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1987 GEORGIA CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS

Terry Moore

This is the sixth summary of Georgia Christmas Bird Counts (CBC) begun by the author (Moore 1983) and continued by Blackshaw (1986a, 1986b, 1986c) and Moore (1988). As in previous years an attempt is made to point out the significant sightings during the Christmas Count period and also to analyze the data with an eye out for possible long term trends in our bird population. Any ideas readers might have for improvement of this series of articles would be welcomed. The data in Table 1 are presented in the same format as before with the counts arranged roughly from the northwest to the southeast in order to help understand the distribution of various species across the state in early winter.

The original data were obtained from LeBaron (1988). Table 1 uses the following abbreviations for the count names: DAL - Dalton; CHA - Chattahoochee National Forest; AMI - Amicalola Falls; ATL - Atlanta; PEA - Peachtree City; ATH - Athens; CAL - Callaway Gardens; PIE - Piedmont National Wildlife Refuge; COL - Columbus; MAC - Macon; DUB - Dublin; AUG - Augusta; ALB - Albany; OKE - Okefenokee; HNR - Harris Neck National Wildlife Refuge; THO - Thomasville; SAP - Sapelo Island; GLY - Glynn County; and STC - St. Catherine's Island. Although the Cumberland Island count was not conducted, we did add counts at Amicalola Falls and St. Catherine's Island as new counts and the Thomasville count was resumed.

Although the total number of individual birds counted was somewhat below average, we set a new record with 188 species reported on this year's CBCs. We also set new records for number of parties in the field, party miles and party hours and tied the highest number of observers. CBC participation and effort have grown slowly but steadily over the past six years. During the period we have been summarizing the CBC results (1982-1987), the number of observers has increased by 27%, the number of parties by 45%, the number of party miles by 26% and the number of party hours by 32%. Georgia observers are encouraged to participate not only on their favorite counts but also on those counts needing better coverage.

Evidently the only new species to be reported this year was the Northern Waterthrush seen on the Sapelo Island count. Unfortunately this sighting has yet to be documented in *The Oriole*. This would obviously be one of the few winter records of the species for the state and certainly is worthy of documentation. As has been pointed out in every CBC summary, merely listing the species in the

Table 1. 1987 Georgia Christmas Counts

Species Name	DAL	CHA	AMI	ATL	PEA	ATH	CAL	PIE	COL	MAC	DUB	AUG	ALB	OKE	HNR	THO	SAP	GLY	STC	TOTAL
Red-thr. Loon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7
Common Loon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	6	7
Pied-b Grebe	5	-	-	6	129	10	18	10	8	23	18	43	2	3	9	18	15	43	4	364
Horned Grebe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	16
North Gannet	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Brown Pelican	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	69	242	108	429
D-c. Cormorant	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	39	1	53	-	2	42	1	440	724	1596	2909
Anhinga	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	7	1	-	1	7	18	2	28	-	-	72
Am. Bittern	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
Grt. Blue Heron	3	1	2	30	11	28	13	26	21	26	11	26	11	6	13	13	45	72	36	394
Great Egret	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	24	1	70	4	7	32	9	19	114	25	306
Snowy Egret	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Little Blue Heron	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	65	-	14	11	17	107
Tricolored Heron	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	-	5	10	52
Cattle Egret	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	7
Green-b. Heron	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	2	6
Blk-c. Night-Heron	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	-	-	11	1	-	64	17	102
Yel-c. Night-Heron	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	1	11
White Ibis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	145	96	-	83	175	8	507
Wood Stork	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	23	-	7	19	14	65
Tundra Swan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Snow Goose	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Canada Goose	43	-	-	129	-	46	5	152	18	19	40	-	125	-	-	-	-	-	-	577
Wood Duck	3	3	7	6	34	7	456	5	28	7	28	20	2	55	17	1	1	-	-	680
Green-w. Teal	-	-	-	4	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	2	53	-	68
Am. Black Duck	-	-	-	4	-	-	6	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	10	53
Mallard	17	-	-	122	231	35	71	159	68	49	25	68	-	102	14	7	1	7	-	976
Northern Pintail	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	7
Blue-w. Teal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	3
Northern Shoveler	-	-	-	-	5	-	2	-	4	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14
Gadwall	-	-	-	-	12	-	-	-	25	-	21	-	-	-	10	-	-	2	-	70
American Wigeon	-	-	-	4	-	8	-	-	150	-	127	-	-	30	20	-	-	-	-	339
Canvasback	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	11
Redhead	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	5
Ring-n. Duck	70	-	-	188	1727	300	20	565	289	408	1	43	5	-	6	-	3	35	3660	-
Greater Scaup	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lesser Scaup	-	-	-	1	2	251	-	50	43	16	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	19000	3683	25500
Scaup (sp.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2001
Black Scoter	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	8
Surf Scoter	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Common Goldeneye	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Bufflehead	-	-	-	1	31	1	17	18	57	58	-	-	-	-	13	-	11	20	19	246
Hooded Merganser	-	-	-	57	25	-	2	376	3	30	-	-	3	-	11	2	38	88	56	701
Common Merganser	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Red-br. Merganser	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	4	-	54	129	337	526
Ruddy Duck	-	-	-	14	54	-	-	10	1	149	-	-	-	-	6	-	16	-	-	250
Duck (sp.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	34
Black Vulture	5	-	4	-	26	8	59	6	8	-	155	1	54	11	195	18	62	2	63	677
Turkey Vulture	6	-	16	5	42	150	27	10	81	14	227	3	23	71	53	29	66	59	65	947
Vulture (sp.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Osprey	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	2	-	-	1	1	-	8
Bald Eagle	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	7
Northern Harrier	2	-	-	1	2	1	1	1	1	2	7	2	5	1	17	5	6	13	4	71
Sharp-sh. Hawk	-	-	1	2	3	7	3	-	6	3	2	2	2	-	4	4	-	3	1	43
Cooper's Hawk	2	-	1	3	-	8	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	3	1	23	-
Accipiter (sp.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3
Red-s. Hawk	1	-	-	6	14	7	9	6	5	25	6	17	8	2	5	6	1	2	1	121
Red-t. Hawk	8	1	7	24	27	52	26	7	23	25	14	29	16	2	8	19	12	12	8	320
Buteo (sp.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Eagle (sp.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Am. Kestrel	12	2	5	4	13	20	8	3	7	13	13	5	12	10	10	13	7	31	9	197
Merlin	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Peregrine Falcon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Hawk (sp.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Ruffed Grouse	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Wild Turkey	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	83
N. Bobwhite	22	-	-	13	8	29	-	36	13	-	-	-	22	14	9	53	-	-	-	219
Clapper Rail	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	58
King Rail	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	69
Sora	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	52
Common Moorhen	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	26
American Coot	6	-	-	35	727	-	-	695	57	317	1	59	-	6	1	-	-	-	-	25
Sandhill Crane	6	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14
Black-b. Plover	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	75

