

THE **OHIO CARDINAL**

DEVOTED TO THE STUDY AND APPRECIATION OF OHIO'S BIRDLIFE • VOL. 45, NO. 4, SUMMER 2022





*Traci Gentry was especially happy when she decided to go birding on this day and came across a stunning Blue Grosbeak in Wood on 11 Jun.*

**On the cover:**

*Many birders flocked to Maumee Bay to see this Tricolored Heron that visited for several days. But Alex Eberts caught this special image of the heron with a snack on 12 Jun*

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*Devoted to the Study and Appreciation of Ohio's Birdlife*

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## FAREWELL

By Craig Caldwell

This issue of the *Cardinal* is my last as Editor-in-Chief. My successor Ron Canterbury and I collaborated on these Species Accounts and he will take the lead starting with the Fall issue. I will remain as Assistant Editor for the next couple of issues to ease the transition.

John Herman founded the Ohio *Cardinal* in 1978. The first issue covered the Spring 1978 season and was produced on a typewriter. (Remember those? I do.) It was letter size and stapled between colored cardstock covers. That format carried through the Spring 1985 issue, after which production of at least most issues was on a PC. The Winter 1990-91 issue was the first in its current digest size.

When the Ohio Ornithological Society was founded in 2007, the *Cardinal's* then owner and publisher Ed Pierce decided the journal to the new organization. The first OOS-owned issue was that of Winter 2007-08, and with it the

*Cardinal* introduced color printing to the front, back, and inside covers. We also tried a new editorial format: Andy Jones was Editor-in-Chief and each season had a different editor or pair of editors. I was recruited to prepare the Fall issues, so my first effort was that of Fall 2008. Unfortunately the format did not succeed. A revolving door of seasonal editors fell further and further behind schedule to the point where the *Cardinal* was being published more than two years after the season. After three years I was the only remaining original seasonal editor.

I took over as Editor-in-Chief with the Winter 2010-11 issue and since then have written the Species Accounts for every issue, just as most of the pre-OOS editors had done. The late Bill Whan was the longest-serving of them; from the Winter 1997-98 issue through that of Fall 2007 he produced 39 issues. I had not intended, nor expected, to pass that mark but this issue is my 47th.

It's time to pass the baton.

## COMMENTS ON THE SEASON

By Craig Caldwell

We are pleased to announce the publication of the 2022 edition of the Ohio Bird Records Committee *Annotated Checklist of the Birds of Ohio*. Author Rob Harlan has produced another masterpiece incorporating all of the knowledge about migration timing gathered since the original was published in 2008. We are indebted to the thousands of eBird contributors whose observations provided so much of the data; to the members of the OBRC, who worked overtime to update the records of Review List species; and to the OOS, which funded the publication.

Jun was hot – it ranked at number 99 with number 128 being the hottest ever. And it was fairly dry, ranking below average at number 59 of the 128. However, the southeast quadrant got up to triple its usual amount of rain, with part of *Noble* getting more than 10 inches. The Toledo and Cincinnati areas were also wet, with up to 10 inches and eight inches respectively. But the rest of the state got as little as half its usual amount.

Jul was also hot, ranking at number 95, with that being driven by significantly hotter than usual overnight temperatures during the month. In

contrast to Jun, it was a very wet month at number 109 with number 128 being the wettest on record. Most of the state got at least five inches of rain with more than eight inches in Columbus and to the southeast. But small areas in the far northeast and southwest got as little as half their usual rain.

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

As is usually the case, a sprinkling of waterfowl that breed to our north were here. Shorebird migration followed its usual pattern with a few still northbound in early Jun and arrivals beginning late that month. Black-necked Stilts again nested at Howard Marsh. Four reports of Yellow-crowned Night-Herons were encouraging, though none nested. Most passerines, too, followed their usual pattern, that is when we take account of the migration timing information in the new *Annotated Checklist*. Bell's Vireo seems to be increasing its presence. More Mourning Warblers than usual were still heading north in Jun.

This issue of the *Cardinal* contains reports of 250 species. Only 2020 with 253 species and

2021 with 251 exceeded this year's count. One hybrid (Mallard x American Black Duck) and two entries at the genus are also listed. Twelve species were reported in all 88 counties and seven more were seen in 87. Thirty-five were seen in between 80 and 86 counties.

Only four review species were reported during this season; their names are underlined. (The Review List continues to get smaller as what were rarities become more common.) All of the reports came through eBird and all have enough information for the Ohio Bird Records Committee (OBRC) to evaluate them.

The OBRC under Secretary Jon Cefus continues to work hard to evaluate reports of Review Species. The Committee has completed two rounds of voting since their last report and their results are published in separate articles. Another round of votes is in progress as I write this.

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 from eBird (<http://ebird.org/content/ebird>). Data from *The Bobolink* area reports were not available.

Taxonomic sequence and nomenclature follow the *Check-List of North and Middle American Birds*, 7th Edition (1998) as updated through the 62nd Supplement (2021). (The 2022 update wasn't published until Aug.) These documents are produced by the North American Classification Committee of the American Ornithological Society and are available at <http://www.check-list.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 “*fide*” 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, ***Delaware***, 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-rison*** airport  
 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-governmental entity whose Long Branch Farm and Rowe Woods units are in ***Clermont***  
 Conneaut = the mudflats to the west of Conneaut Harbor, ***Ashtabula***  
 CP = County Park  
 CPNWR = Cedar Point National Wildlife Refuge, ***Lucas***  
 CVNP = Cuyahoga Valley National Park, ***Cuyahoga*** and (mostly) ***Summit***  
 Darby Creek = Batelle 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 Loramic = Lake Loramic 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, Fox, Koontz, and Navarre = units of ONWR separate from the main area, all in **Ottawa**; of them Boss, Fox, 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**  
 Perry TP = Perry Township Park, on Lake Erie in eastern **Lake**  
 Pickerel Creek = Pickerel 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**  
 Sandhill Crane = Sandhill Crane Wetlands, a newly-designated area within The Nature Conservancy's Kitty Todd Preserve, **Lucas**  
 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 and Ron Canterbury

### Black-bellied Whistling-Duck

This season was the first with too many sightings to list individually. The first bird seen spent 05 to 09 Jun at Fernald (m. obs.). The last were two flybys on 31 Jul at each of Moreland, **Wayne** (Jacob Raber) and Wright Marsh (Josh Yoder); perhaps they were the same birds. The most were 11 to 13 seen by Friedlander Road, **Wayne**, on 14 Jun (m. obs.). Three other **Wayne** locations and one in each of **Butler**, **Cuyahoga**, **Licking**, **Mahoning**, **Montgomery**, and **Sandusky** also contributed reports.



Traci Gentry visited the Clyde Community Park, **Sandusky**, on 15 Jul where she photographed this one of eight Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks.

### Canada Goose

Douglas Vogus *et al.* provided the two highest counts during their ONWR censuses, 497 on 05 Jun and 447 on 03 Jul. The most elsewhere were Michael Hochstetler's 350 at Wilderness Road on 23 Jul. Only **Fayette**, **Meigs**, **Monroe**, and **Van Wert** didn't have sightings.

### Mute Swan

The high count of five was shared by Domenic Rocco at Yoctangee Park, **Ross**, on 04 Jun and Larry Richardson at Mosquito WA on 19 Jun. (25 counties)

### Trumpeter Swan

Douglas Vogus' census team tallied 191 in ONWR on 05 Jun and up to 111 were recorded there on other dates. The most not in **Lucas** and **Ottawa** were two families totaling 13 individuals at Killdeer on 28 Jun (George Billman and Alexander Teliak). (28 counties)

### Wood Duck

CVNP hosted 200 for Douglas Vogus *et al.* on 05 Jun. Helen and Ken Ostermiller counted 126 along the Chippewa Inlet Trail, **Medina**, on 30 Jun. (74 counties)

### Blue-winged Teal

Linda Carstensen found 25 near Bono, **Lucas**, on 23 Jul. (40 counties)

### Northern Shoveler

There was a trickle of sightings throughout the season. Helen and Ken Ostermiller saw the most, four along the Chippewa Inlet Trail, **Medina**, on 30 Jul. **Cuyahoga**, **Erie**, **Lucas**, and **Mercer** also provided reports.

### Godwall

The last spring migrant spent 12 and 13 Jun at Lorain (m. obs.). The first southbound bird spent 02 to 04 Jul off Wildwood, **Cuyahoga** (m. obs.). Grace Chen saw three in the pool by the Magee Migratory Bird Center on 04 Jul. Sightings also came from **Erie** and **Ottawa**.

### American Wigeon

Several birders saw the last northbound bird, at Huron on 03 Jun. Several others saw the first southbound one, at Lorain on 26 Jul. Evan Schwartz saw two at New Springfield, **Mahoning**, on 02 Jun as did Andy Brown at ONWR on 30 Jul. **Auglaize** also contributed a sighting.

### Mallard

Metzger hosted about 500 for Margie Beckham on 12 Jun. Kurt Emmert saw the next most, about 250 at Howard Marsh on 09 Jun. The most away from Lake Erie were Josh Yoder's 90 at Wilderness Road on 07 Jul. (77 counties)

### American Black Duck

What was probably the last northbound migrant was at Deer Creek WA on 05 and 06 Jun (m. obs.). The next sighting was by Julie and Kim



This Trumpeter Swan family was photographed by Su Snyder along Clark Road near Killbuck on 04 Jun.



Jansen, at Mentor Lagoons on 27 Jun. Counts of five came from Howard Marsh on 20 Jul (Richard Bradley) and Sandy Ridge on 26 Jul (Debbie Parker). (11 counties)

#### [Mallard x American Black Duck]

Three sites in *Lucas* and one in each of *Cuyahoga* and *Sandusky* held one or two.

#### Northern Pintail

The reports are:

One at Howard Marsh on 25 Jun (Arnold Buehler)

One at Lorain on 29 Jun (Chris Pierce)

One at Fernald on 09 Jul (Marianne Gorman)

Two at Sandy Ridge on 27 Jul (Allen Rand)

#### Green-winged Teal

Sightings were scattered throughout the season. David Wilkins saw 20 at Pickerel Creek on 22 Jun and up to 11 were there on other dates. Paul Jacyk's nine along the ONWR WD on 16 Jul were the most elsewhere. (10 counties)

#### Canvasback

The only early season sighting was of one at ONWR on 05 Jun (m. obs.). The next was a single bird that appeared injured at Killbuck on 25 Jun (Josh Yoder) and after it the next was in the Williams Ditch, *Lucas*, on 10 Jul (Joe Hildreth). All of the sightings came from *Lucas*, *Ottawa*, and *Wayne*.

#### Redhead

Like those of Green-winged Teal, sightings were scattered throughout the season with no pattern. Up to eight were seen at Big Island through Jun to 02 Jul (m. obs.). The most elsewhere were Amy Holloway's two at Killdeer on 04 Jun. The sightings came from *Delaware*, *Lucas*, *Marion*, *Medina*, and *Wyandot*.

#### Ring-necked Duck

The reports are:

One at Margaret Peak NP for the entire season (m. obs.)

Two at the Coonpath Road wetlands, *Fairfield*, on 03 Jun (Jeffrey Roth)

One at Delaware WA on 06 Jun (Louis Iverson)

One at Howard Marsh on 20 Jun (m. obs.)

#### Lesser Scaup

Single birds were seen on and off all season. Most of the sightings were on or near Lake Erie, in *Cuyahoga*, *Erie*, *Lucas*, and *Ottawa*. The only inland reports came from *Wyandot*, an injured bird at Upper Sandusky Reservoir 2 on 04 Jun (Debbie Parker) and another in the Killdeer drained reservoir between 10 and 20 Jun (m. obs.).

#### Bufflehead

A female spent the entire season at Fernald for m. obs.

#### Common Goldeneye

One spent 23 to 26 Jul at Lorain (m. obs.).

#### Hooded Merganser

Jeff Harvey counted 27 at Mill Creek on 02 Jun and up to 23 were seen there on other dates. Benjamin Miller saw the most elsewhere, two families totaling 19 birds on the Kokosing River, *Knox*, on 15 Jun. (34 counties)

#### Common Merganser

Ann and Dwight Chasar counted 20 in a flyover flock at CVNP on 12 Jul. Luke Schrader counted 14 at Clear Creek on 23 Jul; see Field Notes for more. (12 counties)

#### Red-breasted Merganser

The reports are:

Two at Fairport Harbor, *Lake*, on 06 Jun (John Pogacnik)

Two in the Rocky River Reservation, *Cuyahoga*, on 07 Jun (Michelle Manzo)

One at Lorain, also on 07 Jun (James Kerner and Ed Wransky)

One at Wildwood, *Cuyahoga*, on 13 Jun (Mark Sweeney)

#### Ruddy Duck

Michael Crouse provided the high count, 20 at Howard Marsh on 18 Jun. Mark Sweeney's six at Pickerel Creek on 05 Jul were the second most. (10 counties)

#### Northern Bobwhite

The high count of eight was shared by Joseph Lautenbach at Crown City WA, *Lawrence*, on 01 Jun and Randy Morgan at Cook Farm, *Butler*, on 18 Jun. The latter were “[s]everal sightings and multiple calls from different spots; part of large population in extensive prairie-grassland.” No doubt many of the reports, from 29 counties in all, were of released or escaped birds.

