and tallied 24. He beat his own number with 31 along the same route on 10 Jul. Only **Gallia** and **Pike** didn't have sightings.

Winter Wren

Three or four were at Holden's Little Mountain, **Lake**, on several dates (m. obs.). All of the other reports were of single birds. **Ashland**, **Cuyahoga**, **Geauga**, **Medina**, and **Summit** also produced sightings.

Sedge Wren

The high count of three was shared by James Smallwood along Stollacker Road, **Ashtabula**, on 03 Jul and Susan Brauning at Killdeer on 26 Jul. Four sites each hosted two. (18 counties)

Marsh Wren

Paul Jacyk counted 47 along the ONWR WD on both 18 and 25 Jul, and up to 39 were reported on other dates. The most elsewhere were 36 at Howard Marsh on 10 Jul (John Pogacnik, Larry Richardson). The most not in **Lucas** and **Ottawa** were 30 at Pipe Creek on 14 Jul and the most well inland were 20 at Killbuck on 18 Jul (both Jonathan Strassfeld). (28 counties)

Carolina Wren

The largest of three double digit counts was 19 during the 04 Jun CVNP census by Douglas Vogus *et al.* **Henry**, **Paulding**, **Pike**, and **Van Wert** didn't have sightings.

Gray Catbird

Cam Lee and David Lehner counted 41 at Killdeer on 03 Jul. Tim Tanner's 35 at Nimisila on 30 Jul were the next most. Only **Henry** didn't have a sighting.

Brown Thrasher

Linda Benner needed only a half mile of travel along Dickerson Church Road, **Hancock**, to find 11 on 19 Jun. (83 counties)

Northern Mockingbird

Bruce Matasick found 12 in less than a mile on Cincinnati's east side on 01 Jun. (81 counties)

European Starling

Benjamin Miller saw about 2250 in his Apple

Valley neighborhood, **Knox**, on 15 Jul, and almost that many on other dates. Steven Albert noted about 600 at Howard Marsh on 09 Jul, the most elsewhere. (all 88 counties)

Eastern Bluebird

William Kerrigan's five miles of travel along **Muskingum** back roads produced 25 on 08 Jul. Three sites each held 20. (82 counties)

Veery

Marvin R. Yoder counted 35 at Mohican during his 19 Jun travels. Elias A. Raber found 17 there on 26 Jun. The most elsewhere were seven, at each of four locations. (25 counties)

Swainson's Thrush

The reports, all of single birds, are:

In West Union, **Adams**, on 01 Jun (Dale Bailey)
In Elmwood Park, **Cuyahoga**, on 01 Jun (Ryan Eldridge)

At Baker Road Park, **Lake**, on 02 Jun (Megan Hart)

At the CVNP Kendall Ledges on 02 Jun (Patrick Coy and Karin Tanquist)

At Fort Huntington Park, **Cuyahoga**, on 03 Jun (Joe Woyma)

At Seiberling Nature Realm, **Summit**, on 05 Jun (Kathryn Hart and Jeff Pickens)

Hermit Thrush

Katheryn DiNardi and Joe Woyma saw one in downtown Cleveland on 07 Jun; it was probably the last migrant because the rest of the sightings were in known nesting areas. John Winebrenner counted 11 in Hocking Hills SP on 03 Jul. The second highest number was six. Marvin R. Yoder saw that many in Mohican on 19 Jun as did John Kuenzli at Clear Creek on 02 Jul. (10 counties)

Wood Thrush

Ten miles along Friendship Park Road, **Jefferson**, produced 27 for Scott Albaugh on 18 Jul. (81 counties)

American Robin

Amy Longley and Betsy MacMillan watched about 120 come to a roost at the Long Lake Channel, **Summit**, on 25 Jul. David Factor counted 108 at the Barrow FS on 07 Jul. (all 88 counties)

House Sparrow

About 500 were at the Cincinnati Zoo on 20 Jul for Coen Kliever, and 300 at Cedar Point, **Erie**, on 26 Jul for Parker Bradley. Only **Meigs** didn't have a sighting.

Evening Grosbeak

Several birders photographed one at Vermilion, **Erie**, home on 02 Jun. Another spent 02 to 04 Jun at Nathan Mast's feeders in Walhonding, **Coshocton**.

House Finch

Irina Shulgina saw about 50 at OSU's Waterman Farm on 30 Jun. The next highest count, 35, was shared by CLNP on 22 Jul (Karen Lakus and James McCarty) and T.J. Evans Park, *Licking*, on 25 Jul (Margaret Bowman). (82 counties)

Purple Finch

Amy Pausche saw five in the Ira Road area of CVNP on 04 Jul. (18 counties)

European Goldfinch

Cheri Linkous photographed one in Waynesville, Warren, on 29 Jun. Who lost their cage bird?



This escaped European Goldfinch was discovered by Cheri Linkous at her Waynesville home, Warren, enjoying a meal of seeds while on the lam, on 29 Jun.

Pine Siskin

Bridget Anthony saw the last of the season, in Ravenna, *Portage*, on 14 Jul, but a few were probably here throughout. Julie Zickefoose's *Washington* property hosted three; she saw the trio on three dates. (11 counties)

American Goldfinch

Sarah Preston and James Smallwood saw about 50 at Grand River Landing, *Lake*, on 07 Jul. Only *Pike* didn't have a sighting.

Grasshopper Sparrow

Taylor Shimek found about 30 at The Wilds on 04 Jun. The next most were the 22 that Scott Pendleton counted along Busby Road, *Harrison*, also on 04 Jun. (54 counties)

Lark Sparrow

Gregory Miller counted eight at OOPMP on 20 Jun, and up to seven were seen there on other dates. Eric Elvert saw two pairs at Taylorsville MP, *Montgomery*, on 06 Jun, for the most elsewhere. Sightings also came from *Butler, Greene, Hamilton, Miami, and Wyandot*.

Chipping Sparrow

Twenty were at Pandora, *Putnam*, on 09 Jun for David Smith. Only *Henry* didn't have a sighting.

Clay-colored Sparrow

Aaron Nisley photographed one at his Millersburg, *Holmes*, home on 04 Jun. Jeff Harvey saw one at Poland Township Park, *Mahoning*, on 05 Jun.

Field Sparrow

Gregory Allen saw about 50 at Big Darby Headwaters NP, *Logan*, on 28 Jul. Fernald hosted the second most, 40 on 19 Jul for Neill Cade. (83 counties)

Dark-eyed Junco

Several feeders in eastern *Cuyahoga* hosted birds into Jul; Adam Wells saw one junco feeding a Brown-headed Cowbird. Josh Davidson provided the high count, seven, at South Chagrin Reservation, *Cuyahoga*, on 01 Jun. Reports also came from *Geauga, Holmes, Lake, Medina, Summit, and Union*.