Species Name	DAL	CHA	AMI	ATL	PEA	ATH	CAL	PIE	COL	MAC	DUB	AUG	ALB	OKE	HNR	THO	SAP	GLY	STC	TOTAL
Semi. Plover	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1000	178	436	1614
Piping Plover	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	2	11	22
Killdeer	30	-	-	80	32	32	25	20	31	58	103	10	60	120	-	104	5	44	-	754
Am. Oystercatcher	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	20	18	47
Greater Yellowlegs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	5	-	-	8	9	1	26
Lesser Yellowlegs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	5
Yellowlegs (sp.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
Willet	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	116	113	90	319
Spotted Sandpiper	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	4	1	1	3	10	21
Marbled Godwit	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	50	53
Ruddy Turnstone	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21	27	193	241
Red Knot	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	16	26
Sanderling	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100	92	241	433
Western Sandpiper	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	76	1819	54	1949
Least Sandpiper	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31	-	-	12	-	-	-	1	52	35	131
Peep (sp.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20	20
Dunlin	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	7	-	1100	512	700	2327
Short-b. Dowitcher	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	281	-	281
Dowitcher (sp.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	20	22
Common Snipe	3	-	-	-	2	2	-	6	9	18	21	3	16	6	4	35	2	4	3	134
Am. Woodcock	-	-	-	2	1	8	-	4	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	2	-	2	22
Laughing Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	24	-	10	145	30	210
Bonaparte's Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	4	-	-	-	-	-	5	29	3	48
Ring-b. Gull	-	-	-	5	3	-	-	6	845	1207	-	105	-	-	74	-	400	1523	400	4568
Herring Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	28	-	1	-	34	-	170	218	114	569
Great Blk-b. Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	7	21	-	28
Gull (sp.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Caspian Tern	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	8	5	6	21
Royal Tern	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	-	26	167	35	237
Common Tern	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
Forster's Tern	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	-	147	63	53	276
Black Skimmer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	37	620	220	877
Rock Dove	67	-	7	248	43	290	-	11	280	412	35	593	16	30	-	28	-	55	-	2115
White-winged Dove	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Mourning Dove	131	118	24	524	127	666	368	49	219	68	59	202	140	34	116	133	142	827	34	3981
Common Ground-Sove	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	2	-	-	15	-	3	1	26
Common Barn-Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	4
E. Screech-Owl	-	3	4	14	6	4	3	2	4	3	-	-	-	3	-	2	2	8	1	63
Great Horned Owl	-	1	-	5	-	11	1	2	3	1	-	-	22	-	-	4	31	2	3	2
Barned Owl	2	-	-	-	-	4	-	1	3	-	1	7	13	-	-	13	-	2	4	88
Hummingbird (sp.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Belted Kingfisher	6	-	1	19	18	27	15	18	13	18	11	20	4	1	15	10	18	38	22	274
Red-b. Woodpecker	-	-	-	3	1	4	4	4	6	9	18	-	10	-	4	49	7	2	4	125
Red-b. Woodpecker	12	3	4	116	64	107	62	26	23	47	22	35	69	7	46	83	39	43	51	859
Yel-b. Sapsucker	-	1	3	22	21	19	18	6	12	29	9	29	6	1	14	44	21	12	24	291
Downy Woodpecker	15	6	4	77	60	66	33	19	8	40	18	12	31	1	14	24	37	5	18	488
Red-c. Woodpecker	6	3	2	10	8	17	10	-	-	-	5	2	2	-	10	2	-	13	-	90
Northwestern Flicker	15	4	7	98	44	45	69	15	41	49	22	29	26	7	43	64	28	59	29	694
Pil. Woodpecker	6	5	7	11	10	18	10	-	12	12	12	7	31	5	29	24	18	27	17	270
Eastern Phoebe	4	-	-	15	25	21	1	4	8	22	17	21	23	18	10	40	11	8	12	260
Horned Lark	-	-	-	-	-	9	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
Tree Swallow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	205	325	-	176	142	511	1359
Swallow (sp.)	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Blue Jay	91	64	42	800	376	607	441	114	159	169	65	48	36	-	14	84	57	110	19	3296
American Crow	100	74	165	617	504	377	377	154	350	149	43	80	142	31	101	140	17	55	3540	47
Fish Crow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	72	9	19	214	1	317
Crow (sp.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	7
Carolina Chickadee	48	66	35	517	306	266	177	69	49	169	49	68	140	1	31	78	128	71	174	2442
Tufted Titmouse	30	14	44	374	118	171	94	18	34	88	47	38	41	1	48	62	-	2	24	1248
Red-b. Nuthatch	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	7
White-b. Nuthatch	8	2	3	5	-	2	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	25	2	-	-	62
Brown-h. Nuthatch	7	-	2	156	146	62	23	75	23	19	3	18	23	1	1	36	226	2	55	878
Brown Creeper	5	4	2	13	10	7	2	-	6	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	54	54
Carolina Wren	23	44	22	209	126	136	24	40	17	127	41	53	102	4	21	102	51	71	43	1256
Bewick's Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
House Wren	1	-	-	-	3	1	1	-	1	1	2	2	2	2	-	66	21	7	2	112
Winter Wren	1	2	3	10	4	10	-	-	3	1	2	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	4	46
Sedge Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	24	7	30	63
Marsh Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	28	8	52	82
Golden-c. Kinglet	27	28	35	489	295	125	31	19	19	4	12	15	5	-	32	61	30	-	32	1259
Ruby-c. Kinglet	19	8	12	327	211	125	75	29	41	101	34	85	87	10	8	252	184	97	138	1843
B-g. Gnatcatcher	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	5	1	-	-	19	8	2	6	1
Eastern Bluebird	55	5	25	262	172	121	132	71	35	42	30	14	77	69	44	85	86	10	60	1395