#### Wild Turkey

Sandie Myers counted 23 near Jacobsburg, *Belmont*, on 04 Jul. (70 counties)

#### Ruffed Grouse

Patrick Coy and Karin Tanquist saw one at Woodbury WA, *Coshocton*, on 29 Jun, and expanded on the sighting in the Field Notes section. Pamela Keller had a wanderer briefly visit her *Montgomery* yard on 30 Jun.

#### Ring-necked Pheasant

Andy Brown saw the most, five at Glacier Ridge MP, *Union*, on 04 Jun. (27 counties)

**Pied-billed Grebe**

Big Island hosted 22 for Nickilas Paulson on 22 Jun and up to 21 on other dates. The most elsewhere were 19, at both Howard Marsh on 20 Jul (Richard Bradley) and Pickerel Creek on 27 Jul (David Wilkins). (33 counties)

**Rock Pigeon**

Ken Lebo noted 135 at his *Montgomery* property on 26 Jun. (80 counties)

**Eurasian Collared-Dove**

Emma Price saw three at the Lagoon Deer Park, *Erie*, on 11 Jun. (8 counties)

**White-winged Dove**

One spent from 31 Jul to 02 Aug at a *Brown* residence (*vide* Joel Greenburg).

**Mourning Dove**

About 200 were at Fernald for Brian Wulker on 28 Jul. Irina Shulgina saw about 100 near the OSU airport on both 17 and 21 Jul as did Renee Sparks in Clayton Township, *Perry*, on 28 Jul. (all 88 counties)

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo**

Heather Aubke found six at Lake Katherine SNP, *Jackson*, on 20 Jul. (80 counties)

**Black-billed Cuckoo**

Larry Richardson tallied five at Grand River WA, *Trumbull*, on 01 Jun, and up to four were reported there on other dates. Four sites each held two birds for the most elsewhere. (39 counties)

**Common Nighthawk**

Will Smolik saw 20 over Findlay's Riverside Park, *Hancock*, on 19 Jul. Jonathan Wilhelms' 10 at the Cleveland Botanical Garden on 15 Jun were the second most. (53 counties)



*Jerry Talkington had a huge surprise when he discovered Common Nighthawks successfully nesting on his survey area in Lake; he photographed this adult on 18 Jul.*

**Chuck-will's-widow**

The most were the four that Josh Yoder heard near the Rieveschl Overlook, *Adams*, on 03 Jun. Nearly all of the reports were from *Adams*, but several birders heard one near Guysville, *Athens*, on 16 and 17 Jun.

**Eastern Whip-poor-will**

Matt Anderson counted 10 at OOPMP on 02 Jun and wrote, "excellent count for the park; 3 along Wilkins Rd, 4 along Girdham Rd, one along Monclova Rd (west of Girdham); 2 along Jeffers Rd." Kevinn Fung's seven at Waterloo SE, *Athens*, on 16 Jun were the second most. (14 counties)

**Chimney Swift**

Mark Dwenger saw about 120 over Cheviot, *Hamilton*, on 29 Jul. About 100 were over Cascade Valley MP, *Summit*, on 24 Jul for Nolan Miller and also over downtown Cincinnati on 30 Jul for Steven Gurka. Only *Fayette* and *Monroe* didn't have sightings.

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird**

Rhonda Miller counted 30 at the Lake Hope SP Nature Center feeders, *Vinton*, while watching a banding demonstration on 29 Jul; up to 20 were seen there on other dates. The most elsewhere were the 12 that Robert Mitchell counted at the AEP ReCreation Lands, *Morgan*, on 01 Jul. (83 counties)

**Virginia Rail**

Wayne Stutzman counted seven at Lower Killbuck Creek WA, *Holmes*, on 09 Jul. (23 counties)

**Sora**

Metzger hosted 10 for Liam Pentangelo on 31 Jul. Thomas Reiter saw the second most, four near Andover, *Ashtabula*, on 04 Jun. (20 counties)

**Common Gallinule**

High counts of 23 came twice from Metzger, on 14 Jun (Debbie Parker) and 15 Jul (Inga Schmidt). The most not in *Lucas* were the 15 that Josh Yoder found at Wright Marsh on 25 Jun. (24 counties)



*Seeing this Common Gallinule family delighted Su Snyder, who photographed them along Clark Road near Killbuck on 23 Jun.*

### American Coot

Carlton Schooley saw about 40 at Big Island on 19 Jul and up to 30 were seen there on other dates. The 14 at Metzger for Karen and Warren Leow on 31 Jul were the most elsewhere. (18 counties)

### Sandhill Crane

Matt Anderson counted 156 in two flocks that passed over his *Lucas* home on 15 Jun. Michael Hochstetler tallied 134 at Wilderness Road on both 09 and 10 Jul. (33 counties)

### Black-necked Stilt

Gustino Lanese counted 11 at Howard Marsh on 29 Jun; observers note at least two families. Several other sites in *Lucas* and *Ottawa* hosted them as well. Up to seven were in the Pickerel Creek area (m. obs. and dates). Inland, up to five were noted at the Beaver Creek WWTP, *Mercer*, on 07 and 08 Jul, and birders saw two at Big Island on several dates.

### American Avocet

Josh Yoder and Terence Kline weren't together, but they both saw the last northbound migrant, near Funk on 06 Jun. Birders saw one or two at Conneaut on 25 Jun, the first of fall. Conneaut (Craig Holt) and Headlands (Roger Beuck and Jim Smallwood) each held five, almost simultaneously on 31 Jul. Several counts of three were reported. (13 counties)

### Black-bellied Plover

David Wilkins saw three at Pickerel Creek on 09 Jun and two there on 30 Jun. They were the last of spring and the first of fall respectively, and the trio was the high count as well. Single birds were seen at Huron on several dates and once each at Headlands, Lorain, and Metzger.

### Killdeer

Michael Hochstetler saw about 300 at Wilderness Road on 04 Jul. Next most were David Huff's 250 at Englewood on 30 Jul. (all 88 counties)

### Semipalmated Plover

Susan Brauning saw one at the Hebron hatchery, *Licking*, on 14 Jun; was it north- or southbound? Craig Holt's at Walnut Beach Park, *Ashtabula*, on 25 Jun was surely the latter. Funk hosted 20 for Michael Hochstetler on 02 Jun. (29 counties)

### Piping Plover

One spent 28 to 30 Jul at Dillon SP, *Muskingum*, to the delight of many birders.

### Upland Sandpiper

Sameer Apte saw the last of spring migration, near Oak Harbor, *Ottawa*, on 15 Jun. All of the season's sightings after that date were at known nesting locations. Scott Pendleton counted 12

along Busby Road, *Harrison*, on 26 Jun. Six were there on 03 Jul (Josh Yoder) and also at another *Harrison* location near Cadiz on 09 Jun (Scott Pendleton). The most not in Harrison were three at the OSU Livestock Facility on both 25 Jun and 02 Jul (m. obs.). All of the sightings came from *Franklin*, *Harrison*, *Lucas*, and *Ottawa*.



*Bruce Miller photographed one of the few summer resident Upland Sandpipers on 03 Jun in Franklin.*

### Whimbrel

The reports, all of single birds, were:  
At Wilderness Road on 02 Jun (Josh Yoder)  
At Headlands on 11 Jul (Dave Chase)  
At Walnut Beach Park, *Ashtabula*, on 30 Jul  
(Kim Nordquest)  
At Lorain on 31 Jul (Alex Eisengart)

### Hudsonian Godwit

Several birders enjoyed one at Huron on 02 Jun.

### Marbled Godwit

The reports are:  
One at Pickerel Creek on 05 and 06 Jun (David Wilkins)  
One that flew past Howard Marsh on 19 Jun  
(Ami Horowitz)  
Two at Lorain on 22 Jun and one there on 08 Jul  
(both m. obs.)



*Many birders including Ed Wransky got to see this Marbled Godwit on 08 Jul at Lorain.*

### Ruddy Turnstone

The reports are:

Five at Headlands on 01 Jun (Sarah Preston)

One at Huron on 02 Jun (Dan Gesualdo and Sarah Taylor)

Four at Maumee Bay on 04 Jun (Janet Hinshaw) and two later that day and one the next day (both Joli Reising)

One on the Lorain breakwall on 23 Jul (Debbie Parker)

Six at the Lorain impoundment on 31 Jul (Alecia Gorski)

### Red Knot

One was at Huron on 02 Jun (m. obs.)

### Stilt Sandpiper

Lorain hosted the first, on 29 Jun (m. obs.). The only double digit counts were of 13 at Lorain on 14 Jul (Bill Deininger and Chris Pierce) and 11 in a flooded field near Darby Creek on 27 Jul (Susan Brauning). (17 counties)

### Sanderling

Noah Goodwin-Bain and Kate Wise saw what was probably the last spring migrant, at Huron on 10 Jun. Janet Hinshaw saw 15 at Maumee Bay on 19 Jun; they were probably southbound. Those 15 birds and the 54 that Kari Warner Matsko and John Pogacnik counted at Huron on 04 Jun were the only flocks of more than eight. (10 counties)

### Dunlin

Sightings came daily until 09 Jun and then patchily until the last, which was Diana Steele's find at Huron on 23 Jun. Donna Kuhn saw 15 along the ONWR WD on 05 Jun and Amy Didion 11 at Howard Marsh on 09 Jun. *Sandusky* and *Wayne* also had sightings.

### Baird's Sandpiper

Several birders saw one at Wilderness Road on 30 Jul and it was still there the next day for Michele Skolmutch.

### Least Sandpiper

Dan Kempf saw the last northbound birds, 26 at Huron on 08 Jun. The first southbound sightings, each of two birds on 25 Jun, were shared by Craig Holt at Conneaut and m. obs. at Lorain. Josh Yoder provided the high count of 140, at Wilderness Road on 14 Jul, and up to 130 were seen there on other dates. Josh Yoder also saw the most elsewhere, 92 at Funk on 31 Jul. (53 counties)

### White-rumped Sandpiper

Sightings were fairly steady until 28 Jun, when birders found one at Lorain. The next sighting was by Michael Lyman, at Funk on 15 Jul. The high count of seven came from Huron on 03 and 04 Jun (m. obs.). (14 counties)

### Pectoral Sandpiper

Benjamin Walton saw the first two, at Mosquito WA on 05 Jul. Michael Lamont and Leslie Sours saw the most, 75 near Darby Creek on 24 Jul. The next most were Josh Yoder's 41 at Wilderness Road on 31 Jul. (30 counties)



*Jim Smallwood captured this Pectoral Sandpiper stepping about Mentor Lagoons on 31 Jul.*

### Semipalmated Sandpiper

Sightings came almost daily throughout the season. Josh Yoder provided the high count of 82, at Wilderness Road on 06 Jun. (40 counties)

### Western Sandpiper

One was at Lorain from 05 to 09 Jul (m. obs.) and another on 26 Jul (Paul Sherwood). Three were at Englewood on 15 Jul and one to three were seen there the next day (both m. obs.).



*Many added to their life lists when this Western Sandpiper stayed five days at Lorain. Kevin McKelvey photographed it foraging on 06 Jul.*

### Short-billed Dowitcher

David Wilkins saw the last northbound bird, at Pickerel Creek on 05 Jun. Lindsey Kunkel saw the first southbound one, at Howard Marsh on 20 Jun. Pickerel Creek hosted 35 for David Wilkins on both 10 and 11 Jul. (22 counties)

### Long-billed Dowitcher

Two were at ONWR on 23 Jul (Tajinder Singh) and up to four were seen there on 30 and 31 Jul (m. obs.). Chris Pierce saw one at Wilderness Road, also on 31 Jul.



**American Woodcock**

Locations in *Franklin*, *Lake*, *Noble*, and *Union* each held five. (34 counties)

**Wilson's Snipe**

A trickle of sightings in early Jun increased in frequency for the rest of the season. The high count of five was by Jim Smallwood at Mentor Lagoons on 02 Jul. (11 counties)

**Spotted Sandpiper**

A trio of birders counted 24 at Cleveland Harbor on 24 Jul. (67 counties)



Several Spotted Sandpipers were regular visitors along Wilderness Road where Su Snyder photographed this one on 25 Jul.