White-crowned Sparrow

The reports are:

One in Concord Township, *Lake*, on 01 Jun (Patrick Bilter)

One in Vermilion, *Erie*, on 02 Jun (Matthew Davis)

One photographed in Lima, *Allen*, on 20 Jun (Shannon Molden)

White-throated Sparrow

The reports, all of single birds, are:

At his *Hamilton* home on 06 Jun (Ronald Canterbury)

In Cleveland on 15 Jun (Joel Throckmorton)

In Dayton on 18 and 21 Jun (Tim Kambitsch)

In Middleburg Heights, *Cuyahoga*, on 01 Jun (Lenore Charnigo)

At Headlands on 04 Jul (Tom Frankel)

Vesper Sparrow

Four locations each hosted two birds. (32 counties)

Henslow's Sparrow

Busby Road, *Harrison*, hosted 25 on 18 Jun for Jon Cefus and Ben Morrison. Julie Zickefoose found 24 in Washington Township, *Hocking*, during a two-day bioblitz over 15 and 16 Jun; see Field Notes for more. (36 counties)

Savannah Sparrow

Dave Chase found about 40 along Fairport Nursery Road, *Lake*, on 25 Jun, and up to 29 were reported there on other dates. Adam Mitchell saw the most elsewhere, 25 along *Harrison* Airport Road on 06 Jun. (61 counties)

Song Sparrow

Douglas Vogus *et al.* counted 87 during the 04 Jun CVNP census. Scott Pendleton found about 65 near Cadiz, *Harrison*, on 31 Jul. (all 88 counties)

Swamp Sparrow

Scott Pendleton found about 40 near Cadiz, *Harrison*, on 31 Jul. The next highest count, 16, was produced by Meg Glines at both Mosquito WA on 20 Jul and Mill Creek on 31 Jul. (40 species)

Eastern Towhee

Scott Albaugh counted 43 along Friendship Park Road, **Harrison**, on 18 Jul. Matt Mason provided the second highest number, 22 at the Conesville Coal Lands, **Coshocton**, on 13 Jun. (81 counties)

Bobolink

About 250 were in fields near Cadiz, **Harrison**, on 31 Jul for Scott Pendleton. Scott also saw the next most, 75 at The Bowl on 05 Jul. The most not in **Harrison** were Norman Schlabach's minimum of 60 on 05 Jul in an uncut **Coshocton** hayfield. (45 counties)



Did some attractive female grab the attention of these two male Bobolinks? Su Snyder certainly captured that possibility on 04 Jun along Busby Road, **Harrison**.

Yellow-breasted Chat

Tri-Valley WA, **Muskingum**, produced the high count of 23, for Josh Yoder on 03 Jul. Heather Aubke's 13 at Crown City WA, **Gallia**, on 28 Jun were the second most. (68 counties)

Yellow-headed Blackbird

These were seen at Howard Marsh until 25 Jul; the high count was five by Robert Irwin and Shannon Reynolds on 12 Jun. One was at each of Magee on 16 Jun (Zac Cota and Alison Wagner) and 19 Jun (Brian Clegg), at OOPMP on 19 Jun (m. obs.), and passing over a **Franklin** home on 26 Jun (Adam Beeler).

Eastern Meadowlark

Wyatt Flood saw about 50 at The Wilds on 21 Jun. Busby Road, **Harrison**, produced 40 for Adam Mitchell on 03 Jul. **Henry**, **Paulding**, **Scioto**, and **Shelby** didn't have sightings.

Orchard Oriole

The Bowl hosted 13 for Scott Pendleton on 14 Jun. (78 counties)

Baltimore Oriole

The high count was the 20 tallied during the 04 Jun CVNP census (Douglas Vogus *et al.*). Tom Frankel by himself found 17, at Chagrin River Park, **Lake**, on 08 Jun. **Henry**, **Jackson**, and **Pike** didn't have sightings.

Red-winged Blackbird

Larry Early watched an estimated 27,000 arrive in a field of wheat stubble along Hilling Road, **Clinton**, on 27 Jul. Henry Trimpe saw the next most, 2000 at Margaret Peak NP, **Lorain**, on 24 Jul. The third most were the 750 that Mark Shaver saw in Middlefield Township, **Gauga**, on 18 Jul. (all 88 counties)



This male Red-winged Blackbird shows Kathy Mock what it means to look good! And it wasn't afraid to tell her on 09 Jun at Fairlawn Park, **Summit**.

Brown-headed Cowbird

Patricia Dwight saw 55 near Milan, **Erie**, on 15 Jul. Only **Henry** didn't have a sighting.

Rusty Blackbird

Daniel Ruhe saw one at Cannonball Prairie, **Lucas**, on 15 Jun. Nola Miller-Brasure and Nolan Miller saw another at Bath NP, **Summit**, on 31 Jul.

Common Grackle

Benjamin Miller saw about 3000 in his Apple Valley neighborhood, **Knox**, on 14 Jul, and up to 1400 there on other dates. (See Field Notes for more.) Kori Sedmak saw the most elsewhere, about 1000 at Darby Creek on 11 Jul. Only **Henry** didn't have a sighting.

Ovenbird

Marvin R. Yoder found 24 in Mohican on 19 Jun. Karen Markey counted 16 at Headlands on 01 Jun, as did Rob Thorn at Clear Creek on 05 Jun. (52 counties)

Worm-eating Warbler

Marvin R. Yoder's eight at Mohican on 19 Jun were the most. Clear Creek is another go-to spot for these; John Kuenzli found six there on 02 Jul. (15 counties)

Louisiana Waterthrush

Linda Ar found 26 along Rocky Fork Creek, **HIGHLAND**, on 01 Jun and Marvin R. Yoder counted 22 at Mohican on 19 Jun. Andy Sewell's eight at Shawnee on 07 Jun were the third most. (46 counties)

Northern Waterthrush

The reports are:

One heard at Gilmore MP, *Butler*, on 01 Jun (Steven Yockey)

One at East Harbor SP, *Ottawa*, on 03 Jun (Cole Hoffman)

One heard at Bath NP, *Summit*, on 14 Jun (Gregory Bennett)

One at Mohican on 21 Jul (Eric Mullholand)

Blue-winged Warbler

The *Washington* section of Wayne NF hosted 11 for Julie Zickefoose on 06 Jun. The second highest number of six was shared by Kyle Brooks in the *Lawrence* section of Wayne NF on 15 Jun and Larry Richardson at Grand River WA, *Trumbull*, on 17 Jun. (47 counties)

Black-and-white Warbler

Julie Zickefoose counted six at Indigo Hill, *Washington*, on 01 Jun, and again in Wayne NF, *Washington*, on 14 Jun. (27 counties)

Prothonotary Warbler

Brian Tsuru counted 40 in the Hoover NP nest box complex on 11 Jun. Nest monitor Dan Best found 14 along the upper Cuyahoga River, *Geauga*, on 02 Jul. Douglas Vogus' ONWR census crew also counted 14, on 04 Jul. (55 counties)

Tennessee Warbler

One was at CLNP on 01 Jun (Bill Ohlsen) and on 31 Jul (Nancy Howell). Another was at Magee on 04 Jun (m. obs.)