Species Name	DAL	CHA	AMI	ATL	PEA	ATH	CAL	PIE	COL	MAC	DUB	AUG	ALB	OKE	HNR	THO	SAP	GLY	STC	TOTAL
Hermit Thrush	1	2	-	26	36	25	9	11	5	11	9	9	6	-	5	19	9	3	7	193
American Robin	29	4	132	557	537	112	1861	166	3200	329	384	405	390	1019	529	178	800	1075	24	11731
Gray Catbird	2	-	-	3	-	2	1	-	-	1	1	2	-	2	1	21	13	8	3	60
N. Mockingbird	43	7	9	230	90	150	74	12	28	72	36	68	21	17	18	36	23	63	13	1010
Brown Thrasher	7	-	4	68	47	59	25	5	12	18	11	11	4	-	2	20	2	9	3	307
Water Pipit	-	-	-	52	5	-	-	-	1	21	30	3	-	1	-	13	-	-	-	126
Cedar Waxwing	100	35	7	1149	756	289	1010	117	64	241	328	325	6	-	142	25	97	50	18	4759
Loggerhead Shrike	10	-	-	6	21	12	12	2	2	16	38	8	13	-	8	30	-	5	1	184
E. Starling	1392	56	61	3849	449	33113	226	59	2250	515	195	33	1	46	129	68	37	1406	32	43917
White-e. Vireo	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	2	18	15	1	6	44
Solitary Vireo	-	-	-	1	6	2	3	-	3	2	2	2	2	-	3	23	15	2	9	75
Orange-c. Warbler	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	1	-	-	8
Yellow-c. Warbler	49	-	55	137	218	98	122	23	185	245	59	356	155	398	1104	503	2600	6854	1194	14355
Yellow-t. Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	4	4	13	2	6	32
Pine Warbler	5	-	1	137	185	20	22	38	29	7	20	28	89	15	9	252	171	19	68	1115
Palm Warbler	-	-	3	1	-	1	1	5	2	3	10	5	1	-	9	20	2	2	-	65
Blk & white Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	5	4	2	3	4	21
Nth. Waterthrush	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Common Yellowthroat	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	3	3	7	5	20	1	4	63	38	6	11	164
N. Cardinal	59	24	28	433	239	250	257	96	51	174	99	129	109	2	35	137	77	134	45	2388
Rufous-s. Towhee	39	7	12	300	151	157	41	61	20	74	49	35	43	5	13	110	74	32	6	1229
Bachman's Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	4
Chipping Sparrow	-	-	-	380	565	179	120	117	108	138	106	4	104	59	104	233	95	3	1	2316
Field Sparrow	27	38	6	599	417	245	58	39	9	8	86	5	23	50	2	53	7	30	13	1715
Vesper Sparrow	2	-	-	5	7	-	-	-	6	3	3	-	38	-	28	1	1	1	-	95
Savannah Sparrow	-	-	-	26	19	45	-	4	3	34	57	1	41	-	41	70	67	15	17	440
Grasshopper Sparrow	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Henslow's Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2
Sharp-sh. Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	6
Seaside Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	9	-	12
Fox Sparrow	2	-	-	9	9	8	3	-	4	-	3	3	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	43
Song Sparrow	41	69	1	584	361	336	33	102	29	137	55	102	27	-	63	122	69	26	34	2191
Lincoln's Sparrow	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Swamp Sparrow	3	5	5	155	72	47	7	10	12	21	4	55	22	-	6	136	55	14	17	646
White-t. Sparrow	123	29	76	565	325	381	78	54	139	190	82	153	58	-	7	150	16	59	17	2502
White-c. Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	-	-	-	13
Dark-e. Junco	56	85	84	690	250	175	294	48	83	53	11	56	56	-	22	8	-	6	1977	408
Sparrow (sp.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	250	-	22	50	-	86	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-w. Blackbird	507	-	68	414	2455	16616	381	3	7200	37	187	4185	970	200	120	3075	500	137	663	37718
East. Meadowlark	105	20	16	85	222	189	172	4	38	67	93	2	104	119	84	116	125	77	69	1707
Rusty Blackbird	-	-	-	6	51	-	33	-	-	1200	1	1	-	6	126	-	-	-	-	18442
Brewer's Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	336	-	-	-	-	17	-	-	-	354
Boat-t. Grackle	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	60	-	173	297	247	777
Common Grackle	2586	-	50	17	5151	16479	130	1541	3800	1	59	2490	10079	1	57	1545	27	3639	250	47902
Brown-h. Cowbird	58	-	18	-	441	16105	-	-	23	-	35	211	76	1	-	108	1	15	-	17092
Blackbird (sp.)	-	-	-	90	-	-	-	-	2000	821	151	3162	200	-	-	-	-	-	-	8424
Northern Oriole	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Purple Finch	34	1	-	63	21	52	67	6	68	10	10	3	7	-	-	2	-	-	-	344
House Finch	43	-	-	49	16	89	6	-	3	7	23	16	-	-	-	11	-	-	-	263
Red Crossbill	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Pine Siskin	22	25	43	463	26	60	9	31	220	1	90	3	-	-	-	104	-	-	-	1098
Am. Goldfinch	64	19	80	468	408	249	97	145	41	193	238	74	57	26	31	220	21	68	28	2527
Evening Grosbeak	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
House Sparrow	111	33	10	207	48	207	38	7	417	318	30	13	12	-	7	6	-	22	-	1486
Total Individuals	6444	924	1263	17380	19584	90111	7523	6416	23071	9411	4216	14084	14306	3044	4843	9532	31176	29851	39673	332852
Total Species	70	44	54	85	85	85	78	80	96	97	87	87	83	62	106	101	136	132	133	188
Number of Observers	11	4	11	40	19	34	40	18	15	16	7	15	19	10	22	10	13	40	14	358
Number of Parties	6	2	2	18	9	14	10	5	10	6	2	10	6	7	11	5	6	17	8	154
Party Hours	37	19	20	123	67	119	52	46	42	54	18	51	46	33	69	43	55	114	59	1067
Party Miles	174	140	222	727	423	489	255	425	209	267	110	162	186	170	127	259	119	508	125	5097
Date of Count	12/19	12/27	12/26	12/20	12/19	12/19	1/2	12/21	12/19	12/19	12/26	12/26	12/26	12/29	12/28	12/27	1/1	1/2	12/19	