**Solitary Sandpiper**

Wilderness Road hosted 34 on 21 Jul for Bennie Saylor and up to 29 on other dates. Four sites each produced counts of 20. (48 counties)

**Lesser Yellowlegs**

Josh Yoder saw the last northbound bird, at Wilderness Road on 02 Jun. Michael Hochstetler's duo at Funk on 20 Jun were the first seen heading south. David Wilkins saw about 60 at Pickerel Creek on both 05 and 10 Jul, and Jelmer Poelstra's 55 at Funk on 16 Jul were the second most. (36 counties)

**Willet**

The first spent from 25 Jun to 07 Jul at Lorain (m. obs.). Tyler McClain saw the first elsewhere, at Kelleys Island on 05 Jul. Four locations each hosted two birds. *Ashtabula*, *Cuyahoga*, mainland *Erie*, *Lake*, and *Ottawa* also had sightings.

**Greater Yellowlegs**

Michael Hochstetler saw the last of spring, at Funk on 07 Jun. Vera Davis and Tammy Martin saw the first of fall, at Howard Marsh on 17 Jun. Randy Nissen's 23 along the ONWR WD on 24 Jul were the most and Jennifer Kuehn's 15 at Wilderness Road on 13 Jul the second most. (26 counties)

**Wilson's Phalarope**

The reports are:

One at Wilderness Road on 04 Jul (Michael

Hochstetler) and it (or another?) was seen again from 12 to 30 Jul (m. obs.)

One at the Beaver Creek WWTP, *Mercer*, on 07 Jul (Ethan Rising)

Two near Funk on 14 Jul (Josh Yoder) and one there until 16 Jul (m. obs.)

One at Mentor Lagoons on 24 and 25 Jul (m. obs.)

One at ONWR from 28 Jul into Aug (m. obs.)



On 24 Jul Gus Lanese took a kayak out at Mentor Lagoons and found this Wilson's Phalarope.

**Red-necked Phalarope**

Birders enjoyed one at Huron between 14 and 20 Jul.

**Bonaparte's Gull**

Arnold Buehler saw the most, 31 at Cullen Park, *Lucas*, on 29 Jul. Chris Krintzline saw the second most, 20 at Huron on 21 Jul. The most inland were Rodney McCollum's eight at Buckeye Lake SP, *Fairfield*, on 14 Jul. (12 counties)

**Laughing Gull**

One was at Headlands on 01 Jun (Sarah Preston), another at Maumee Bay from 11 to 13 Jun (m. obs.), and a third way inland at Rocky Fork on 09 Jul (Scott Albaugh).

**California Gull**

Jim Smallwood documented one at Headlands on 05 Jun for a rare summer sighting, and Katy Fitzpatrick shared the experience.



This California Gull at Headlands on 05 Jun was an amazing find by Jim Smallwood.

### Franklin's Gull

Josh Hargrave saw one at Fairport Harbor's Lakefront Park, **Lake**, on 13 Jun, and it was still there later that day for Sarah Preston.

### Ring-billed Gull

Gabriel Foley saw about 800 at Maumee Bay on 22 Jul. Ethan Maynard saw the next most, 600 at Headlands on 27 Jul. The most at an inland site were Carl Winstead's 285 at Alum Creek on 25 Jul. (53 counties)

### Herring Gull

Bill Ohlsen saw 475 off Rocky River Park, **Cuyahoga**, on 27 Jun and wrote, "1/2 hour into my watch a large stream of Herring Gulls moving Westbound along the shore to the bay then out to join the feeding 1 mile out." A trio of birders saw the next most, 215 in Cleveland Harbor on 24 Jul. Eileen Wyz'a's 20 at Hoover Reservoir on 30 Jul were the most at an inland site. (31 counties as far south as **Warren**)

### Lesser Black-backed Gull

Bill Ohlsen saw one off Rocky River Park, **Cuyahoga**, on 16 Jul, and Zealon Wight-Maier another from Geneva SP, **Ashtabula**, on 25 Jul.

### Great Black-backed Gull

John Pogacnik's find at Fairport Harbor, **Lake**, on 06 Jun was the only sighting that month; the rest spanned from 01 to 27 Jul. Counts of three came from Headlands on 14 Jul (Larry Richardson) and Geneva SP, **Ashtabula**, on 26 Jul (Zealon Wight-Maier). All of the other sightings were of single birds. Every county adjoining Lake Erie except **Lucas** had at least one sighting.

### Caspian Tern

Huron hosted 51 for Philip Steiner on 04 Jul and up to 43 on other dates. Lorain held the most elsewhere, 24 on 10 Jul for Bill Deininger. Chris Schmid's 10 at LaDue on 31 Jul provided the inland high count. (26 counties)

### Black Tern

Lisa Colles and Stacey Valentine saw five at Metzger on 10 Jul; up to four were seen there on other dates. Jennifer Kuehn and Donna Kuhn saw the most elsewhere, three at Darby Creek on 28 Jul. (11 counties)

### Common Tern

Greg Pasek saw 125 at Howard Marsh on 28 Jun and up to 70 were reported there on other dates. The most elsewhere were 50 seen at next door Metzger on several dates. The inland high count of three was shared by Salt Fork SP, **Guernsey**, on 06 Jul and Dillon SP, **Muskingum**, on 29 Jul; Taylor Shimek provided both sightings. (15 counties)

### Forster's Tern

Marc Dearnery saw 80 at the mouth of Wolf Creek, **Lucas**, on 14 Jul and up to 30 were there on other dates. Edgar Otto's 18 at Maumee Bay were the most elsewhere, and Michael Hochstetler's six at Dillon SP, **Muskingum**, on 29 Jul were the most at an inland site. (16 counties)

### Common Loon

There were a trickle of sightings until 03 Jul and then a pause until Geoff Malosh saw one at Delta Reservoir, **Fulton**, on 25 Jul. All of the sightings, from eight counties, were of single birds.

### Double-crested Cormorant

**Cuyahoga**, **Erie**, and **Summit** each provided counts of 300. (66 counties)



*Double-crested Cormorants are regularly seen along Wilderness Road where Su Snyder photographed these on 11 Jun.*

### Neotropic Cormorant

One spent 17 to 29 Jul at East Fork; sightings resumed in Aug (m. obs.). Another was at Big Island from 28 Jul well into Aug (m. obs.).

### Least Bittern

The high count of five was shared by Joanne Priest at Nimisila on 13 Jun and Lisa Colles at Metzger on 10 Jul. (15 counties)



*On 03 Jun "A good day birding", Bruce Miller spotted this Least Bittern along the Teal Trail at Darby Creek.*

### American Bittern

Chris Pierce found five along the ONWR WD on 12 Jun. Three were there for Ami Horowitz on 19 Jun. Susan Brauning also found three, at Darby Creek on 08 Jun. (10 counties)

### American White Pelican

Sightings were scattered throughout the season. David Wilkins saw about 240 in two flocks at and over Pickerel Creek on 03 Jun; 100 were still there for him on 06 Jun. The most elsewhere were the 61 that Jessica Adams and Julie Cramer-Le counted at Grand Lake SP on 27 Jun. (10 counties)

### Great Blue Heron

About 150 were at Englewood for David Huff on 16 Jul and up to 130 were there on other dates. Alex Eberts counted 103 at McKinley Quarry, *Franklin*, on 03 Jun for the most elsewhere. Only *Meigs*, *Monroe*, and *Van Wert* didn't have sightings.

### Great Egret

Douglas Vogus and his ONWR census teams provided the two highest counts, 193 on 05 Jun and 115 on 03 Jul. The most elsewhere were about 100 at Pickerel Creek on 03 Jun (David Wilkins) and the most inland were 94 at McKinley Quarry, *Franklin*, on 06 Jul (James Muller). (58 counties)

### Snowy Egret

Mark and Sherry Plessner saw five at Howard Marsh on 13 Jun. *Erie*, *Muskingum*, *Ottawa*, and *Sandusky* also had sightings.

### Little Blue Heron

These were surprisingly numerous this season. The first were two near Shiloh, *Richland*, on 20 Jul (m. obs.). The most were three at Cowan Lake SP, *Clinton*, on 30 Jul (also m. obs.). (7 counties)

### Green Heron

Larry Richardson counted 14 at Mosquito WA on 31 Jul. (79 counties)



Kathy Mock snagged a shot of this Green Heron at Nimisila on 30 Jul.

### Tricolored Heron

The OBRC has accepted internet documentation of one that spent 12 to 15 Jun at Maumee Bay.

### Cattle Egret

The first date was 14 Jun, when Paul Sherwood found three in Sandusky harbor, *Erie*, and several birders saw one at Maumee Bay. Irina Shulgina found six at the Honda Wetlands, *Union*, on 30 Jul. Three other sites in *Lucas* and one in *Ottawa* also provided sightings.

### Black-crowned Night-Heron

Howard Marsh hosted 12 for Tommy Crary on 02 Jun and up to 10 on other dates. Jen Brumfield and Dan Gesualdo saw six on Turning Point Island, *Erie*, on 03 Jun. (20 counties)

### Yellow-crowned Night-Heron

The reports are:

One near Apple Creek, *Wayne*, on 05 Jun (Atlee Yoder)

Two near Georgetown, *Brown*, on 15 Jun (John Troyer Jr.)

One at Carriage Hill MP, *Montgomery*, on 28 Jun (Ryan Shell)

One at Gilmore on 11 Jul (Anthony Stoffolano)

### Glossy Ibis

John Eshem and Corinna Honscheid separately reported one at Big Island on 01 Jun.

### White-faced Ibis

One or two had been seen at Howard Marsh in late May and were joined by two more for sightings until 11 Jun. (m. obs.)

### Osprey

The nesting area at the north end of Alum Creek provided counts of 14 on both 19 and 20 Jul (m. obs.); so did LaDue on 30 Jul (David English). (63 counties)



The Osprey platform along Pleasant Hill Road in *Richland* provided a drive-by photo opportunity for Su Snyder on 03 Jun.

### Black Vulture

Jana Reser counted 89 at Cowan Lake SP, *Clinton*, on 23 Jul and wrote, "Large group congregating around the spillway area, easy to get a good count as many were roosting, standing, resting on

spillway and surrounding area". Up to 80 were seen there on other dates. The most elsewhere were the 69 that Gale Wulker found at Lake Isabella Park, **Hamilton**, on 21 Jul. (56 counties)

### Turkey Vulture

Gary Cowell made his "best estimate" of 160 in three kettles over Malabar Farm SP, **Richland**, on 03 Jul. He made an exact count of 104 during one stop on his Fulton BBS route on 05 Jun. (all 88 counties)

### Northern Harrier

Single birds were seen throughout the season; 20 counties had records.

### Sharp-shinned Hawk

Mia Shotwell saw two near Mt. Gilead, **Morrow**, on 07 Jul. The rest of the sightings were of solo birds. (24 counties)

### Cooper's Hawk

The high count of six was shared by Ron Bystrom at Perry, **Lake**, on 10 Jul and Marc Dearnem at his Columbus home on 20 Jul. (69 counties)



Bruce Miller spotted a distant Cooper's Hawk guarding its meal in **Franklin** on 03 Jun.

### Bald Eagle

Pickereel Creek hosted 41 on 05 Jun for David Wilkins. The next most were Allen Rand's 31 at nearby Willow Point on 26 Jun. The most away from Lake Erie were the 15 that Josh Yoder saw at Wilderness Road on 02 Jun. (75 counties)

### Mississippi Kite

One was seen in the vicinity of the Shawnee SP lodge between 02 and 07 Jun, on 11 Jun, and on 25 Jun (m. obs.). The Junction Earthworks area, **Ross**, again hosted one or two from mid-Jun to mid-Jul (m. obs.). A duo might have tried to nest on Candlewood Lane, **Summit**; they were seen together on 09 and 10 Jul and nearby on 13 Jul (m. obs.).

### Red-shouldered Hawk

Three locations each hosted five birds. (69 counties)

### Broad-winged Hawk

Robin Densmore saw the most, three in Spenser Township, **Guernsey**, on 21 Jun. (47 counties)

### Swainson's Hawk

A post from **Delaware** has a brief description.

### Red-tailed Hawk

James Muller counted eight at the OSU Live-stock Facility on 16 Jul. Only **Monroe** didn't have a sighting.

### Barn Owl

The reports are:

One near Sugarcreek, **Tuscarawas**, on 14 Jun (Javin Blake)

One in Hinckley, **Medina**, on 17 Jun (Don Danko)

One at Walnut Woods MP, **Franklin**, on 24 Jun (James Muller)

One in Keene Township, **Coshocton**, on 06 Jul (Barbara Caldwell)

A pair with five young at White Star Park, **Sandusky**, on 19 Jul (David Wilkins)

### Eastern Screech-Owl

Paul Jacyk saw a family of five along the Maumee Bay boardwalk on 10 Jun. Four sites each held four birds. (37 counties)

### Great Horned Owl

Megan Hart counted four at Lakeshore Reservation, **Lake**, on 10 Jun. There were many reports of two birds. (43 counties)

### Barred Owl

Theresa Lyons provided the high count of six, in Westerville, **Franklin**, on 04 Jul. (50 counties)

### Belted Kingfisher

Tracy Engle counted 11 along the upper Cuyahoga River from Eldon Russell Park, **Geauga**, on 04 Jun. (79 counties)



This Belted Kingfisher was photographed by Su Snyder along Wilderness Road on 25 Jul.