Nashville Warbler

Jonathan Wilhelms saw and heard one in Liberty Park, *Summit*, on 24 Jun.

Mourning Warbler

David Fleming saw one at Magee on 04 Jun and Marc Hanneman another in Wayne Township, *Ashtabula*, on 05 Jun.

Kentucky Warbler

Shawnee hosted 10 for Andy Sewell on 07 Jun. (45 counties)

Common Yellowthroat

Douglas Vogus *et al.* counted 43 in ONWR on 04 Jul. Allen McGrew tallied the second most, 31 at Huffman Prairie, *Greene*, on 14 Jul. Only *Defiance* and *Shelby* didn't have a sighting.

Hooded Warbler

Mohican held the most; Marvin R. Yoder counted 27 there on 19 Jun and Elias A. Raber 23 a week later. Rob Thorn found 18 at Clear Creek on 05 Jun. (60 counties)

American Redstart

Wyatt Flood found 20 in Jackson Township, *Noble*, on 19 Jun. The next most were two counts

of 14, at Blue Heron Farm, *Geauga*, on 13 Jun (Louise Acheson and Ken Vinciquerra) and Huston-Brumbaugh NC, *Stark*, on 19 Jun (Adam Zorn). (61 counties)

Cerulean Warbler

Marvin R. Yoder's day in Mohican on 19 Jun produced 21. Shawnee Lookout hosted 15 for Steven Yockey on 26 Jun, and Craig Caldwell found the third most, six in Shawnee SF on 24 Jun. (45 counties)

Northern Parula

Linda Ar counted 12 along Rocky Fork Creek, *Highland*, on 01 Jun, as did Marvin R. Yoder in Mohican on 19 Jun. (54 counties)

Magnolia Warbler

The reports are:

Two at CLNP on 01 Jun (Bill Ohlsen)

One at Hampton Hills MP, *Summit*, on 01 Jun (Nancy O'Bryan)

Two at Willard Park, *Cuyahoga*, on 02 Jun (Katheryn DiNardi and Joe Woyma)

Up to four in different parts of Mohican on several dates (m. obs.)

One at Clear Creek on 17 Jul (Joe Alsadi)

Bay-breasted Warbler

Dan Gesualdo saw two at Volunteer Bay, *Erie*, on both 01 and 02 Jun.

Yellow Warbler

Douglas Vogus' ONWR census teams produced the two highest counts, 256 on 06 Jun and 124 on 04 Jul. Up to 68 were seen there on other dates. The most elsewhere were the 48 that Tom Frankel found at Headlands on 31 Jul. *Jackson*, *Pike*, and *Shelby* didn't have sightings.



Chuck Slusarczyk Jr. photographed this Yellow Warbler relaxing on a branch at the drydock of downtown Cleveland, on 08 Jul.

Blackburnian Warbler

Marvin R. Yoder counted 15 throughout Mohican on 19 Jun. Three specific sites in Mohican

and one in **Hocking** each held two. In all, multiple sites in **Ashland** and one in each of **Geauga**, **Hocking**, **Holmes**, and **Lucas** provided reports.

Pine Warbler

Marvin R. Yoder's Mohican sweep on 19 Jun produced eight. Julie Zickefoose counted seven during the 15-16 Jun bioblitz in Washington Township, **Hocking**. Heather Aubke found five in only 90 minutes at Waterloo SF, **Athens**, on 25 Jun. (23 counties)

Chestnut-sided Warbler

Jennifer Allison and Hope Orr found four along the CVNP Wetmore Trails on 18 Jun, and many duos were reported. (19 counties)

Blackpoll Warbler

There were 12 sightings, from nine sites, and three of them were of duos. The last was one at Maumee Bay on 08 Jun (Michael Linkster).

Black-throated Blue Warbler

The reports are:

One at CLNP on 06 Jun (Nancy Howell) and 07 Jun (Alice Hubbard)

One along Dodd Road, **Lake**, on 06 Jun (Cole DiFabio and Tom Frankel).

One or two on several Jun dates in Holden's Stebbins Gulch; they probably represent a nesting attempt (m. obs.)

Prairie Warbler

Tri-Valley WA, **Muskingum**, hosted 16 for Josh Yoder on 03 Jul. A trio of birders found the second most, 11 at East Fork on 20 Jun. (33 counties)



A *Prairie Warbler* displaying its full spring colors was at **Judges Lake, Medina**, when Debbie Parker photographed it on 19 Jun.

Yellow-rumped Warbler

The reports are:

One at Maumee Bay on 24 Jun (Ned DeLamatre)

One at Huffman Prairie, **Greene**, on 12 Jul (Kristen and Philip Bailey)

One at Indian Lake SP, **Logan**, on 22 Jul (Don Niece)

Yellow-throated Warbler

Five miles along Big Darby Creek, **Franklin**, on 24 Jul produced seven for Susan Brauning. (61 counties)

Black-throated Green Warbler

Marvin R. Yoder counted 26 at Mohican on 19 Jun and Elias A. Raber found 19 there a week later. Katie Burnside and David Rudemiller found nine in the Ash Cave area of Hocking Hills SP on 24 Jun. (16 counties)

Canada Warbler

Bill Ohlsen saw one at CLNP on 01 Jun and Dan Wilson another that same day in Sheffield Lake, **Lorain**. Mohican produced sightings between 04 Jun and 12 Jul. Marvin R. Yoder's 11 on 19 Jun were the most, and Ben Warner tallied nine there in 4.5 miles of travel through the gorge on 07 Jun.