Christmas Count issue of *American Birds* does not mean it can be considered by the GOS Checklist Committee. Your significant sightings need to be documented either in *The Oriole* or submitted to the GOS Checklist Committee so they can be added to our growing knowledge of Georgia birds.

Of the 188 species recorded on the 1987 CBCs, 21 were seen on all 19 counts. These species were Great Blue Heron, Red-tailed Hawk, American Kestrel, Mourning Dove, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, American Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Carolina Wren, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Eastern Bluebird, American Robin, Northern Mockingbird, European Starling, Northern Cardinal, Rufous-sided Towhee, Field Sparrow, Eastern Meadowlark, and American Goldfinch. This is somewhat down from last year's total of 24 species. We will try to do some analysis on this species consistency in later articles.

THE SHORT TERM

A rather amazing 129 Pied-billed Grebes were recorded at Peachtree City and Pied-billed and Horned Grebes were in equal numbers with 10 apiece at Piedmont National Wildlife Refuge (NWR). The only Northern Gannet was one seen at Glynn County. Brown Pelicans continue to rebound with 429 recorded on four counts. Double-crested Cormorants appear to be now a regular feature on several of our counts along the fall line (Columbus, Macon, Dublin and Augusta). Most of us think of Anhingas as being strictly coastal species in the winter but significant numbers at Macon, Dublin and Augusta indicate this species can be found, at least in the early winter, as far north as the fall line. Only two American Bitterns were recorded for this decreasing species. Great Egrets also were recorded on several inland counts. Perhaps reflecting the increasing numbers of Wood Storks nesting in Georgia, the species was spotted on five counts with a total of 65 birds.

Two Tundra Swans were noteworthy at Albany as was a single Snow Goose at Athens. Canada Geese continue to increase as a regular species on many inland counts. Interesting duck reports were a Blue-winged Teal at Dublin, large numbers (150 and 127 respectively) of American Wigeon at Macon and Augusta, the very large numbers of Ring-necked Ducks on many inland counts with a high count of 1727 at Peachtree City, an amazing count of Greater Scaup with 1000 on the Sapelo count and an even higher count of 4500 on the St. Catherine's count. Eight Surf Scoters on the Glynn County count, one Surf Scoter on the St. Catherine's Count, one Common Goldeneye at Piedmont and two Common Mergansers at St. Catherine's Island round out the duck reports.

Dublin appears to be the vulture capital of Georgia with excellent counts of both Black and Turkey Vultures. An Osprey at Macon was certainly rare that far inland. Bald Eagles continue to increase with a total of seven reported this year with three at Sapelo Island being the highest count. Peregrine Falcons were seen on the Macon and St. Catherine's counts. Chattahoochee National Forest contributed the only Ruffed Grouse and we continued our poor coverage of rails with only one King Rail, no Virginia's and two Sora's. Sandhill Cranes were obviously still migrating with reports from Dalton and Peachtree City and out of range reports from Augusta and St. Catherine's Island.