**Red-headed Woodpecker**

Bob Swindaman counted 14 at OOPMP on 10 Jul. (82 counties)

**Red-bellied Woodpecker**

Ned DeLamatre counted 15 along two miles of the CVNP towpath on 15 Jun. The next most were Lucas Lindenmuth's 12 at Gallant Woods Park, *Delaware*, on 02 Jun. Only *Fayette*, *Monroe*, and *Van Wert* didn't have sightings.

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker**

Five sites each hosted duos, all in known nesting locations in *Ashtabula*, *Geauga*, and *Lake*. The one that members of a Detroit Audubon field trip saw at OOPMP on 11 Jun was probably a straggling migrant. Another anomalous sighting came from Buck Creek, where observers saw one between 18 and 23 Jun.

**Downy Woodpecker**

Henry Trimpe's 11 miles of hiking in the Hinckley Reservation, *Medina* (hereafter simply Hinckley), on 13 Jun produced 16. Larry Richardson twice recorded 11 at Grand River WA, *Trumbull*, on 26 Jun and 25 Jul. *Mercer*, *Monroe*, *Pike*, and *Van Wert* didn't have sightings.

**Hairy Woodpecker**

Diane and William Noice counted seven on their Mantua, *Portage*, property on 30 Jun. (77 counties)

**Northern Flicker**

Douglas Vogus *et al.* tallied 15 during the ONWR censuses on both 05 Jun and 03 Jul. Diana Steele counted 10 during a survey at the NASA facility formerly called Plum Brook Station, *Erie*, on 11 Jul. Only *Fayette* and *Van Wert* didn't have sightings.



Roger Friedman made this extraordinary photo capture of a Northern Flicker at the Westlake Wetlands, *Cuyahoga*, on 27 Jun.

**Pileated Woodpecker**

The CVNP towpath trail yielded six for Ned DeLamatre on 15 Jun. (80 counties)

**American Kestrel**

Jeff Goff counted 15 at the American Landfill, *Stark*, on 30 Jul. Counts of 10 came from there on other dates, from Columbus airport on 14 Jul (Jayden Schirle), and from the OSU Livestock Facility on 30 Jul (Irina Shulgina). (81 counties)

**Merlin**

We see more and more reports of summering and of nesting by this species. Ben Cooper saw an apparent pair in his Columbus yard on 20 Jul, and James Holsinger saw two on three dates elsewhere in that neighborhood. Other *Franklin* sites and *Ashtabula*, *Delaware*, *Summit*, and *Union* also had sightings.

**Peregrine Falcon**

Paul Egan saw five in downtown Cleveland on 15 Jul. (21 counties)

**Great Crested Flycatcher**

Larry Richardson counted nine at Headlands on 14 Jul. (81 counties)

**Western Kingbird**

There's no doubt about the identity of one that spent most of Jun in *Union*. A post from *Greene* has photos that look good to me.

**Eastern Kingbird**

Censuses in ONWR produced 30 on 05 Jun and 34 on 03 Jul (Douglas Vogus *et al.*). The most elsewhere were the 22 that Matt Mason found in three miles of travel in Delaware WA on 09 Jul. Only *Paulding*, *Pike*, and *Van Wert* didn't have sightings.



Kathy Mock spotted this Eastern Kingbird while visiting the new William J. Robertson NP, *Wayne*, on 04 Jun.

### **Scissor-tailed Flycatcher**

A post from *Cuyahoga* has a description.

### **Olive-sided Flycatcher**

The reports, all of single birds, are:

At Buck Creek on 01 Jun (Julie Karlson and Doug Overacker)

At North Chagrin Reservation, *Lake*, on 06 Jun (Josh Hargrave)

At Grand River WA, *Trumbull*, also on 06 Jun (Larry Richardson)

At Poland Township Park, *Mahoning*, on 07 Jun (Michael Crist)

### **Eastern Wood-Pewee**

Henry Trimpe hiked 11 miles in Hinckley on 13 Jun and tallied 41. The next most were Isaiah Craft's 20 at Germantown MP, *Franklin*, on 04 Jul. Only *Mercer* and *Van Wert* didn't have sightings.

### **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher**

This year there were six reports:

At Magee on 01 Jun (m. obs.)

At Killdeer on 02 Jun (Amy Holloway, David Lehner)

Along the Hoover Scenic Trail, *Delaware*, on 03 Jun (Charles Bombaci)

At Big Island on 04 Jun (Natalie Carusillo)

At Mill Creek on 05 Jun (Pam Shaw)

At Berlin Lake WA on 05 Jun (David Factor)

### **Acadian Flycatcher**

Henry Trimpe's 11 miles in Hinckley on 13 Jun produced 31. The second highest count of 17 was shared by three locations. (77 counties)

### **Alder Flycatcher**

Rick Nelson found three at Mosquito WA on 06 Jun. (22 counties)

### **Willow Flycatcher**

Douglas Vogus' ONWR census crew counted 34 on 05 Jun. A trio of birders found 25 at CLNP on 11 Jun. (77 counties)



Kathy Mock photographed this Willow Flycatcher perched and singing in Fairlawn, *Summit*, on 12 Jun.

### **Alder/Willow "Trail's" Flycatcher**

Indeterminate (likely silent) birds were reported from 19 counties.

### **Least Flycatcher**

John Kolar found three while kayaking the upper Cuyahoga River in *Geauga* on 02 Jun. (26 counties)

### **Eastern Phoebe**

The 01 Jul CVNP census produced nine for Douglas Vogus *et al.* Counts of eight came from four locations. (78 counties)

### **White-eyed Vireo**

Sandra Keller needed only a mile and half of trails in Plum Run Prairie Preserve, *Adams*, to find nine. (70 counties)

### **Bell's Vireo**

Ron Sempier found four at Killdeer on 03 Jun and Amy Holloway counted the same number there the next day. Four other sites each hosted three. (10 counties)

### **Yellow-throated Vireo**

Henry Trimpe counted 15 in 11 miles of Hinckley trails on 13 Jun. Josh Yoder needed 16 miles along the Holmes County Trail on 18 Jun to find eight. (72 counties)

### **Blue-headed Vireo**

Jen Moore and Jason Parrish counted six at Hocking Hills SP on 05 Jun and up to four were tallied there on other dates. Four sites each hosted three. (15 counties)

### **Philadelphia Vireo**

Tracy Engle saw the last spring migrant, at Eldon Russell Park, *Geauga*, on 01 Jun.

### **Warbling Vireo**

ONWR censuses produced the two highest counts, 61 on 05 Jun and 46 on 03 Jul, and the 04 Jun CVNP census tallied 29, the third highest (all Douglas Vogus *et al.*). The most elsewhere were 20 at each of Magee on 03 Jun (Pete Shen) and Independence Dam SP, *Defiance*, on 10 Jun (Paul Cary). (83 counties)

### **Red-eyed Vireo**

Henry Trimpe's 11 miles of Hinckley trails on 13 Jun produced 68. Atlee Yoder needed only about 2.5 miles to tally 25 near Holmesville, *Holmes*, on 11 Jun. Only *Auglaize* and *Van Wert* didn't have sightings.

### **Blue Jay**

The high count of 26 was shared by Douglas Vogus' CVNP census team on 01 Jul and Chris Pierce during a walk in his North Olmsted, *Cuyahoga*, neighborhood on 23 Jul. Only *Monroe* and *Van Wert* didn't have sightings.

### American Crow

Benjamin Miller saw about 150 near Apple Valley Lake, **Knox**, on 18 Jul and 120 near Amity, **Knox**, on 28 Jul. The third most were Deb Koprak-Nauer's 88 at Silver Creek MP, **Summit**, on 25 Jul. **Mercer** and **Van Wert** didn't have sightings.



*Posing perfectly in good light for Kathy Mock, this American Crow was at Greenlawn Memorial Park Cemetery, **Summit**, on 18 Jul.*

### Fish Crow

Margaret Attenweiler found seven in Lakewood, **Cuyahoga**, on 26 Jul, and audio recorded calls. About 20 sites in **Cuyahoga** hosted the species. Outside that county, one was in Avon, **Lorain**, on 13 Jul for Bill Ohlsen and another along the Wake Robin Trail, **Lake**, on 16 Jul for Josh Hargrave.

### Common Raven

Bryan Smith counted five near Proctorville, **Lawrence**, on 09 Jun, as did Chris Pierce along Cadiz-Flushing Road, **Harrison**, on 26 Jun. **Belmont**, **Jefferson**, **Lake**, **Mahoning**, **Monroe**, and **Washington** also provided reports.

### Carolina Chickadee

Mark Dwenger counted 18 along three miles of trails in Miami Whitewater Forest, **Hamilton**, on 16 Jun. (63 counties)

### Black-capped Chickadee

Henry Trimpe found 24 in Hinckley on 13 Jun. (27 counties)

### [Carolina x Black-capped Chickadee]

Janet Priest possibly had one of this hybrid at her Barberton, **Summit**, feeders in early Jul; the jury is still out.

### Carolina/Black-capped Chickadee

Cautious birders recorded indeterminate birds in nine counties.

### Tufted Titmouse

Fannie Courtier counted 42 at CNC's Long Branch Farm on 20 Jun. The second most were Henry Trimpe's 28 at Hinckley on 13 Jun. Only **Mercer**, **Paulding**, and **Van Wert** didn't have sightings.

### Horned Lark

Benjamin Miller found 20 near Centerburg, **Knox**, on 10 Jul. (57 counties)

### Bank Swallow

Philip Steiner saw about 400 at Huron on both 29 Jun and 06 Jul. Larry Richardson saw the next most, 280 at Mosquito WA on 05 Jul. (54 counties)



*This cute juvenile Bank Swallow was photographed by Jerry Talkington at Fairport Harbor, **Lake**, on 18 Jul.*

### Tree Swallow

The 03 Jul ONWR census tallied 766 (Douglas Vogus *et al.*). About 500 were at Willow Point on 20 Jul for William Cook. Only **Monroe** and **Van Wert** didn't have sightings.

### Northern Rough-winged Swallow

About 350 were at Lorain for Allen Rand on 08 Jul. Cole DiFabio saw the second most, 150 at Arcola Creek Park, **Lake**, on 30 Jul. (83 counties)

### Purple Martin

David Wilkins banded some of the 600 he noted at Winous Point on 29 Jun. Next most were Susan Wynn's 400 at Nimisila on 23 Jul. **Auglaize**, **Monroe**, and **Van Wert** didn't have sightings.

### Barn Swallow

About 300 were at Lorain for Alex Eisengart on 16 Jul and up to 250 were there on other dates.

Three other sites produced counts of about 200. (all 88 counties)

#### Cliff Swallow

Luke Thies found about 300 at Miami Whitewater Forest, **Hamilton**, on 06 Jul. Linda Benner saw about 250 at a nest colony near Fredericksburg, **Wayne**, on 18 Jun. (60 counties)

#### Golden-crowned Kinglet

Amy Longley and Betsy MacMillan found two in the CVNP Horseshoe Pond area on 05 Jun and then one there on both 14 and 16 Jun. Henry Trimpe saw one during his Hinckley trek on 13 Jun. Jacob Raber also saw one at Hinckley, on 02 Jul.

#### Cedar Waxwing

Lori Brumbaugh and Kim Pastrick saw about 125 near Jaite in CVNP on 01 Jun. Susan Brickner-Wren found 100 at the Jackson Pike WWTP, **Franklin**, on both 26 and 27 Jun. (all 88 counties)

#### Red-breasted Nuthatch

These were seen during the whole season but sparsely in Jul. Henry Trimpe found three at Hinckley on 13 Jun and six sites hosted two. (11 counties)

#### White-breasted Nuthatch

Hinckley hosted 17 for Henry Trimpe on 13 Jun. Levi Metzger found 12 at Germantown MP, **Montgomery**, on 19 Jun. **Fayette**, **Monroe**, **Pike**, and **Van Wert** didn't have sightings.

#### Brown Creeper

Like Red-breasted Nuthatches, these were seen during the whole season but sparsely in Jul. John Kolar counted five along the upper Cuyahoga River in **Geauga** on 02 Jun. (15 counties)

#### Blue-gray Gnatcatcher

Alecia Gorski found 20 at Bacon Woods, **Lorain**, on 09 Jul. Only **Monroe**, **Paulding**, and **Van Wert** didn't have sightings.

#### House Wren

Douglas Vogus' ONWR census team counted 86 on 03 Jul. Chris Pierce rode a bike circuit through Westlake and North Olmsted, **Cuyahoga**, on 25 Jun and tallied 38; he repeated the route on 02 Jul and found 36. Only **Monroe** and **Pike** didn't have sightings.