Wilson's Warbler

The reports are:

One at Mohican SP on 01 Jun (Carly Ferguson)
One in Solon, **Cuyahoga**, also on 01 Jun (Cory Chiappone)

One on the Maumee Bay boardwalk on 03 Jun (Conan Guard) and on 04 Jun (Michael Monarch)

One in Columbus on 31 Jul (Katelyn Shelton)

Scarlet Tanager

The Hinckley Reservation, **Medina**, produced nine for Jen Brumfield on 12 Jun. (76 counties)



Buckeye Woods, Medina, revealed this gorgeous male *Scarlet Tanager* striking a pose for Debbie Parker on 05 Jul.

Summer Tanager

A trio of birders counted six at Indian Creek WA, **Brown**, on 07 Jun. Four sites each hosted four. (41 counties)

Northern Cardinal

The two highest counts came during the CVNP censuses; they were 40 on 04 Jun and 35 on 03 Jul (Douglas Vogus et al.) The most elsewhere were 32, at Antrim Park, Franklin, on 04 Jul (Rob Thorn). (all 88 counties)

Rose-breasted Grosbeak

Larry Richardson traveled 5.5 miles in Grand River WA, *Trumbull*, on 10 Jul and tallied 19. Elias A. Raber also found 19, during a day in Tuscarawas on 11 Jun. The second highest count of nine was achieved at three sites. (79 counties)

Blue Grosbeak

High counts of four came from four locations. (42 counties)

Indigo Bunting

Joel Cooper counted 36 at Armleder Park on 17 Jun. The next most were Tyler Connell's 22 at East Fork on 21 Jun. (all 88 counties)

Dickcissel

The two highest counts came from Cook Farm, *Butler*. They were 52 on 29 Jun and 21 on 09 Jul (Randy Morgan). The third highest number of 19 came from Debbie Parker at Howard Marsh on 24 Jun. (61 counties)

Errata

Alert Tom Fishburn noticed what this editor did not: The Blue Grosbeak photo in the spring issue (page 145) had the wrong caption. It should have been "Su Snyder snapped a Blue Grosbeak warming itself in the sun along Prairie Lane, *Wayne*, on 20 May."

Just as alert Douglas Vogus caught two more errors. His teams' 07 May Common Merganser (page 123) and 03 Apr Louisiana Waterthrush (page 141) sightings were in CVNP, not ONWR.

And in that same issue, the inside front cover photo of the two ibises was by Patty McKelvey, not Kevin McKelvey.

CONTRIBUTORS

Here we list all the birders who sent reports directly to the *Cardinal* or the *Bobolink*, and those whose posts to eBird or the Ohio-birds listserv we specifically cited. We also list everyone who contributed photographs, even if we weren't able to publish them. We regret that the available space doesn't allow us to list everyone who contributed to one of the e-venues, though those sightings provide the bulk of the county counts. The editors thank all of you.

Louise Acheson	Kyle Brooks	Richard Dean
William Addis	Andy Brown	Ned DeLamatre
Scott Albaugh	Lori Brumbaugh	Michael DeLong
Steven Albert	Jen Brumfield	Robin Densmore
Gregory Allen	Katie Burnside	Amy Didion
Jennifer Allison	Matt Bystrom	Cole DiFabio
Joe Alsadi	Neill Cade	Katheryn DiNardi
Bela Anand-Apte	Marty Calabrese	Patrick Doran
Chris Anders	Craig Caldwell	Paul Dornbusch
Ken Andrews	Ronald Canterbury	Kurk Dorsey
Bridget Anthony	Vince Capozziello	John Durback
Linda Ar	Randy Carmel	Lisa Durham
Rick Asamoto	Denyse Carone	Patricia Dwight
Heather Aubke	Chad Carroll	Larry Early
Dale Bailey	Natalie Carusillo	Alex Eberts
Kristen Bailey	Jon Cefus	Ryan Eldridge
Philip Bailey	Lenore Charnigo	Eric Elvert
Joe Baldwin	Ann Chasar	Kurt Emmert
Tom Bartlett	Dwight Chasar	Janice Emrick
Carol Bates	Dave Chase	David L. Erb
Cynthia Beans	David Chernack	Norman Erb
Adam Beeler	Cory Chirappone	Reuben S. Erb
Linda Benner	Kathryn Clark	David Factor
Gregory Bennett	Brian Clegg	Dominick Fenech
Dan Best	Joel Cooper	Carly Ferguson
Ron Bicknell	Tyler Connell	David Fleming
Patrick Bilter	Zac Cota	Wyatt Flood
George Billman	Gary Cowell	Tom Frankel
Javin Blake	Patrick Coy	Roger Friedman
Joseph Boros	Michael Crist	Dan Gesualdo
Margaret Bowman	Michael Crouse	Meg Glines
Parker Bradley	Josh Davidson	Jeff Goff
Susan Brauning	Matthew Davis	Marianne Gorman
Terry Bronson	Gaylee Dean	Terri Gorney

Kahanti Greene	Kenn Kaufman	Matt Mason
Conan Guard	Sandra Keller	Nathan Mast
Giselle Guevara	William Kelly	Bruce Matasick
Marie Hu	William Kerrigan	Kari Warner Matsko
John Habig	Josh King	James McCarty
Marc Hanneman	Peter King	Chuck McClaugherty
Rob Harlan	Karie Kirkpatrick	Allen McGrew
Sandy Harlan	Coen Kliewer	Kevin McKelvey
Greg Harrington	Dennis Kline	Patty McKelvey
Kathryn Hart	Joel Kline	Rachel McKinney
Megan Hart	John Kolar	Jessica McQuigg
Gregory Hartman	Joe Kollar	Alvin Miller
Jeff Harvey	Jamie Koller	Benjamin Miller
Bob Helton	Nate Koszycki	Bruce Miller
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Troy Hibbitts	Bob Krajeski	Gregory Miller
Loren Hintz	Billi Krochuk	Jeffrey A. Miller
Robert Irwin	John Kuenzli	Kelly Miller
Eli Hershberger	Donna Kuhn	Kim Miller
Elias Hershberger	Karen Lakus	Nola Miller-Brasure
John Mark Hershberger	Jeff Lamson	Nolan Miller
Kevin Hershberger	Bob Lane	Adam Mitchell
Michael Hershberger	Gustino Lanese	Shannon Molden
Philip A. Hershberger	Austin Langdon	Lisa Mollhan
Robert Hershberger	Molly Langdon	Michael Monarch
Tom Hissong	Greg Lawrence	Randy Morgan
Cole Hoffman	Ken Lebo	Ben Morrison
Corinna Honscheid	Cam Lee	Paul Moser
Ami Horowitz	David Lehner	Eric Mullholand
Nancy Howell	Beth Lenoble	James Muller
Alice Hubbard	Warren Leow	Shane Myers
Janet Hughes	Brooke Levey	Rick Nelson
Mark Humpert	Ken Limmer	Don Niece
Paul Jacyk	Cheri Linkous	Aaron Nisley
Marissa Johnston	Michael Linkster	Kim Nordquest
Kathy Jakischa	Amy Longley	Zachary Nordstrom
Rose Jakischa	Rick Luehrs	Cynthia Norris
Laura Jenkins	Lydia Machczynski	George Novosel
Steve Jones	Betsy MacMillan	Nancy O'Bryan
Eric Juterbock	Doug Marcum	Bill Ohlsen
Tim Kambitsch	Karen Markey	Hope Orr