Piping Plovers were seen on three counts with a total of 22 birds. St. Catherine's had an excellent count of 50 Marbled Godwits. Large numbers of gulls are now being seen inland with 1207 Ring-billed and 28 Herring Gulls at Macon. Two Common Terns on the Sapelo Count was a rare sighting of this species which generally winters south of the United States. Great care must be taken to differentiate this from the Forster's Tern. The White-winged Dove on the Sapelo count, for a rare exception for CBC sightings, has been documented in *The Oriole* (Waters 1988). Common Barn-Owls were seen on four separate counts.

A hummingbird (sp.) was seen on the Macon count. Extremely detailed reports of wintering hummingbirds need to be received in order for proper identification to be made. Not all wintering hummingbirds in Georgia are Ruby-throats or Rufous but this needs to be documented. Red-cockaded Woodpeckers were seen on six separate counts with a total of 25 birds reported. Horned Larks were seen on two counts with nine at Athens and three at Macon. There was a scattering of Red-breasted Nuthatch reports but certainly not an invasion year. The increasingly rare Bewick's Wren was reported only from the Albany count.

A Blue-gray Gnatcatcher at Amicalola Falls was certainly out of range. Orange-crowned Warblers were poorly reported with only three counts recording the species but a bird sighted on the Dalton count was certainly unusual. As already mentioned, a Northern Waterthrush was seen on the Sapelo Island count. Four Bachman's Sparrows at Thomasville was certainly an excellent count for this elusive wintering species. Dublin appears to be one of the few reliable places to find Brewer's Blackbirds as 336 were recorded. Only two other counts reported the species. Evening Grosbeaks were seen on two counts which is surprising for a non-invasion year.

THE LONG TERM

The four species singled out for special attention in the previous CBC summary (House and White-throated Sparrows, Rufous-sided Towhee and Eastern Meadowlark) all rebounded somewhat in numbers but we will continue to monitor their numbers in later CBC summaries. Two closely related species, the Black and Turkey Vultures, appear to be going in different directions in regards to their abundance. Figure 1 shows that while the Turkey Vulture is either holding its own or perhaps slowly decreasing, the Black Vulture's population is really booming in Georgia.

Three species which have decreased over large portions of the country appear to be holding their own in Georgia. Figure 2 shows relatively steady numbers for the Northern Harrier, Eastern Bluebird and Loggerhead Shrike. Finally, many observers have noted a dramatic increase in Double-crested Cormorants both along the coast and inland. While the species is still primarily found along the coast during the winter some numbers are being found inland. Figure 3 shows how dramatic the increase has been as evidenced by CBC data.

Figure 1. Black and Turkey Vulture numbers recorded on Georgia Christmas Bird Counts (1982-1987)

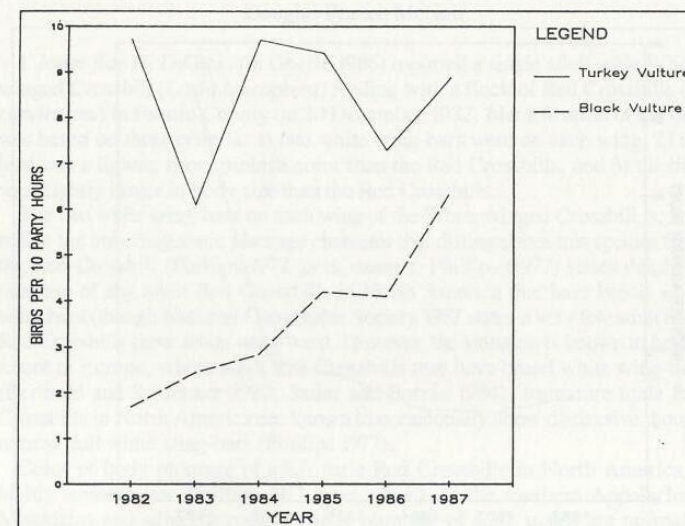


Figure 2. Northern Harrier, Eastern Bluebird and Loggerhead Shrike numbers recorded on Georgia Christmas Bird Counts (1982-1987)

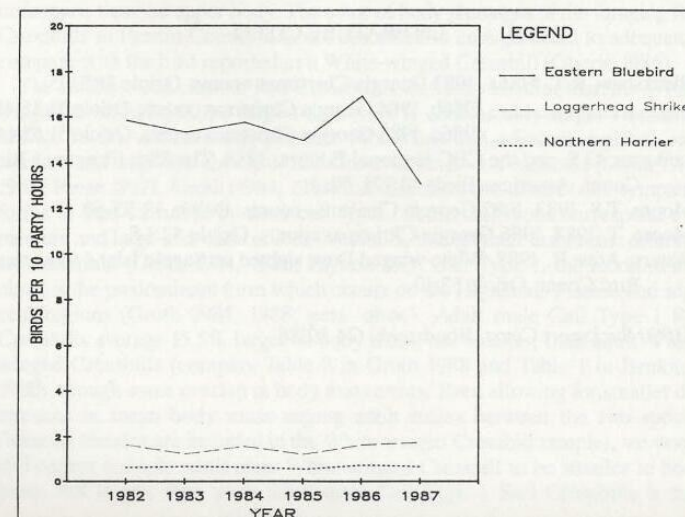
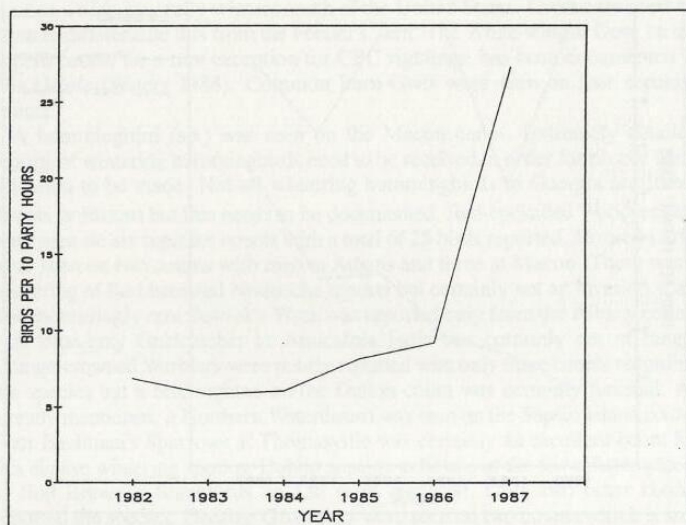