#### Winter Wren

Mike Watson found three at Holden's Upper Baldwin area, **Lake**, on 16 Jul. The rest of the sightings were of single birds, and most were at known nesting areas in **Cuyahoga**, **Erie**, **Geauga**, **Lake**, **Lorain**, and **Summit**. But Landon Roberts' one at Scioto Grove MP, **Franklin**, on 03 Jun was probably a lingering migrant.

#### Marsh Wren

Susan Evanoff and Su Snyder carefully counted along the ONWR WD on 04 Jul and found 72. Douglas Vogus' census team had tallied 59 at ONWR the day before. The third most were Chris Krintzline's 27 at Howard Marsh on 07 Jul. (27 counties)

#### Sedge Wren

Dave Chase found two pairs along Fairport Nursery Road, **Lake**, on 02 Jul. (17 counties)



"This male Sedge Wren attracted a female to his uncut patch of grass at Fairport Harbor", **Lake**, wrote Jerry Talkington on 12 Jun.

#### Carolina Wren

CVNP hosted 13 for Douglas Vogus *et al.* on 01 Jul. Only **Mercer** and **Van Wert** didn't have sightings.

#### Brown Thrasher

Robin Densmore counted 11 along Chapel Drive, **Noble**, on 11 Jun. Only **Mercer**, **Paulding**, and **Van Wert** didn't have sightings.



Ed Wransky spotted this foraging Brown Thrasher on 05 Jun in **Lorain**.



### Gray Catbird

Douglas Vogus *et al.* counted 40 in CVNP on 03 Jul. Grand River WA, **Trumbull**, held 36 for Larry Richardson on 01 Jul. **Van Wert** alone didn't have a sighting.

### Northern Mockingbird

Luke Thies found about 25 at Armleder Park on 28 Jun, most of them gleaning in a newly mowed area. Mike Confer saw the second most, 12 at Dillon SP, **Muskingum**, on 26 Jun. (82 counties)

### European Starling

The high count was 2000; Ben Meredyk found that many at Lorain on 23 Jul as did Nicky Rosner at William J. Robertson NP, **Wayne**, on 29 Jul. Benjamin Miller saw about 1500 near Centerville, **Knox**, on 20 Jul. (all 88 counties)

### Eastern Bluebird

Bill Jirousek counted 32 at Squire Valeevue Farm, **Cuyahoga**, on 07 Jul and 24 there on two other dates. Jeff Harvey monitors nest boxes at Mill Creek Golf Course, **Mahoning**, and found 19 bluebirds on 01 Jun. Only **Mercer** didn't have a sighting.

### Veery

The high count of 15 was shared by Mohican on 11 Jun (Alvin and David Miller) and CVNP's Perkins Trail on 16 Jun (Susan Jones and Clyde Witt). The second highest count, nine, was also shared: Matt Anderson saw his at Maumee SF, **Fulton**, on 11 Jun and Dennis Mersky his on CVNP's Wetmore Trail on 04 Jul. (32 counties)

### Swainson's Thrush

Isaac Smith saw the last northbound bird, at Magee on 09 Jun. Brian Tinker contributed the high count of three, recorded calling in passage over his Akron home very early on 01 Jun. Singles were also seen in **Cuyahoga**, **Hamilton**, and **Lake**.

### Hermit Thrush

Bela Anand-Apte saw what was probably the last migrant, at Shaker Lakes, **Cuyahoga**, on 06 Jun. But one at Lydia Machczynski's **Ashtabula** home on 12 Jun is a contender. Jen Moore and Jason Parrish counted 10 along five miles of trails in Hocking Hills SP on 05 Jun. (10 counties)

### Wood Thrush

Rodney McCollum walked more than five miles of Clear Creek trails on 08 Jul and was rewarded with the sight and sound of 27 Wood Thrushes. Robin Densmore twice counted 17, along Chapel Drive, **Noble**, on 11 Jun and two days later in Rich Hill Township, **Muskingum**. Only **Auglaize**, **Paulding**, **Putnam**, and **Van Wert** didn't have sightings.

### American Robin

Inga Schmidt watched about 240 settle into an evening roost near her **Geauga** home on 22 Jul. Susan Carpenter counted 614 at Portage Lakes, **Summit**, on 16 Jul. (all 88 counties)



This American Robin chowing down on a berry was photographed by Ed Wransky in **Lorain** on 11 Jun.

### House Sparrow

Micah Bagley saw about 250 at Cedar Point, **Erie**, on 26 Jul. Courtney Brennan had about 150 at her Cleveland home on 18 Jun. (all 88 counties)

### American Pipit

Tyler McClain saw one on Kelleys Island on 02 Jul and wrote, "Very shocked to find this bird. First saw a bird with white outer tail feathers fly away. Then watched the bird bob around on the ground feeding."

### Pine Siskin

The reports, all of single birds, are:  
At Volunteer Bay, **Erie**, from 07 to 13 Jun (Dan Gesualdo)  
At Claysville, **Guernsey**, on 01 and 02 Jul (Robin Densmore)  
At Sawmill Creek Preserve, **Mahoning**, on 09 Jul (Matthew Siefert)



For the first time "in my 70 years of birding", Jerry Talkington had this Pine Siskin visit his feeder in 90-degree heat in **Lake** on 22 Jul.

### House Finch

Nancy Howell counted 44 at CLNP on 17 Jul. *Fayette*, *Mercer*, *Morgan*, and *Pike* didn't have sightings.

### Purple Finch

Lydia Machczynski's feeders in *Ashtabula* hosted four on 05 Jul. (14 counties)

### American Goldfinch

About 100 were at the Junction Earthworks, *Ross*, on 10 Jul for Laura Nein, who wrote, "Clouds of them. This replanting is wildly successful." Hana Gibson saw about 50 there on 16 Jul. Carrie and Mark Ruane saw the most elsewhere, 46 at Huffman Prairie, *Greene*, on 02 Jul. (all 88 counties)

### Grasshopper Sparrow

Josh Yoder counted 38 along Busby Road, *Harrison*, on 03 Jul. Another *Harrison* site, near Cadiz, produced 35 for Scott Pendleton on 14 Jul. The next most were Henry Trimpe's 19 in Clayton Township, *Perry*, on 10 Jun. (55 counties)

### Lark Sparrow

Nate Koszycki counted eight in the species' OOPMP stronghold on 25 Jun and up to seven were reported there on other dates. The most elsewhere were four, at the drained reservoir at Killdeer on 25 Jun (Pete Johantgen) and 27 Jun (Natalie Carusillo and Raymond Rosselot). Three sites in *Greene* and one in each of *Butler* and *Fulton* also had sightings.

### Chipping Sparrow

Amos Bixler found 35 in Paint Township, *Wayne*, on 12 Jun. Henry Trimpe's 26 at Hincley on 13 Jun were the second most. (all 88 counties)



Kathy Mock photographed this Chipping Sparrow on 10 Jun at her local Greenlawn Memorial Park Cemetery, *Summit*.

### Clay-colored Sparrow

This species is a rare nester in Ohio, so the pair that raised two young at Poland Township Park, *Mahoning*, were a treat (m. obs).

### Field Sparrow

Andy Brown counted 26 at Darby Creek on 29 Jun. Only *Auglaize*, *Putnam*, and *Van Wert* didn't have sightings.

### Dark-eyed Junco

Holden's Little Mountain twice hosted counts of eight, for a trio of birders on 04 Jun and for Mike Watson on 08 Jul. Three sites each held six. All of the sightings came from *Ashland*, *Cuyahoga*, *Geauga*, *Lake*, *Medina*, *Portage*, and *Summit*.

### White-crowned Sparrow

Dean Griffith photographed a straggler in *Ashtabula* on 11 Jun.

### White-throated Sparrow

Megan Hart saw a late northbound migrant at Lakeshore Reservation, *Lake*, on 02 Jun. Early arrivals from the north were at Pipe Creek on 28 Jul (Martyn Drabik-Hamshare and Morgan Pfeiffer) and at Mosquito WA on 29 Jul (Larry Richardson).

### Vesper Sparrow

Hana Gibson found five nests with a total of eight birds in Jefferson Township, *Clinton*, on 20 Jun. (36 counties)

### Nelson's Sparrow

Matt Anderson saw two at Irwin Prairie SNP, *Lucas*, on 04 Jun; see Field Notes for more. George Sydlowski saw one of them a few hours later.

### Savannah Sparrow

The relatively new Sandhill Crane Wetlands, *Lucas*, hosted 40 for Matt Anderson on 04 Jun. Two other sites produced counts of 35. (63 counties)



This Savannah Sparrow was persistently foraging on the main path at Margaret Peak NP, *Lorain*, unperturbed by photographer Kevin McKelvey on 12 Jun.

### Henslow's Sparrow

Josh Yoder provided the two highest counts, 51 along Busby Road and 24 in Cadiz Township. Both sightings were on 03 Jul; both sites are in

**Harrison.** The most not in that county were the 10 that Dennis and Scott Albaugh found at Friendship Park, **Jefferson**, on 18 Jun. (44 counties)

### Song Sparrow

Douglas Vogus' ONWR census teams tallied 85 on 05 Jun and 139 on 03 Jul. Rayka Petkova and Marty Reynard counted 57 in CLNP on 11 Jun for the most elsewhere. Only **Van Wert** didn't have a sighting.

### Swamp Sparrow

Michelle Manzo found 21 along the Chippewa Inlet Trail, **Medina**, on 10 Jul. (46 counties)

### Eastern Towhee

Fred Losi counted 35 along the Archer's Fork Trail, **Washington**, on 30 Jul. Jane Balbo provided two counts of 20 from **Athens**, at Poston Plant Lands Public Hunting Area on 09 Jun and at Strouds Run SP on 19 Jul. (83 counties)

### Yellow-breasted Chat

Joseph Lautenbach found 16 at Crown City WA, **Lawrence**, on 01 Jun. The next most were Luke Thies' 12 at Armleder Park on 19 Jun. (69 counties)

### Yellow-headed Blackbird

Birders saw five at Howard Marsh on 11 and 12 Jun and up to four there through 27 Jul. Two were near Port Clinton, **Ottawa**, on 07 Jun for Ryan Lesniewicz, and singles were seen at two other **Lucas** sites and one in each of **Ashtabula** and **Erie**.

### Eastern Meadowlark

Scott Pendleton saw 90 near Cadiz, **Harrison**, on 14 Jul, and large counts came from other **Harrison** sites as well. The most elsewhere were the 26 that Jen Moore and Jason Parrish counted at Glacier Ridge MP, **Union**, on 01 Jun. **Auglaize**, **Carroll**, **Putnam**, and **Van Wert** didn't have sightings.



This Eastern Meadowlark was rousing its feathers when Bruce Miller photographed it in **Franklin** on 03 Jun.

### Bobolink

On 03 Jul Josh Yoder found about 120 in Cadiz

Township and 95 along Busby Road (both **Harrison**). Dave Chase's 65 along Fairport Nursery Road, **Lake**, were the most in another county. (54 counties)

### Orchard Oriole

The high count was 15, by Isaiah Craft at Charleston Falls Preserve, **Miami**, on 03 Jul. Counts of nine came from the Great Miami WMB on 01 Jun (Laura Jenkins) and Poland Township Park, **Mahoning**, on both 28 Jun and 13 Jul (Jeff Harvey). (76 counties)

### Baltimore Oriole

Larry Richardson counted 24 at Grand River WA, **Trumbull**, on 29 Jun and up to 16 were reported there on other dates. The most elsewhere were the 20 that Douglas Vogus' CVNP census team tallied on 04 Jun. Only **Morgan** and **Van Wert** didn't have sightings.

### Red-winged Blackbird

Cam Lee saw about 2000 at Big Island on 31 Jul. The 05 Jun ONWR census tallied 854 (Douglas Vogus *et al.*). (all 88 counties)

### Brown-headed Cowbird

Philip Steiner saw about 100 at Beulah Beach, **Erie**, on 26 Jun. The next most were Irina Shulgina's 50 at the OSU Livestock Facility on 26 Jul. Only **Van Wert** didn't have a sighting.

### Common Grackle

About 3000 were along the Kokosing Gap Trail, **Knox**, on 18 Jul for Benjamin Miller. The next most were the 1500 that Gary Cowell watched departing a roost in Mansfield, **Richland**, on 30 Jun. Only **Monroe** didn't have a sighting.

### Ovenbird

Josh Yoder reported 28 at Zaleski on 05 Jun. The next most were 14 that Jeffrey Roth tallied on 03 Jun at Clear Creek. (55 counties)

### Worm-eating Warbler

Josh Yoder provided the highest count, seven at Zaleski on 05 Jun. (14 counties)

### Louisiana Waterthrush

Alvin and David Miller saw 14 at Mohican SP on 11 Jun. The next most were two counts of nine on 04 Jun, at the Edge Preserve by Josh Yoder and on 05 Jun at Hocking Hills SP by Jen Moore. (43 counties)

### Northern Waterthrush

Buster Banish and Dan Best found one at Eldon Russell Park, Geauga, on 10 Jun. Patrick Coy and Karin Tanquist had one at the Bath Nature Preserve, **Summit**, on 13 Jun.