The Ohio Cardinal, Summer 2021

Ted Ossege	Ron Sempier	Ken Vinciguerra
Helen Ostermiller	Andy Sewell	Douglas Vogus
Ken Ostermiller	Mark Shaver	Adam Wells
Karl Overman	Katelyn Shelton	Alison Wagner
Debbie Parker	Paul Sherwood	Ben Warner
Kim Pastrick	Taylor Shimek	Mike Watson
Amy Pausche	Irina Shulgina	David Weaver
Scott Pendleton	Andrew Simon	Jon Weaver
Haans Petruschke	Tajinder Singh	Janet Wertz
Lisa Phelps	Chuck Slusarczyk Jr.	Jonathan Wilhelms
Travis Philo	James Smallwood	David Wilkins
Jeff Pickens	Bryan Smith	Geoffrey A. Williamson
Chris Pierce	David Smith	Chad Wilson
Patricia Pitts	Su Snyder	Dan Wilson
Jelmer Poelstra	Leslie Sours	John Winebrenner
John Pogacnik	Timothy Spahr	Carl Winstead
Sarah Preston	James Stammen	Joe Woyma
Jim Proffitt	Richard Stanton	Ed Wransky
Elias A. Raber	Diana Steele	Brian Wulker
Jacob Raber	Rich Stevick	Steven Yockey
Allen Rand	Jonathan Strassfeld	Aaron M. Yoder
Debbie Raven	Marty Stutzman	Aden Yoder
Mark Raven	Wayne Stutzman	Alfred Yoder
Brenda Ray	Debra Sweeney	Atlee Yoder
Emily Raymond	Beth Sybrandy	Josh Yoder
Joli Reising	James Sybrandy	Leroy E. Yoder
Shannon Reynolds	Tim Tanner	Marvin R. Yoder
Larry Richardson	Karin Tanquist	Karen Zeleznik
Landon Roberts	Monte Tarbox	Julie Zickefoose
Mandy Roberts	Ryan Taylor	Trevor Zook
Luke Robertson	Nathan Tea	Adam Zorn
Pam Rogers	Stella Tea	
Chris Ross	Alexander Teliak	
Jeffrey Roth	Rob Thorn	
David Rudemiller	Joel Throckmorton	
Daniel Ruhe	Brian Tinker	
Philip Runyon	Henry Trimpe	
Regina Schieltz	Anthony R. Troyer	
Ed Schlabach	Brian Tsuru	
Norman Schlabach	Ethan Urban	
Kori Sedmak	Joshua Vardous	

MILLERSBURG 2021 SUMMER BIRD COUNT

On 12 Jun, teams and solo birders fanned out in the Millersburg, *Holmes*, area. Sixteen participants tallied 2056 individuals of 70 species. Robert Hershberger provided these results. (These counts are not included in the Species Accounts).

SPECIES	COUNT
Hooded Merganser	4
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	6
Common Gallinule	3
Sandhill Crane	5
Double-crested Cormorant	1
Great Egret	2
Turkey Vulture	45
Bald Eagle	3
Red-shouldered Hawk	5
Barred Owl	3
Red-headed Woodpecker	12
Eastern Kingbird	12
Eastern Wood-Pewee	35
Acadian Flycatcher	55
Willow Flycatcher	14
Eastern Phoebe	11
White-eyed Vireo	20
Yellow-throated Vireo	9
Warbling Vireo	23
Red-eyed Vireo	113
Blue Jay	26
American Crow	88
Horned Lark	10
Bank Swallow	1
Purple Martin	115
Barn Swallow	150
Cliff Swallow	311
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	15
House Wren	32
Marsh Wren	4
Carolina Wren	23
Gray Catbird	35
Wood Thrush	33
American Robin	73
American Goldfinch	30
Grasshopper Sparrow	9

SPECIES	COUNT
Chipping Sparrow	40
Field Sparrow	46
Henslow's Sparrow	1
Savannah Sparrow	7
Song Sparrow	75
Swamp Sparrow	15
Eastern Towhee	25
Yellow-breasted Chat	12
Bobolink	15
Eastern Meadowlark	20
Orchard Oriole	13
Baltimore Oriole	12
Red-winged Blackbird	123
Ovenbird	9
Worm-eating Warbler	1
Louisiana Waterthrush	4
Blue-winged Warbler	4
Prothonotary Warbler	12
Kentucky Warbler	8
Common Yellowthroat	21
Hooded Warbler	24
American Redstart	12
Cerulean Warbler	20
Northern Parula	2
Blackburnian Warbler	1
Yellow Warbler	37
Pine Warbler	1
Prairie Warbler	2
Scarlet Tanager	16
Northern Cardinal	84
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	18
Blue Grosbeak	1
Indigo Bunting	34
Dickcissel	5
TOTAL	2056

MORE PRAIRIE WARBLERS IN NORTHEAST OHIO?

By Tom Fishburn

With reports of declining populations of Prairie Warblers in Ohio I found it a surprise to learn of this species being observed more in northern counties. Some birds have been known to occasionally over-shoot their regular migratory pattern and appear here and there closer to the north coast. But if Ohio birders wanted to be certain to see Prairie Warblers, they would usually need to look in central and southern areas of the state.

Two years ago I learned that Prairie Warblers were regularly seen south of me in **Knox**. This was the closest location to my home that I had become aware of, about a 1-3/4 hour drive. So, in May 2020 I made a trip to Honey Run Highlands to look for them. Sure enough, I heard the song I had learned and only heard a few times before. I was fortunate to follow the song and see the bird teed up nicely singing away for a time before it moved into hiding.



This year I learned that a pair had nested in the CVNP, **Summit**, in 2020 and had returned. Since I live near Cleveland that got my attention. On World Migratory Bird Day, Saturday, 08 May, I attempted to look for these special birds. When I arrived at the Virginia Kendall Hills location in the early afternoon it was damp, overcast, and disappointingly quiet. So, I wandered further towards the lake. Passing by a marsh I recognized the song of a Common Yellowthroat. As common as Yellowthroats are, they are regular teasers that sing loudly but rarely appear in the open. While looking for it I spotted some movement in the reeds. Surprisingly, the first bird I spotted was a Prairie Warbler! But it did not

stay long here. I did also see the Common Yellowthroat a little later.