Figure 3. Double-crested Cormorant numbers recorded on Georgia Christmas Bird Counts (1982-1987)



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FIRST MODERN RECORD OF WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL IN GEORGIA: A COMMENTARY

Douglas Branch McNair

J. Jones *vide* H. DiGioia (in Oberle 1986) reported a single adult male White-winged Crossbill (*Loxia leucoptera*) feeding with a flock of Red Crossbills (*L. curvirostra*) in Fannin County on 30 December 1982. Identification of the bird was based on three criteria: 1) two white wing-bars were on each wing, 2) the bird was a lighter, more pinkish color than the Red Crossbills, and 3) the bird was slightly larger in body size than the Red Crossbills.

The two white wing-bars on each wing of the White-winged Crossbill is, normally, the only diagnostic plumage character that distinguishes this species from the Red Crossbill (Phillips 1977, pers. exam.). Phillips (1977) states that he is unaware of any adult Red Crossbills in North America that have broad white wing-bars (though National Geographic Society 1987 states a very few adult male Red Crossbills show white wing-bars). However, the situation is known to be different in Europe, where adult Red Crossbills may have broad white wing-bars (Berthold and Schlenker 1982, Señar and Borrás 1984). Immature male Red Crossbills in North America are known to occasionally show distinctive though narrow dull white wing-bars (Phillips 1977).

Color of body plumage of adult male Red Crossbills in North America is highly variable (see Phillips 1977, pers. obsv.). In the southern Appalachian Mountains and adjacent regions, body plumage of adult males are normally orange-red, not brick-red, and colors may range from rosy-red (rare) to deep orange-red (pers. obsv.). Male Red Crossbills molting in late summer and early fall may acquire an adult body plumage which may be rosier than normal when fresh. Adult males may be white (or whitish) on the belly, and paler on the underparts than the upper body. The color of body plumages of the foraging Red Crossbills in Fannin County was not described in enough detail to adequately compare with the bird reported as a White-winged Crossbill (Oberle 1986).

The smallest size class of Red Crossbill is distinctly smaller than the White-winged Crossbill and the largest size class is considerably larger (Benkman 1987a). In the southern Appalachian Mountains and adjacent regions, only medium and large size classes of Red Crossbill have been collected (Groth 1984, 1988; Payne 1987). Groth (1984, 1988) has identified two distinct and sympatric forms of Red Crossbill by their call types. These call types correspond to a medium and large-size class of Red Crossbills, though their taxonomic affinities are uncertain (Groth 1984, 1988; Payne 1987). Call Type 1, the medium size class, is the predominant form which occurs on the Highlands Plateau and adjacent regions (Groth 1984, 1988; pers. obsv.). Adult male Call Type 1 Red Crossbills average 15.5% larger in body mass, not smaller, than adult White-winged Crossbills (compare Table 8 in Groth 1988 and Table 1 in Benkman 1988), though some overlap in body mass exists. Even allowing for smaller differences in mean body mass among adult males between the two species (because females are included in the White-winged Crossbill sample), we would still expect a single adult male White-winged Crossbill to be smaller in body mass, not larger, than most adult male Call Type 1 Red Crossbills it may

associate with.

The bill of an adult White-winged Crossbill is slimmer than the bill of an adult male Call Type 1 Red Crossbill. The width is always, or almost always, narrower. Bill depth is almost always less (though measurements of bill depth between adults of each species are not directly comparable because of differences in methods of measurement in the sources cited below). Considerable overlap occurs in bill length though mean length is less for White-winged Crossbill compared to Call Type 1 Red Crossbill (compare plots and measurements for Red Crossbills in "Appalachia" in Groth 1984, 1988 and Payne 1987 with data for White-winged Crossbills in Benkman 1987a, 1987b, 1988). Bill shape and size of the bird reported to be a White-winged Crossbill was not noted (Oberle 1986).

Details on the vocal and foraging behavior and occupied habitat of the reported White-winged Crossbill was not documented in Oberle (1986).

In summary, while the identification of a White-winged Crossbill in Fannin County may be correct, the description in Oberle (1986) is inadequate in my opinion to justify placing this sight record on the Georgia Provisional List. I suggest placing the report on the Georgia Hypothetical List, i.e., inadequately documented and not currently acceptable sight record.

I thank two anonymous reviewers for their suggestions on this note.

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GENERAL NOTES

A BLACK-BELLIED WHISTLING-DUCK IN NORTH GEORGIA - On 2 September 1988 at approximately 1800 I discovered a Black-bellied Whistling-Duck (*Dendrocygna autumnalis*) grazing on the Wahoo Creek mudflats with about two hundred Canada Geese (*Branta canadensis*). These mudflats are located on the extreme end of the Wahoo Creek portion of Lake Lanier in Hall county between Gainesville and Dahlonega and are extensive when the lake level is low. The bird's long pink legs, whistling-duck posture, black underparts, reddish back and pectoral areas, red bill and large white wing patches left no doubt as to the identification of the species.