### Blue-winged Warbler

Henry Trimpe counted nine on 13 Jun at Hinckley. The next most were six at the White Oak Riv-

er Access, **Portage**, on 03 Jun by David Factor. (46 counties)

### Black-and-white Warbler

Pete Shen saw seven at Hocking Hills SP on 16 Jun. (35 counties)

### Prothonotary Warbler

Brian Tsuru counted 39 at Hoover NP on 03 Jun, and up to 30 were noted there on other dates. The most elsewhere were Dan Best's 15 along the upper Cuyahoga River in **Geauga** on 14 Jun. Both sites have nest box complexes. (50 counties)

### Mourning Warbler

The reports, all of single birds, are:

At Wendy Park, from 02 to 09 Jun (m. obs.)

At Headlands on 03 Jun (Jim Smallwood)

At Rocky River Reservation, **Cuyahoga**, on 05 Jun (Bill Deininger)

At Lake Erie Bluffs on 06 Jun (John Pogacnik)

At CVNP on 12 Jun (Ann and Dwight Chasar)

### Kentucky Warbler

Josh Yoder saw eight on 04 Jun at the Edge Preserve. (34 counties)

### Common Yellowthroat

The Douglas Vogus' ONWR census team tallied 41 on 03 Jul and also had the second highest count of 40, on 05 Jun. Third most were 30 on the CVNP census on 04 Jun, also by a Vogus team. Only **Van Wert** didn't have a sighting.

### Hooded Warbler

Henry Trimpe counted 32 at Hinkley Reservation, **Medina**, on 13 Jun. Second most were 22 reported at Zaleski by Josh Yoder on 05 Jun. (56 counties).

### American Redstart

Cory Vanderbaan counted 17 at Mill Hollow, **Lorain**, on 04 Jun. The most elsewhere were 14 in the **Washington** section of Wayne NF on 03 Jun by Kyle Brooks. (69 counties)

### Cerulean Warbler

A trio of birders counted six along trails at Clear Creek on 05 Jun. Six birds were also tallied in Shawnee SF by Debra Sweeney on 08 Jun. (37 counties)

### Northern Parula

Justin Sanclemente saw 15 at Hoover NP on 10 Jun. The second most were eight tallied at Blackhand Gorge SNP, **Licking**, by Michael Lamont and Chad Pumpelly on 17 Jun. (64 counties)

### Magnolia Warbler

The last apparent northbound migrant was at Killbuck on 10 Jun for Virgil Troyer. The sightings after that date (and some before it) came from known nesting locations, most of them in

**Hocking**. Sightings also came from **Ashland**, **Cuyahoga**, **Geauga**, **Mahoning**, and **Summit**.

### Blackburnian Warbler

Alice Zhuk saw one at Magee on 04 Jun. Michael Hochstetler and Bennie Saylor saw one at the Mohican SP Gorge Overlook on 04 Jun and another (or the same?) was there for Robert Thorn on 24 Jun.

### Yellow Warbler

The high count of 91 came from Rayka Petkova and Marty Reynard at CLNP on 11 Jun, and others saw up to 75 there that day. The most elsewhere were 63 by Amy Horowitz at ONWR on 19 Jun. (84 counties)

### Chestnut-sided Warbler

Two high counts of five birds both came from Bob Lane in **Columbiana**, at Damascus Park Nature Trail Areas on 06 Jun and Highlandtown WA on 10 Jun. (19 counties)

### Blackpoll Warbler

George Billman described a very late straggler at Clear Creek on 21 Jun. A tantalizing bird was photographed during an Audubon field trip in Cleveland on 23 Jul – see the separate article “Mystery Bird...or Is It?” for more.



On a field trip to Scranton Flats in Cleveland, Michelle Brosius obtained sharp images of this possible Blackpoll Warbler, an unexpected find for 23 Jul.

### Black-throated Blue Warbler

The only report came from a trio of birders at Holden's Stebbins South section on 12 Jun.

### Pine Warbler

Josh Yoder saw eight at Zaleski SF on 05 Jun. The second most were five noted by Heather Aubke at Waterloo SF, **Athens**, on 30 Jun. (25 counties).

### Yellow-rumped Warbler

Tracy Engle saw single birds in **Geauga**, at both Eldon Russell Park on 01 Jun and LaDue on 05 Jun.



**Yellow-throated Warbler**

Ben Cooper found five on 11 Jun at Strouds Run SP, *Athens*, and Heather Aubke saw five at Waterloo SE, also *Athens*, on 30 Jun. A third count of five was also provided by Ann and Dwight Chasar, on 06 Jul at CVNP. (55 counties)

**Prairie Warbler**

Josh Yoder counted eight on 03 Jun at the Edge Preserve's Buzzardroost Rock. Joseph Lautenbach also saw eight, on 01 Jun at Crown City WA, *Lawrence*. (38 counties)

**Black-throated Green Warbler**

Jen Moore and Jason Parrish found 14 at Hocking Hills SP on 05 Jun. Alvin and David Miller saw 10 on 11 Jun at Mohican SP. (13 counties)

**Canada Warbler**

Alvin and David Miller saw five on 11 Jun at Mohican SP. The only other records were two sightings from *Geauga*, a bird seen at the Rookery by David English and Bonnie Fish on 03 Jun and another seen on 07 Jun on the Maple Highlands Trail by Marilyn Rohr.

**Wilson's Warbler**

The reports, all of single birds, are:

At Killdeer on 02 Jun (Amy Holloway)

At CLNP on 05 Jun (Frank Buck and Nancy Howell)

At ONWR on 05 Jun (Douglas Vogus *et al.*)

**Summer Tanager**

Nikos Boutis found four at Glen Helen Preserve, *Greene*, on 10 Jun. (42 counties)



*This Summer Tanager was a regular visitor to Jethro Raber's home feeders in Wayne where he photographed it on 01 Jul.*

**Scarlet Tanager**

Josh Yoder needed only two miles of travel in Zaleski to tally 15 on 05 Jun. Henry Trimpe found 12 at Hinckley on 13 Jun. (71 counties)

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak**

Larry Richardson found 14 at Grand River WA, *Trumbull*, on each of 01, 12, and 13 Jun. (75 counties)

**Blue Grosbeak**

The high count of six was shared by two sites and three dates: Armleder Park on 09 Jun (Danny Mayotte) and 19 Jun (Luke Thies) and the American Landfill, *Stark*, on 30 Jul (m. obs.). (46 counties)

**Northern Cardinal**

Bob Lane counted 42 at Hellbender Bluff CP, *Columbiana*, on 12 Jun. (all 88 counties)



*This hungry fledgling Northern Cardinal brought joy to Kathy Mock's yard in Summit on 24 Jul.*

**Indigo Bunting**

Gary Cowell counted 25 along his *Richland* BBS route on 01 Jul. Only *Van Wert* didn't have a sighting.

**Dickcissel**

Eric Mullholand found 30 in five miles of travel in Androff WA, *Hardin*, on 29 Jun, and up to 28 were reported there on other dates. Geoff Malosh found 16 in Swan Creek Township, *Fulton*, on 03 Jun. (59 counties)

## CONTRIBUTORS

Here we list all the birders who sent reports directly to the *Cardinal* or the *Bobolink*, and those whose posts to eBird 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.

Jessica Adams	Jen Brumfield	Marc Dearmey
Dennis Albaugh	Frank Buck	Bill Deininger
Scott Albaugh	Arnold Buehler	Ned DeLamatre
Bela Anand-Apte	Ron Bystrom	Robin Densmore
Matt Anderson	Barbara Caldwell	Amy Didion
Sameer Apte	Dana Campbell	Cole DiFabio
Margaret Attenweiler	Susan Carpenter	Martyn Drabik-Hamshare
Heather Aubke	Linda Carstensen	Mark Dwenger
Micah Bagley	Natalie Carusillo	Alex Eberts
Jane Balbo	Paul Cary	Paul Egan
Buster Banish	Ann Chasar	Alex Eisengart
Margie Beckham	Dwight Chasar	Kurt Emmert
Linda Benner	Dave Chase	Tracy Engle
Dan Best	Grace Chen	David English
Roger Beuck	Lisa Colles	John Eshem
George Billman	Mike Confer	Susan Evanoff
Amos Bixler	William Cook	David Factor
Javin Blake	Ben Cooper	Bonnie Fish
Charles Bombaci	Fannie Courtier	Katy Fitzpatrick
Nikos Boutis	Gary Cowell	Gabriel Foley
Richard Bradley	Patrick Coy	Roger Friedman
Susan Brauning	Isaiah Craft	Kevin Fung
Courtney Brennan	Julie Cramer-Le	Traci Genty
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Kyle Brooks	Michael Crist	Hana Gibson
Michelle Brosius	Michael Crouse	Jeff Goff
Andy Brown	Don Danko	Noah Goodwin-Bain
Lori Brumbaugh	Vera Davis	Marianne Gorman

Alecia Gorski	Chris Krintzline	Alvin Miller
Joel Greenburg	Jennifer Kuehn	Benjamin Miller
Dean Griffith	Donna Kuhn	Bruce Miller
Steven Gurka	Lindsey Kunkel	David Miller
Josh Hargrave	Michael Lamont	Nolan Miller
Megan Hart	Bob Lane	Rhonda Miller
Jeff Harvey	Gustino Lanese	Robert Mitchell
Joe Hildreth	Joseph Lautenbach	Kathy L. Mock
Janet Hinshaw	Ken Lebo	Jen Moore
Michael Hochstetler	Cam Lee	Randy Morgan
Amy Holloway	David Lehner	James Muller
James Holsinger	Karen Leow	Eric Mullholand
Craig Holt	Warren Leow	Sandie Myers
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Amy Horowitz	Lucas Lindenmuth	Laura Nein
Nancy Howell	Amy Longley	Rick Nelson
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Bill Jirousek	Michelle Manzo	Ken Ostermiller
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James Kerner	Rodney McCollum	Nickilas Paulson
Terence Kline	Kevin McKelvey	Scott Pendleton
John Kolar	Ben Meredyk	Liam Pentangelo
Deb Koprek-Nauer	Dennis Mersky	Rayka Petkova
Nate Koszycki	Levi Metzger	Morgan Pfeiffer

*The Ohio Cardinal, Summer 2022*

Chris Pierce	Evan Schwartz	Henry Trimpe
Mark Plessner	Ron Sempier	John Troyer Jr.
Sherry Plessner	Pam Shaw	Virgil Troyer
Jelmer Poelstra	Ryan Shell	Brian Tsuru
John Pogacnik	Pete Shen	Stacey Valentine
Sarah Preston	Paul Sherwood	Cory Vanderbaan
Emma Price	Taylor Shimek	Douglas Vogus
Janet Priest	Mia Shotwell	Benjamin Walton
Joanne Priest	Irina Shulgina	Mike Watson
Chad Pumpelly	Matthew Siefert	David Wilkins
Jacob Raber	Tajinder Singh	Carl Winstead
Jethro Raber	Michele Skolmutch	Kate Wise
Allen Rand	Jim Smallwood	Clyde Witt
Joli Reising	Bryan Smith	Ed Wransky
Thomas Reiter	Isaac Smith	Brian Wulker
Jana Reser	Will Smolik	Gale Wulker
Marty Reynard	Su Snyder	Joshua Vardous
Larry Richardson	Leslie Sours	Zealon Wight-Maier
Ethan Rising	Renee Sparks	Jonathan Wilhelms
Landon Roberts	Diana Steele	David Wilkins
Domenic Rocco	Philip Steiner	Susan Wynn
Marilyn Rohr	Anthony Stoffolano	Eileen Wyza
Nicky Rosner	Wayne Stutzman	Atlee Yoder
Raymond Rosselot	Debra Sweeney	Josh Yoder
Jeffrey Roth	Mark Sweeney	Alice Zhuk
Carrie Ruane	George Sydlowski	
Mark Ruane	Bob Swindaman	
Justin Sanclemente	Jerry Talkington	
Bennie Saylor	Karin Tanquist	
Carlton Schooley	Sarah Taylor	
Jayden Schirle	Alexander Teliak	
Chris Schmid	Luke Thies	
Inga Schmidt	Robert Thorn	
Luke Schrader	Brian Tinker	



## MYSTERY BIRD...OR IS IT?

By Nancy Howell

Who doesn't like a good mystery and doing some sleuthing, especially when it comes to bird identification? Western Cuyahoga Audubon Society (WCAS) has been leading urban bird walks along the Cuyahoga River in Cleveland's Scranton Flats for the past couple of years. Time and time again, in the narrative of the walks posted on the WCAS website, it has been mentioned that surprises can be found on these walks. Saturday, 23 Jul 2022 was no exception.