I decided to walk some other trails for a while. The weather improved and I later returned to the location where I first started looking. This time, even sooner than I expected and before hearing a chirp, I spotted one of the Prairie Warblers close by along the trail. Not long after it moved around, teed up and sung. Then a second bird came close, another male, chipping alarm calls.

Unfortunately for the second bird, my photos showed it had a damaged tail with only one or two feathers left. I could only speculate what happened. Did this bird suffer damage from a territorial dispute with the other male?

So are Prairie Warblers finding places in northeast Ohio suitable to breed?

I spoke with Matt Shumar, an author and editor of *The Second Atlas of Breeding Birds in Ohio*. He emphasized the lack of scrubby woody habitat in northern counties, also saying “prairies” are really not the ideal habitat in which these warblers breed. Just a few priority blocks including one in **Summit** showed Prairie Warblers were observed during the first atlas period (1982-1987). During the second atlas period (2006-2011) two nearby blocks showed evidence, as well as a third block further south. Three blocks in **Lucas** and one block in **Wood** also had observations in both atlases.

My interest, this year, was especially about what I could observe closer to home. It happened that on 10 May while visiting Judge’s Lake in **Medina** I heard the song of the Prairie Warbler in the distance, north of the lake. Watching a quick flight I saw two birds. Then one of these perched high up on an evergreen singing away.

I returned to Kendall Hills on 13 May. This time I saw only one bird briefly. This was the bird with the damaged tail. It seemed to be fine and was singing off and on. On 09 Jun I again visited the same area. It was not long after I parked that I heard a distant song but it came from the other side of the tree line that split two fields. So, I decided to take that trail and before long I saw the bird singing atop a bare tree. This male Prairie had a full tail of feathers. I checked other fields and did not see any others.

On my last visit to Kendall Hills on 17 Jun, I heard a Prairie sing but never located it by sight. The next week I heard from Ken Busch, who had visited Judge’s Lake on 22 Jun. Ken provided a photo of a male foraging there. Summer eBird



reports show Prairies continued to be seen and heard in *Summit* through 22 Jul and in *Medina* through 10 Jul. It appears things have been changing during recent years.

I spoke with Ann and Dwight Chasar and Rob Harlan, residents of *Summit*. They searched historical records of Prairie Warblers from various northeast Ohio sources over several past decades. Most notable was a record of two juveniles banded in 1981 near Peninsula, *Summit*. The following year “nine Territorial males” were observed at the same location. But by 1990, the summer Cleveland Birding Calendar noted “Prairie Warblers have become extremely rare and probably no longer nest in the region.”

Observations in *Summit* over the last three years are encouraging. Bill Osborne and Douglas Vogus confirmed a nesting pair in 2020. And there have been several observations reported

on eBird by many birders. But referring to past habitat changes, Rob Harlan says those changes “reveal just how quickly the fortunes of this species can change.”

Reviewing Jim McCormac’s narrative for the Prairie Warbler in the second atlas, I have hope to see more in northern counties. Quoting Jim as he referenced the Allegheny Plateau in the northeast and the Upper Great Lakes Plain of the northwest, “...observations in nonpriority blocks suggest that the species persists at low densities in suitable habitat.” For sure I am thrilled at seeing Prairie Warblers closer to home this year!

I would like to thank the following for their help with my questions and review of historical data while preparing this article: Ann Chasar, Dwight Chasar, Tim Colborn, Rob Harlan, Matthew Shumar, and Douglas Vogus.

RECENT ACTIONS OF THE OHIO BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE, August 2021

By Jon Cefus

Your Ohio Bird Records Committee (OBRC) has continued to vote on records submitted to or otherwise obtained by the committee. Twenty-five records were chosen for review. All twenty-five records were accepted by the committee unanimously (9-0). The committee also voted unanimously (9-0) to accept the first documented record of nesting Neotropical Cormorants in Ohio (2021).

Two species reached the threshold as defined by OBRC bylaws to be removed from the list of review species in Ohio: Neotropical Cormorant and Yellow Rail. Both received the needed votes to be removed from the review species list with a tally of 8-1 to remove Neotropical Cormorant and 7-2 to remove Yellow Rail. Reports of these species from before August 2021 remain eligible for review.

The membership of the OBRC who voted on the above records was Jon Cefus (Secretary), Rob Harlan (Vice Secretary), Jen Brumfield, Tom Kemp, Steve Landes, Ben Morrison, Steve Schaffer, Ben Warner, and Brian Wulker.

The official Ohio checklist stands at 443 species and a species pair as of August 2021. The checklist follows the nomenclature and taxonomic sequence of the American Ornithological Society's *Check-List of North and Middle American Birds* through the Sixty-second Supplement (July 2021). The Ohio checklist can be found at the Ohio Ornithological Society's (OOS) website at: <https://ohiobirds.org/resources/official-ohio-ornithological-society-bird-checklist/>.

The current list of review species can be found at: <https://ohiobirds.org/rare-birds/rare-bird-review-list/>. Those wishing to submit a record to the OBRC from the list of review species can do so several ways. A link is available at the OOS website to do so online: <https://ohiobirds.org/rare-birds/report-a-rare-bird-sighting/>. Information can also be sent via email to the secretary at birdbrains4u@gmail.com or mailed to 6699 Wales Crossing St. NW, Apt. A, North Canton, OH 44720.

The following list of records accepted by the OBRC is presented in taxonomic sequence and chronologically within a given species. They pertain to the sighting of a single bird unless otherwise noted. The sequence and common and scientific names of species follow the American Ornithologists' Union *Check-List of North and Mid-*

dle American Birds through the Sixty-second Supplement (July 2021) regardless of the date of the sighting. These documents are produced by the North American Classification Committee of the American Ornithological Society and are available at <http://checklist.americanornithology.org/>. The following 25 records were accepted during their first circulation:

Neotropical Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*) #1—Licking (Buckeye Lake), 06 Aug 2020. Internet sources.

Neotropical Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*) #2—Franklin (McKinley Quarry), 03 Mar–12 Apr 2021. Nesting pair. Internet sources.

Neotropical Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*) #3—Franklin (Kiwamis Riverway Park), 03 Apr 2021. Documented by Ron Sempier and Internet sources.

Neotropical Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*) #4—Allen (Lost Creek Reservoir), 17 Apr 2021. Internet sources.

Yellow Rail (*Coturnicops noveboracensis*) #1—Lake (Wake Robin Trail), 05 May 2020. Internet sources.