After the initial shock of seeing the bird in north Georgia, I discounted the bird as surely being an escapee and did not call anyone that night. The following morning I decided that since the bird was not an obvious escapee (banded, extremely worn feathers, etc.), I could not definitely determine that it was an escapee. I called several people but did not reach anyone at home on Saturday so gave up for the moment. On Sunday, 4 Sept. it rained all day and there was no way to get into the area without crossing a rain swollen creek which could have been dangerous. On 5 Sept. I returned to the area but the bird could not be found. I returned again on 8 Sept. alone, on 11 Sept. with Patrick Brisse and again alone on 13 Sept. but found no whistling-duck.

I was pleasantly surprised when the bird reappeared on 14 Sept. It did not have a leg band and seemed wilder than the geese that it accompanied, but I did not think to look to see if it had a missing first digit "hind toe". It is a beautiful and distinctively marked duck.

I called Greg Valpey when I returned home and he went to the area and found the bird the same afternoon. I saw it again on 16 Sept. and was able to show it to Jack Carusos on 17 Sept. I never saw it after that but my sightings indicate the bird was intermittently present for a period of 16 days from 2-17 Sept.

The Black-bellied Whistling-Duck is listed in the *Annotated Checklist of Georgia Birds* (Haney et al., GOS, Occ. Publ. No. 10, 1986) as hypothetical based on the observation of two birds on Jekyll Island on 14 April 1976 (*American Birds* 31:987). This Jekyll Island observation is regarded as hypothetical since no details have ever been submitted to *The Oriole* or to the Checklist Committee.

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FROM THE FIELD

March 1988 - July 1988

The year of 1988 continued its rather lackluster performance through the period from March to July. There were definitely a few notable records (I hope we never go through a period when there are no interesting records) but they seemed fewer than usual. This paucity of interesting records may have been weather related, lack of observer activity related or more likely, lack of observer reporting activity. What we need is complete GOS cooperation with all members reporting and detailing their significant observations. If you have any suggestions on how to make this happen, please write me.

Of course there were several significant sightings during the period. The beautiful Cinamon Teal found at Darien was truly an excellent sighting for those who saw it. A Burrowing Owl at Gainesville was truly out of range as all previous sightings of the species had been, of course, along the coast. Several Scissor-tailed Flycatchers were seen including the first nesting of the species for the state. Warbler migration was significant in its continued decline.

Abbreviations used include AAS - Atlanta Audubon Society, CCWTP - Clayton County Water Treatment Plant, CRNRA - Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area, MBBT - Merry Brothers Brick and Tile Company (Augusta), MIA - Macon Industrial Area, NWR - National Wildlife Refuge, PCL - Peachtree City Lake, RCWMA - Rum Creek Wildlife Management Area and SCSP - Sweetwater Creek State Park.

SPECIES ACCOUNTS

- COMMON LOON - Fifteen breeding plumaged birds on 1 April at PCL was a good count for the Atlanta area (Patrick Brisse). A bird was late at RCWMA on 15 May according to Terry Johnson. Rare in the summer in the Piedmont area were two birds during June at Lake Lanier and three there on 25 July (John Paget).
- PIED-BILLED GREBE - Uncommon in the summer, one was reported from RCWMA on 3 June by Terry Johnson; a non-breeder spent the summer at MBBT according to Anne Waters; and Patrick Brisse saw one at Twin Lakes near Fairburn on 18 June and 3 July and two at CCWTP during July. No nesting was observed.
- AUDUBON'S SHEARWATER - One bird was seen briefly by Terry Moore and Hugh Garrett off St. Mary's during the 11 June AAS sponsored pelagic trip. On the same trip about ten Wilson's Storm-Petrels were also sighted.
- DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT - Inland count numbers are still on the increase. High numbers were 24 at Augusta on 21 April (Anne Waters), 40 at RCWMA on 23 April (Dale Hardee), and 12 near Athens on the same day (Peter Yaukey). Sightings are rare in the summer; one was at the MIA all summer long (Ty Ivey); another at Stone Mountain Park on 19 June (Jeff Sewell and Carol Lambert); and nine were seen at Lake Oconee on 18 June (Peter Yaukey).
- ANHINGA - Up to three birds in early spring at MBBT and at least one bird summering at the same location during the summer definitely point to an increase of the species in the Augusta area (Anne Waters).
- AMERICAN BITTERN - Rarely reported anymore, this species was noted at Buckeye Marsh in Laurens County from 16 March to 30 April. The high number of seven or possibly eight individuals on 26 March was very encouraging (Tom Patterson). Elsewhere, Anne Waters saw one at MBBT on 12 April and Paul Raney flushed one near Lake Seminole in southwest Georgia on 16 April.
- GREAT WHITE HERON - Terry and Peggy Moore spotted this large heron on 4 July 5 miles south of Canton (*Oriole* 53:25). This represents only the second Piedmont record as most of the Georgia records are coastal.