On 23 Jul, the birding group of 11 participants led by Allen Rand and myself made an unusual sighting in the area called Collision Bend, where the Cuyahoga River makes a sharp turn. Cleveland Fire Station 21 is at the site, and next to the fire station is one of the old lift bridges spanning the Cuyahoga River. Long out of use, vegetation has grown up around the base of the bridge. We stopped in the area to look through the vegetation of grape vines, staghorn sumac, red mulberry, tree-of-heaven, and other plants. One participant noted a small, warbler-like bird and asked, "What's that?" A bit of "pishing" brought out the skulking birds—Gray Catbird, Northern Mockingbird, and House Finch popped up as did the smaller bird. Several participants and I viewed it and, yes, it appeared to be a warbler, but not one of the species normally seen in the area such as Common Yellowthroat or Yellow Warbler. Fortunately, Michelle Brosius, a wonderful avian photographer, was able to snap a couple of shots. While a few of us saw the bird in real life, the photographs, shared with others, led to us scratching our heads...what is this?

The size and "jizz" of the bird leaned toward Blackpoll Warbler, which is what it was initially called, as there were many black feathers scat-

tered around the head, neck and body resembling that of a male Blackpoll's breeding plumage. Here's the rub: Blackpoll Warblers are not supposed to be in the Cleveland area at the end of Jul...let the sleuthing begin!

Michelle's photos were sent to Jen Brumfield to see if she could assist with an identification. With a bit of conversation, Jen's reply was, "Best to leave it unidentified. I shot it over to Tom Johnson and he's a bit baffled by it which means it's not identifiable." I could not leave that answer alone...I needed to know what the bird was. I sent the photos to Ryan Jacob, Staff Ornithologist with Black Swamp Bird Observatory. Thinking it might be a hybrid warbler, his reply was, "Well.... this certainly is an interesting bird. It looks like it has some molt going on, so that isn't very helpful. I'm having a tough time because each feature I notice and feel like 'this is that species,' I then can't decide who the other features would belong to. It certainly is an interesting bird. I'd be curious to hear what everyone else was thinking and see if their identifying features stand out to me." Arghh, still not satisfied.

Allen Rand, co-leader of the Tremont Bird Walks, mentioned this in an email, "I think Blackpoll is the right call. Andy Jones (formerly the Ornithologist at The Cleveland Museum of Natural History) took a look and called it a Blackpoll. There's just enough of the leg showing in picture #2 and I think I'm seeing the orange. The wing bars, the grayish coverts, and the fading face/chest patterns are consistent with BLPW. I'm guessing the light reflecting off of the leaves is making the feathers look more yellow than they actually are, but I'm seeing pictures of some really yellow looking birds in non-breeding plumage. Pretty sure this is not a first year bird since first year birds would not have sported the breeding plumage. Maybe it got messed up in the weather that's been coming out of MN and MI? There has to be someone from up north somewhere who sees birds like this all the time and is laughing under their breath." Okay, now I seem to be getting somewhere and I want to insert a smiling emoji face here.

To quote Detective Friday from *Dragnet*: "Just the facts, ma'am, just the facts..." as additional resources were referenced. The book *Warblers of the Americas*, by Curson, Quinn, and Beadle noted that non-breeding adult males have "lemon-yellow throat and breast". At the Black Swamp Bird Observatory banding station I've not seen any

that bright, and I too wondered if the camera and/or the leaves enhanced the yellow as I didn't see it as bright out in the field. Michelle notes that, "In editing the photo I compensated for any in-camera color enhancement or distortion by correcting the white balance on the image. This is done by taking a sample of something in the photo that is true white, like one of the field marks on the bird, and then having the entire image adjusted to that coloration. I did lighten up the shadows a little bit to get a better look at the bird. Perhaps the original shadow is what we saw in the field and why it appears brighter in my image than what we saw with the naked eye." I had also noted a whitish cheek patch and the location of the scattered black feathers also seems consistent with where black feathers would be on an adult male BLPW. I looked at the feet while in the field, but really did not notice a significant yellowish of the foot pads as the bird was in a shaded area.

I sent Michelle's photos to the ABA's Facebook site "What's This Bird?" and a variety of answers came in with some answers that made me review the photos again. This answer from Shane Brown, "Male Blackpoll Warbler. Already molting out of breeding plumage?" Another Facebook group, "Molt Forum: Bird Aging and Molt Analysis", had a great reply from Amanda Guercio. She states, "Molting back into basic! It looks like there's a gap in the primaries and a contrast between grey edged and green edged feathers. I've caught a few birds like this in Manitoba before, presumably failed breeders that arrived in mid-July and actually stuck around the station to finish their molt. Up here in northern Alberta, adults with young are now well into primary molt, though nothing quite as far along as this bird."

More questions raised. Have Blackpoll Warblers been found in Ohio or neighboring states in Jul? Cornell's eBid shows none. A couple of neighboring states, Michigan and Pennsylvania, as well as Toronto, Canada had sightings listed with Jul dates, but no photographs and little in the way of notes or descriptions.

According to the Ohio Ornithological Society's Ohio "Birding Checklist with Difficulty Codes", the Blackpoll Warbler is listed as a number 2 - "Migrant in spring & fall OR breeding/wintering somewhat restricted in the state". The Birds of the Cleveland Region (3rd edition) bar graph also indicates spring and fall migration are the primary times to see this species, with late

Aug being the earliest that birds may be arriving. So the bird seen on 23 Jul was at least a month early. [Editor's note: The 2022 edition of the OBRC Annotated Checklist of the Birds of Ohio was not available when this account was written; it debuted in September. It shows a first arrival date of approximately 08 Aug, making the bird (if a Blackpoll!) about two weeks early.]

Now that everyone has been totally biased as to identification, here are some questions for those who may want to tackle them.

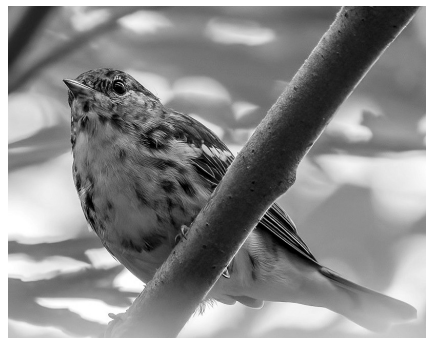
1) Is it truly a Blackpoll Warbler, another species, or a hybrid? What distinguishing characteristics lead you to the conclusion?

2) What was this bird doing in Cleveland, Ohio at the end of Jul? Could the bird have been here all spring and summer? Could the bird have been a hitchhiker on a boat that came into Lake Erie/Cuyahoga River from further north?

3) If it was a southbound migrant AND molting, wouldn't that be a huge stress on the bird's system? Might it suspend its molt at some point or continue molting until it reaches the Atlantic coast before taking its epic southward flight?

It never ceases to amaze me what nature tosses at us, to make us question, think, research, and, hopefully, resolve mysteries such as this.

*Nancy Howell is a longtime birder and does not plan on stopping. Nancy has always enjoyed the biological sciences with ecology as her strength. She was an educator at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History for 33 years and loved every minute. She is a Board Member of Western Cuyahoga Audubon and the Council of Ohio Audubon Chapters. In addition, she is a member of the Ohio Ornithological Society, and has been volunteering at the BSBO banding station during spring and fall migration for over 20 years. Nancy also is the Christmas Bird Count compiler for the Lakewood, Ohio circle and coordinates the Spring Bird Walk Series in the Cleveland area.*



# RECENT ACTIONS OF THE OHIO BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

By Jon Cefus

JULY 2022

Your Ohio Bird Records Committee (OBRC) has continued to vote on records submitted to or otherwise obtained by the committee. Twenty-one records were chosen for review. Eighteen records were accepted. One record was not accepted. Two Records are in recirculation status.

This batch represents the committee's effort to address newer records of review species here in Ohio, as well as addressing some older records that have not yet been voted on. In this batch, records from as far back as 2000 were reviewed. The committee hopes to continue this approach going forward until all of the older records are addressed.

The membership of the OBRC who voted on the above records was Jon Cefus (Secretary), Rob Harlan (Vice Secretary), Alex Eberts, Craig Caldwell, Matt Kemp, Steve Landes, Ben Morrison, Steve Schafer, and Brian Wulker.

The official Ohio checklist stands at 443 species and a superspecies as of Jul 2022. 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](mailto:birdbrains4u@gmail.com) or mailed to 2716 Heritage Ave. NW, Canton, OH 44718.

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 Middle 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 18 records were accepted during their first circulation:

**Long-tailed Jaeger** (*Stercorarius longicaudus*) #2 — **Erie** (Lake Erie Pelagic), 21 Sep 2014. Internet Sources.

**Long-tailed Jaeger** (*Stercorarius longicaudus*) #3 — **Erie** (Lake Erie), 02 Oct 2014. Internet Sources.

**Short-billed Gull** (*Stercorarius longicaudus*) — **Erie** (Huron Harbor), 13 Oct 2012. Internet Sources.

**Least Tern** (*Sternula antillarum*) #1 — **Sandusky** (South Creek), 31 May 2013. Internet Sources.

**Least Tern** (*Sternula antillarum*) #2 — **Delaware** (Alum Creek), 07 Jun 2013. Internet Sources.

**Least Tern** (*Sternula antillarum*) #3 — **Erie** (Lions Park), 03 Jun 2016. Internet Sources.

**Least Tern** (*Sternula antillarum*) #4 — **Auglaize** (Grand Lake fish hatchery), 10 May 2018. Internet Sources.

**Least Tern** (*Sternula antillarum*) #5 — **Richland** (Pleasant Hill Lake), 26 Aug 2018. Internet Sources. This record was of three individuals (one adult and juveniles).

**Least Tern** (*Sternula antillarum*) #6 — **Wayne** (Wilderness Road), 15 May 2020. Internet Sources.

**Least Tern** (*Sternula antillarum*) #7 — **Delaware** (Alum Creek SP), 25 to 26 May 2020. Internet Sources.

**Wood Stork** (*Mycteria americana*) #1 — **Lake** (Kirtland Hills), 24 Jul 2013. Internet Sources.

**Wood Stork** (*Mycteria americana*) #2 — **Ottawa**, 30 Jun to 01 Jul 2017. Internet Sources.

**Wood Stork** (*Mycteria americana*) #3 — **Mercer** (Grand Lake), 07 to 08 Aug 2020. Internet Sources.

**Great Cormorant** (*Phalacrocorax carbo*) #1 — **Cuyahoga** (Edgewater Marina/Wendy Park), 19 to 23 Mar 2022. Internet Sources.

**Tricolored Heron** (*Egretta tricolor*) — **Lucas** (Maumee Bay), 12 to 15 Jun 2022. Internet Sources.

**Swallow-tailed Kite** (*Elanoides forficatus*) — **Knox** (Caves Road), 17 Aug to 04 Sep 2019. Internet Sources. This record was of two adult individuals.

**Northern Goshawk** (*Accipiter gentilis*) — **Lucas** (Maumee Bay), 11 Apr 2022. Internet Sources.

**Chestnut-collared Longspur** (*Mycteria americana*) — **Lake** (Fairport Nursery Road), 08 to 11 Oct 2021. Internet Sources.

Records Not Accepted:

**Western Wood—Pewee** (*Contopus sordidulus*) — **Franklin** (Worthington), Seen 04 to 06 Sep 2021; heard 09 Aug and 04 Sep 2021. Record submitted via email directly to the Secretary of the OBRC.

A note from the Secretary on this record: This report of a putative Western Wood-Pewee was, from this chair, the most difficult submission to vote on since I began this work in 2021. The information submitted by the observer was very good, as good as they could do with only one exception, and that not for a lack of trying. That gap was an audio recording. All other components of their documentation were exactly what this Committee needs to help us make an informed decision.

The Committee sought out and received expert feedback on the record from two individuals very familiar with North American pewees. The photos were of good quality, but were deemed insufficient for a conclusive decision based on morphology to separate this bird from Eastern Wood-Pewee. In-hand measurements would have obviously been ideal, however unlikely, with a wild, healthy bird living its life in the world. The experience of the observer is unquestionably significant. At the end of the process, the majority of the Committee, despite acknowledging all of the above factors, felt that a first state record of this hard to separate species without an audio recording was too difficult to accept.

We thank the observer for their willingness to submit this record and the great efforts they took to try to obtain an audio recording of this bird.

Records in recirculations:

**Long-tailed Jaeger** (*Stercorarius longicaudus*) #1 — **Geauga** (Thompson Township.), 11 Oct 2000. Internet Sources (photo in the Fall 2000 *Ohio Cardinal* of a collected deceased bird).

**Great Cormorant** (*Phalacrocorax carbo*) #2 — **Lucas** (Toledo), 12 Apr 2022. Internet Sources.

## AUGUST 2022

Your Ohio Bird Records Committee (OBRC) has continued to vote on records submitted to or otherwise obtained by the committee. Twenty-nine records were chosen for review. Twenty-six records were accepted. One record was not accepted. Two records are in recirculation status.