Yellow Rail (*Coturnicops noveboracensis*) #2—Lucas (Irwin Prairie SNP), 15–19 May 2021. Internet sources.

Cinnamon Teal (*Spatula cyanoptera*) —Mahoning (Pine Lake), 24–25 Dec 2020. Internet sources.

Western Grebe (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*)—Mahoning (Evans Lake), 25–28 Nov 2020. Internet sources.

Ruff (*Calidris pugnax*)—Holmes (Holmes County Trail), 25–28 Apr 2021. Internet sources.

Wood Stork (*Mycteria americana*)—Lucas (Cedar Point NWR/Maumee Bay SP), 19–20 Jul 2021. Documented by Paul Jacyk and Internet sources.

Anhinga (*Anhinga anhinga*)—Cuyahoga (Lake Isaac, Coe Lake, and Baldwin Lake), 02 May 2020. Documented by Patty McKelvey, Chad Wilson, and Internet sources.

- White Ibis** (*Eudocimus albus*)—**Jefferson** (Jefferson Lake SP), 13–14 Jul 2021. Internet sources.
- Roseate Spoonbill** (*Platalea ajaja*)—**Hancock** (Blanchard River – CR 208), 23 Jul 2021. Internet sources.
- Swallow-tailed Kite** (*Elanoides forficatus*)—**Lake** (Holden Arboretum), 24 Jul 2021. Internet sources.
- Swainson's Hawk** (*Buteo swainsoni*)—**Ottawa** (Ottawa NWR), 27 Apr–02 May 2021. Internet sources.
- Loggerhead Shrike** (*Lanius ludovicianus*)—**Wayne** (Clay Plant Rd.), 03–04 May 2021. Internet sources.
- Rock Wren** (*Salpinctes obsoletus*)—**Guernsey** (Kimbolton/Cambridge Area), 20–30 Jan 2021. Internet sources.
- Townsend's Solitaire** (*Myadestes townsendi*)—**Lake** (Headlands Beach SP), 02 May 2021. Internet sources.
- Varied Thrush** (*Ixoreus naevius*)—**Tuscarawas** (Pleasant Hill Rd., Dundee), 13 Dec 2020–01 Jan 2021. Internet sources.
- Northern Wheatear** (*Oenanthe oenanthe*)—**Wyandot** (Upper Sandusky Reservoir #2), 11 Jan–23 Feb 2021. Documented by Craig Caldwell and internet sources.
- Hoary Redpoll** (*Acanthis hornemanni*)—**Cuyahoga** (Lakefront Reservation), 05 Nov 2020. Internet sources.
- Smith's Longspur** (*Calcarius pictus*)—**Greene** (Gravel Pit Road, Cedarville), 25 Apr–04 May 2021. Internet sources.
- Swainson's Warbler** (*Limnithlypis swainsonii*)—**Summit/Cuyahoga** (Pinery Narrows – Cuyahoga Valley NP), 18–19 May 2021. Documented by Dave Hochadel and Internet sources.
- Western Tanager** (*Piranga ludoviciana*)—**Summit** (Cascade Locks MP), 05–10 Mar 2021. Internet sources.
- Painted Bunting** (*Passerina ciris*)—**Tuscarawas** (Sugarcreek), 09 Feb–30 Mar 2021. Documented by Ron Sempier and Internet sources.

A NORTHWEST OHIO BLUE GROSBEAK BIG DAY

By **Brian Zwiebel**

Most readers will assume this write up is about a visit to Oak Openings (OOPMP), the well-known Blue Grosbeak hotspot in Northwest Ohio. Instead, it is about a hunch that has been years in the making. A hunch that ended with success beyond my wildest expectations.

In the early years of my birding career the best bet to see an Ohio Blue Grosbeak would have been a long drive to Crown City Wildlife Area, *Gallia/Lawrence* or possibly *Adams* along the Ohio River. Years later the grosbeaks started summering at OOPMP and could occasionally be found in migration at hot spots like Magee, but they remain downright rare in the northern counties. Or so we thought.

At some point Blue Grosbeaks started showing up further north in Columbus and beyond. I noticed that a number of these reports were coming from what I considered to be marginal habitats such as rail yards, quarries, industrial areas, and weedy parking lots. I had a hunch these birds were possibly being overlooked in large parts of my area. After all, who was birding in these apparent waste lands with limited to no birder access? And were birders in tune to the sometimes-subtle difference in song from the ubiquitous Indigo Buntings?

Finally, I had the opportunity to test my hypothesis and was astonished at the results. On 25 Jul I found no fewer than 14 Blue Grosbeaks at five scattered sites in *Seneca*, *Sandusky*, and *Ottawa*. The sightings comprised singing adult males, at least one female, and immature birds at two different locations. Interestingly I noted one bird in a corn field adjacent to a quarry. All these birds were at previously unreported locations in counties with a dearth of reports.

Since my outing I have been reviewing some eBird report comments to see if any additional

anecdotal information could be gleaned. Two reports, coincidentally both by friend Julie Heitz, caught my eye. In Jun 2018, Julie observed a pair of Blue Grosbeaks at Sawyer Quarry Preserve, *Wood*. She observed that the birds were possibly seeking minerals from the crushed gravel in the trail. Could this be a reason why the birds are choosing disturbed habitats? And in Aug 2014 Julie reported from Mosier Lake, *Hancock*, near Fostoria where she observed a pair foraging in a bean field and then carrying food into taller grasses. I can't help but wonder, with the birds using small strips of roadside habitat, might their territories might extend into adjacent bean and corn fields for foraging?

For a couple of reasons, I have intentionally omitted specific locations from this report. First and foremost, many of the locations are highly regulated private property with little to no public access. I did not trespass and neither should you. Trespassing could cost you inconvenience, criminal charges, fines, and the loss of expensive equipment. Adjacent roadways with safe pull offs are recommended. Second, we can learn much more if birders fan out to cover other likely habitats across the region. I imagine there are many more Blue Grosbeaks to be found in the northern third of Ohio, some of which will be first county records! Good luck, be safe and good birding!

Postscript: Dave Smith found what I believe was a first county record in *Putnam* just a couple of days after this article was submitted.

Brian Zwiebel is a co-owner of Sabrewing Nature Tours. He got hooked on birding more than 25 years ago when he enrolled in "orno" (ornithology) at Hocking College. Since then he has pursued birds with a camera throughout North America, in several Central and South American countries, and Uganda in eastern Africa.

FIELD NOTES

(Lightly edited to correct obvious misspellings and to conform to the Cardinal's style sheet.)