This batch represents the committee's ongoing effort to address newer records of review species here in Ohio, as well as addressing some of the older records that have not yet been voted on. In this batch, records from as far back as the year 2006 were reviewed. The committee hopes to continue this approach going forward until older records are addressed.

The membership of the OBRC who voted on the above records was Jon Cefus (Secretary), Rob Harlan (Vice Secretary), Alex Eberts, Craig Caldwell, Matt Kemp, Steve Landes, Ben Morrison, Steve Schafer, and Brian Wulker.

The official Ohio checklist stands at 443 species and a superspecies as of August 2022. 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/>.

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American Ornithological Society and are available at <http://checklist.americanornithology.org/>. The following 18 records were accepted during their first circulation:

**King Eider** (*Somateria spectabilis*) — **Cuyahoga** (Sims Park), 21 to 27 Feb 2022. Internet Sources.

**Purple Gallinule** (*Porphyrio martinicus*) — **Darke** (Greenville), 09 Jan 2006. Record taken from a photo and account of a deceased bird in the *Ohio Cardinal* 29:3 (Spring 2006).

**Northern Gannet** (*Morus bassanus*) #2 — **Cuyahoga** (Various locations along Lake Erie), 10 to 24 Nov 2013. Internet Sources.

**Great Cormorant** (*Phalacrocorax carbo*) — **Cuyahoga** (Wendy Park), 21 to 23 Mar 2021. Internet Sources.

**Tricolored Heron** (*Egretta tricolor*) #1 — **Ashtabula** (Conneaut Marsh), 26 May 2012. Internet Sources.

**Tricolored Heron** (*Egretta tricolor*) #2 — **Lucas** and **Ottawa** (Ottawa NWR), 01 to 08 May 2014. Internet Sources.

**White Ibis** (*Eudocimus albus*) #1 — **Wayne** (Funk Bottoms WA), 06 to 07 Aug 2022. Record submitted by Su Snyder directly to the Secretary of the OBRC.

**White Ibis** (*Eudocimus albus*) #2 — **Marion** (Big Island WA), 11 Aug 2022. Internet Sources.

**Swallow-tailed Kite** (*Elanoides forficatus*) #1 — **Coshocton** (Mohawk Dam), 11 Apr 2020. Internet Sources.

**Swallow-tailed Kite** (*Elanoides forficatus*) #2 — **Crawford** (Sycamore), 07 Aug 2020. Internet Sources.

**Swallow-tailed Kite** (*Elanoides forficatus*) #3 — **Licking** (Nashport), 06 Sep 2020. Internet Sources.

**Northern Goshawk** (*Accipiter gentilis*) #1 — **Lucas** (Maumee Bay), 21 Dec 2014. Report taken from a photo in the *Ohio Cardinal* 38:2 (Winter 2014–15).

**Swainson's Hawk** (*Buteo swainsonii*) — **Holmes** (Walnut Creek), 15 to 21 Sep 2015. Internet Sources.

**Prairie Falcon** (*Falco mexicanus*) — **Hancock** (Findlay Reservoirs), 13 to 20 Oct 2012. Internet Sources.

**Say's Phoebe** (*Sayornis saya*) #1 — **Lake** (Headlands Beach SP), 14 to 17 Apr 2012. Internet Sources.

**Say's Phoebe** (*Sayornis saya*) #2 — **Cuyahoga** (Cleveland Hopkins Airport), 12 Apr 2020. Internet Sources.

**Say's Phoebe** (*Sayornis saya*) #3 — **Delaware** (Alum Creek SP), 23 Apr 2020. Internet Sources.

**Say's Phoebe** (*Sayornis saya*) #4 — **Franklin** (OSU Livestock Facility), 23–24 Apr 2020. Internet Sources.

**Vermilion Flycatcher** (*Pyrocephalus rubinus*) #1 — **Ottawa** (Genzman Road), 09 Oct 2017. Internet Sources.

**Vermilion Flycatcher** (*Pyrocephalus rubinus*) #2 — **Licking** (private residence), 10 Nov 2019. Internet Sources.

**Northern Wheatear** (*Oenanthe oenanthe*) — **Richland** (Shiloh), 22 to 23 Oct 2018. Internet Sources.

**Townsend's Solitaire** (*Myadestes townsendi*) — **Erie** (Kelleys Island), 22 Oct 2014. Report taken from a photo in the *Ohio Cardinal* 38:1 (Fall 2014).

**Swainson's Warbler** (*Limnithlypis swainsonii*) #1 — **Wayne** (Yoder family farm), 16 to 17 May 2016. Internet Sources.

**Swainson's Warbler** (*Limnithlypis swainsonii*) #2 — **Clark** (Tecumseh Trail), 13 May to 18 Jun 2019. Internet Sources.

**Black-throated Gray Warbler** (*Setophaga nigrescens*) — **Holmes** (Millersburg), 18 Apr to 04 May 2018. Internet Sources.

**Black-headed Grosbeak** (*Limnithlypis swainsonii*) — **Mahoning** (Damascus), 19 May 2018. Internet Sources.

Records Not Accepted:

**Northern Goshawk** (*Accipiter gentilis*) #2 — **Wayne**, 23 Apr 2021. The majority of the Committee found the evidence insufficient to establish identification.

Records in Recirculation:

**Black Rail** (*Laterallus jamaicensis*) — **Harrison**

**Northern Gannet** (*Morus bassanus*) #1 — **Sandusky**

## FIELD NOTES

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

### From Matt Anderson:

[Regarding a Nelson's Sparrow at Irwin Prairie SNP, **Lucas**] Two singing birds were on either side of the boardwalk about 100 yards east of Irwin Road starting about 5:55 am. I found the first bird after hearing its distinctive call/song. A second bird joined in within minutes. I was able to observe both birds very well as they perched in bushes as they sang, each within 15 to 20 yards of me at times. In the second recording...both birds can be heard by listening carefully...the more distant bird immediately trailing the closer bird's song each time. At least one of the birds was also seen by Matt Kemp while I was still there (until about 6:20 am) as well as a bit later by Elliot Tramer and George Sydlowski (who obtained decent photos). I don't believe **Lucas** nor the Toledo area have any previous Jun records and maybe just a couple of other spring records within recent decades. This is an exceedingly rare species in the spring anywhere in the state. It's fair to assume, therefore, that the song of the Nelson's Sparrow is almost never heard in Ohio. Presumably, these two birds were just very late migrants.

### From Patrick Coy and Karin Tanquist:

[Regarding a Ruffed Grouse in Woodbury WA, **Coshocton**, on 29 Jun] Single bird, running along road less than 50 feet in front of us for a short spell and then as we got closer took to low flight into the thick cover in ditch area right alongside of us as we stopped. Quail/grouse-like bird with a crest, larger than Northern Bobwhite, brownish/gray overall, some streaking or striping but very little white that we saw. Did not see the tail clearly. Seems likely it was a bird with young as we subsequently heard soft clucking and rustling in the dense cover just beyond the roadside's wet

ditch. Remarkably, while concentrating on this rare Ohio species, we had a Kentucky [Warbler] start singing opposite of us on the other side of the road! This was about a 1/4 mile south of intersection with TR 297.

### From Luke Schrader:

[Regarding 14 Common Mergansers at Clear Creek] Misidentified originally as HOME [Hooded Merganser]. Better look at facial mark, plus screaming white tertials. Thanks to reviewer! Heard a racket in the creek, thought it might be a deer and snuck through the horsetail to check it out. Group of immatures foraging and frolicking in the creek as the sun broke through. Captured a few photos and video, from which I'll extract audio. White chins/cheeks with a chestnut line near gape. Facing upstream with heads under water, diving, watched one come up super successful and started bragging about it, moved downstream and the rest followed.

### From Leslie Sours:

Merlins continue to establish themselves as breeders in **Franklin**, with nests being discovered for a fourth year in a row. Jay Bowen had been seeing a pair in the Beechwold area, and on 02 Jul I found two adults and two young birds around an old crow's nest at the top of a Norway spruce. Local birders later reported seeing five birds. Another nest was brought to my attention the very same day, in Pickerington. I visited and saw two branching young birds next to a nest in a Scotch pine. A third had fallen to the ground, and the folks from the Ohio Wildlife Center had taken the young bird in for observation and returned to place it in a basket in the tree. The parents ignored its calls, so it went back to the center until it was capable of scrambling up into the tree to re-join the family group. This time the adults accepted and fed it, and I assume all three young fledged. A third probable nest was in Upper

Arlington. Multiple people saw and heard a very vocal bird in Northam Park and in the adjoining neighborhood. A pair was observed copulating just down the road near the Kingsdale shopping center, and a week later I was able to hear a Merlin calling from that spot.

I surveyed Bell's Vireos at Battelle Darby MP on 28 May and again on 19 Jun, walking about one mile of edge habitat. The area surveyed covered two edges of a roughly 0.25 square mile tract of woods. I also visited a similar area less than a mile away. When a singing male was located, I watched him on territory, photographing and recording the bird and noting females. I slowly walked on until I could barely hear the bird but picked up a new bird on another territory. Then I walked the route back and confirmed territories once again.

On 28 May, I located four singing males with territories equally spaced about 0.13 miles apart. Females were seen with two of the males. An additional male was located just outside of the park, for a total of seven birds

seen. On 18 Jun, I walked the same route, finding three of the four singing males still vigorously defending territories. The well known "parking lot" bird was not heard but was reported to eBird subsequently. An additional bird was found slightly further along the path. One female was seen this time, but I expected most to be on nests. A pair was very active in the location outside of the park, for a total of seven birds. Assuming all of the males attracted mates, there could be as many as 12 Bell's Vireos in this one small area. Approximately 0.8 mile of edge habitat borders private property and was not surveyed, so the number could be even higher.

**From Peggy Wang:**

[At the Denison Bio Reserve, *Licking*] Baltimore Oriole juv male with odd coloring: all black head with bright yellow body, faint wing bars, rusty red under vent. Some people on listserv thought it might be a hybrid with Orchard Oriole???

## YEARS AGO

By Craig Caldwell

**10 years ago**, the Summer 2012 *Ohio Cardinal*, Vol. 35 No. 4 (Craig Caldwell, Editor) contained these items:

The cover was a Snowy Plover that briefly visited Conneaut on 02 Jun.

It was hot and dry for the entire season.

Nine Review List species were reported; six of them have since been seen often enough to have “graduated” from the list.

Six Baird’s Sandpipers were seen.

The only Fish Crow sightings were of the Shaker Heights, *Cuyahoga*, family.

**25 years ago**, the Summer 1997 *Ohio Cardinal*, Vol. 20 No. 4 (Victor Fazio III, Editor) contained these items:

The state hosted four Osprey nests, two of which fledged young.

There were 38 Bald Eagle nests spread among 16 counties, all in the northern half of the state.

Two pairs of Short-eared Owls nested in *Muskingum*.

**50 years ago**, *The Cleveland Bird Calendar* for Summer 1972, Vol. 68 No. 3 (Charles W. Hocevar, editor) included these items. (A reminder—the Calendar area is a circle of radius 30 miles centered at Cleveland’s Public Square)

Frosts on two days in early Jun were followed by heavy rain for most of the rest of the month.

Many shorebirds were seen at the White City Lagoon. (This site was on the grounds of a lakeshore amusement park at the end of Cleveland’s East 140th Street that had closed in 1907; it’s now underneath the Easterly WWTP)

An Ovenbird nested in a hanging flowerpot at a Brecksville, *Cuyahoga*, home.

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



## OOS MEMBERSHIP

Welcoming backyard birdwatchers and researchers in the field alike, the Ohio Ornithological Society is the largest statewide organization specifically devoted to fostering a deeper appreciation of wild birds, fellowship and collaboration in advancing our collective knowledge about them, and our ability to speak with one voice to preserve Ohio's bird habitats.

We encourage and support important research on birds. We provide educational resources to members, the public, and the news media. We unite individuals and constituencies interested in birds, and provide means and reasons for them to cooperate. Our activities are not conducted independently, but in concert with local organizations whenever possible, and when mutually beneficial.

If your membership has lapsed, we hope that you will renew your membership and be a part of this dynamic organization.



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The Counties of Ohio



*This bright Cerulean Warbler surprised Dana Campbell when it popped out of the woods near him at Spencer Lake WA, Medina, on 17 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](mailto:Cardinal@ohiobirds.org)**

Send digital photo files or links to Tom Fishburn:

**[tom.fishburn@ohiobirds.org](mailto:tom.fishburn@ohiobirds.org)**

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 lone Willet stands by Lake Erie at Headlands while Jim Smallwood photographed it on 13 Jul*

# THE OHIO CARDINAL

The Ohio Ornithological Society  
PO Box 2432  
Westerville, OH 43086

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