From Benjamin Miller:

[Regarding 3000 Common Grackles on 14 Jul] Rough estimate, grackles were notably more numerous this evening compared to previous days (flagged). Many thick streams passing by. These movements to the southwest, presumably to their roost sites, are a daily occurrence around dusk. Bulk of birds typically pass through 8:00-8:30 pm. Likely an undercount as I was largely focused on getting views of the smaller blackbirds mixed in rather than carefully estimating the commoner species in the flocks.

From Scott Pendleton:

[Regarding two Red-winged Blackbird observations] On 11 Jun while doing a breeding bird route, we observed 20 or so RWBL harassing a bobcat until it ran from their nesting area with the birds in hot pursuit. Also a group of ten put a raven [that was]] carrying a chick back to feed its young down on the ground and kept the harassment up for a minute or so before peeling off and the raven flying away. I saw at least three ravens this year carrying large eggs, possibly duck or turkey back to their nest.

[Regarding birding near Cadiz, Harrison, on 31 Jul] Started counting as soon as I went under state Route 151. About a quarter-mile was driving. Walked one mile on the old haul road and walked another mile and a half back along the lake. The amount of avian biomass was mind blowing. I have never walked along the lake this time of year and could not believe the number of Melospiza and bobolink using this area! I do believe the estimates I have used are conservative but realistic. A remarkable birding experience!

From Leslie Sours:

For the third year in a row, Merlins successfully nested in the city of Upper Arlington in *Franklin*. As in the past two years, the birds were found by listening for a calling pair. What is particularly interesting is that the 2021 pair used an old Cooper's Hawk nest in a mature ginkgo tree, quite a departure from the typical use of American Crow nests in Norway spruces. All three nests have been within a mile of one another. Two young were successfully fledged in 2019 and four in 2020. The 2021 nest fledged five young, with the last one flying from the nest to an adjacent tree on 29 Jun. The three nests have had a

100% success rate fledging young in this suburban community. As of late Sep, two Merlins were still being seen and heard together in the neighborhood.

From David Wilkins:

[Regarding three King Rails in Sandusky] All three birds [were tagged as] part of a joint habitat research project between an area university and conservation group. The initial bird was trapped and radio tagged in Ottawa earlier this summer. The bird then left the area and was "lost". Research team was able to locate the bird in Sandusky along with two other King Rails. All three birds were caught together in a trap and the other two were radio tagged. Birds are still in same marsh.

From Douglas Vogus:

[Regarding a Northern Mockingbird in Ottawa] Actively singing in tall cedar at white house along Rt. 2 west of Grimm Prairie - repertoire included, and I'm sure was not limited to: Belted Kingfisher, Red-headed Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Blue Jay, American Crow, Tree Swallow, White-breasted Nuthatch, and Red-winged Blackbird. FYI. - my personal record is 13 species mimicked at The Wilds.

From Julie Zickefoose:

[Regarding 24 Henslow's Sparrows near Logan, Hocking] Careful slog on foot over two days covering as much of the strip mine area as possible, counting singing males. This was not an estimate; it was a careful direct count based on hearing singing males. We covered the main grassland the first day and the eastern tree-infiltrated area the second day, adding only three more males. Most are concentrated in the main grassland with no trees. This is the most HESP I've ever found in one place. I have been asked by an eBird reviewer to add photos and elaborate. Have attached mp4 with six males singing at one time. I was asked by the Arc of Appalachia conservation organization to census birds on a former strip mine which comprises approximately 110 acres, all in fescue and other introduced grasses and forbs. With my census partner Jen Sauter I walked the entire grassland over a span of two days, counting singing males very carefully. Paul Knoop did the same thing three days later and came up with 19 singing male HESP, but he did not cover the tree-studded eastern part of the grassland where we found four more males. This is a huge occurrence of this species, especially for Hocking where grasslands are very scarce.

YEARS AGO

By Craig Caldwell

10 years ago, the Summer 2011 *Ohio Cardinal*, Vol. 34 No. 4 (Craig Caldwell, Editor) contained these items: The issue was combined with that of Spring 2011.

Twelve review species were reported, including Ohio's first Cassin's Sparrow and three Common Ravens. (Ravens have since graduated from the review list.) There were 47,200 eBird entries (<10% of this summer's 505,000+).

25 years ago, the Summer 1996 *Ohio Cardinal*, Vol. 19 No. 4 (Rob Harlan, Editor) contained these items:

The state's first documented Clay-colored Sparrow nest was at Darby Creek; unfortunately it failed.

Nashville Warblers nested at Horseshoe Pond in CVNP.

Osprey nested at Berlin Reservoir and in **Jefferson**.

John Pogacnik found three fledgling Northern Saw-whet Owls in **Lake**.

Two Bell's Vireos were reported.

50 years ago, *The Cleveland Bird Calendar* for Spring 1971, Vo. 67 No. 3 (Annette B. Flanigan, Editor) included these items. (A reminder—the Calendar area is a circle of radius 30 miles centered at Cleveland's Public Square)

There were eight Bald Eagle nests in northern Ohio (not just the Calendar area) but no young fledged.

A Northern Mockingbird nest and one other sighting rated special mention.

A pair of Bewick's Wrens fledged four young in the Rocky River Reservation, **Cuyahoga**.

100 years ago, *The Cleveland Bird Calendar* did not publish an issue.

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The Counties of Ohio



*This Cedar Waxwing was chowing down on a buffet of serviceberries that Ed Wiansky captured in mid-bite, from his **Lorain** home on 10 Jun.*

Instructions for Contributors

The Ohio Cardinal would not exist without contributions from Ohio birders. We solicit sightings, notes on unusual observations, in-depth scientific articles, historical accounts, essays, artwork, and photographs related to Ohio and its birdlife.

Reports of bird sightings for each season are requested and should be submitted directly, by email or postal mail to:

Craig Caldwell, 1270 W. Melrose Dr., Westlake, OH 44145

Cardinal@ohiobirds.org

Send digital photo files or links to Roger Lau:

rognceleste@gmail.com

Deadlines are as follows:

Winter (Dec, Jan, Feb) - 21 March

Spring (Mar, Apr, May) - 21 June

Summer (Jun, Jul) - 21 August

Fall (Aug, Sep, Oct, Nov) - 21 December

Back cover:

*A bright sun and blue sky were the picture-perfect backdrop that Tom Fishburn used to photograph this White-tailed Kite, daintily perched on branches on Jockey Hollow Road, **Harrison**, on 06 Jun.*

THE OHIO CARDINAL

The Ohio Ornithological Society
PO Box 2432
Westerville, OH 43086

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