- SNOWY EGRET - Inland spring records of this bird are always noteworthy. Five were at the MIA on 2 April as recorded by Ty Ivey and a single bird at MBBT on 6 May was mentioned by Anne Waters.
- TRICOLORED HERON - Always rare inland, this species was sighted off the levee at MBBT on 21 May by Anne Waters and at the RCWMA on 30 July by Terry Johnson.
- BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON - Unusual for Oconee County was a bird heard by Paul Sykes, Jr. on 24 March.
- WHITE IBIS - Wandering birds into the Piedmont included two immatures at Conyers on 7 and 24 July (*fide* Francis Michael); 14 immatures at the Macon City landfill on 10 July (Jerry Amereson) and a few birds at the RCWMA starting on 14 July (Terry Johnson).
- WOOD STORK - By the end of May, 101 Wood Stork nests were counted in Big Duke Swamp near Millen (*fide* Anne Waters). There was a lot of fighting in the colony and only 25 young were raised.
- GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE - Dean Rundle found a very late bird with some Canada Geese on 3 June on the Georgia side of the Eufaula NWR (*fide* Sam Pate). This is most likely the first June record of the species in Georgia.
- SNOW GOOSE - A few birds were reported inland this spring. Donny Screws mentioned two birds near Eastman in Dodge County on 19 March. Johnette Crum saw one at Lake Lanier on 3 April and Dale Hardee saw the last one at Piedmont NWR on 24 April.
- AMERICAN BLACK DUCK - A late bird was still at the CCWTP on 22 May (Patrick Brisse). More unusual was the lone bird found with a group of 45 Mallards from 10-27 June in Macon (Ken and Arlene Clark and Ty Ivey).
- NORTHERN PINTAIL - A female was late departing on 21 May at the CCWTP (Patrick Brisse).
- CINNAMON TEAL - Russ Wigh discovered a male at the Altamaha Wildlife Management area on 15 March (*Oriole* 53:27). Excellent photographs were taken and the bird was seen by many observers through 16 April. The record has been accepted as the second Georgia record of the species by the GOS Checklist Committee.
- GADWALL - A late straggler was at the Altamaha Wildlife Management area on 12 June (Patrick Brisse, Hugh Garrett, Terry Moore). No previous summer records exist in the state as far as I know.
- RING-NECKED DUCK - As usual a few birds were noted during the summer around the state. Patrick Brisse found seven at PCL on 6 June but none on a later trip; a male was noted by Terry Johnson at the Plant Scherer ash pond near Lake Juliette on 24 June. A female was seen at the RCWMA on 16 July and spent the summer. In Augusta, possibly the same female that previously nested at MBBT returned and spent the summer (*fide* Anne Waters).
- GREATER SCAUP - Three females at SCSP on 19 April was the only report received for the period (Paul Raney). Although sightings are on the increase, the species is still classified as rare inland.
- LESSER SCAUP - Accidental in the summer, the species was seen at the Plant Scherer ash pond on 24 June near Macon (Terry Johnson) and a female plumaged bird was at Shamrock Lake near CCWTP on 2 and 9 July (Patrick Brisse).
- COMMON GOLDENEYE - One bird at Shamrock Lake near CCWTP on 13 March as noted by Hugh Garrett and Patrick Brisse was the only report received for the period. Does anyone see the species anymore in inland Georgia?
- RUDDY DUCK - Ty Ivey reported a pair at the MIA all summer but observed no nesting activity. Although a few summer records of pairs exist for the state, no nesting record has ever been verified.
- OSPREY - The species nested successfully at the RCWMA (Terry Johnson), in Georgia between Eufaula, AL and Georgetown, GA south of Highway 82 (*fide* Sam Pate), and at Lake Oconee (Peter Yaukey).
- AMERICAN SWALLOW-TAILED KITE - More inland reports were received this period than ever before. Ron Pulliam saw the first one at Athens on 19 April. Jim Ozier and Terry Johnson saw the next one at a small farm pond near Bolingbroke, Monroe County on 18 July. Donny Screws saw two near Eastman in Dodge County on 19 July and the last ones were seen at the Conyer's Monastery from 31 July to 4 Aug. At Conyers one bird appeared on 31 July and was joined by another the next day and they stayed through 4 Aug. (Francis Michael). Several other observers were able to see the birds before they departed.
- BROAD-WINGED HAWK - A very early bird was over NW Atlanta on 5 March (Robert Manns).
- GOLDEN EAGLE - Five observers saw an immature bird on 13 March southwest of Callaway Gardens (*fide* Sam Pate) for a very rare report outside the northwest Georgia mountains.

PEREGRINE FALCON - Rare inland was a bird in Dawson County on 30 April during a GOS meeting field trip (John Paget *et al.*). Harriett DiGioia saw another on 25 June in the Chattahoochee National Forest. This accidental summer record is worthy of being published in *The Oriole*.

KING RAIL - Tom Patterson heard the species at Buckeye Marsh in Laurens County many times in April and May and thinks breeding was probable. Anne Waters saw four on 4 June at MBBT but no young were observed. Three adults were seen again on 30 July.

SORA - Hugh Garrett, Terry Moore and Patrick Brisse saw over 10 on the Georgia side of Eufaula NWR on 7 May. All these birds were feeding in the open on exposed mats of vegetation.

AMERICAN COOT - Two birds were at SCSP on 18 June as noted by Patrick Brisse. The species has been found summering there in the last few years. Early birds were sighted by Terry Johnson at RCWMA on 24 June and 16 July and by Ty Ivey at the MIA on 17 July.

BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER - A single bird was at the MIA on 2 and 3 April (Ty Ivey).

LESSER GOLDEN-PLOVER - Only two sightings of single birds were reported, one in northern Laurens County by Tom Patterson on 13 March and another at the Gainesville Airport by John Paget on 18 March.

BLACK-NECKED STILT - Robert Manns saw a very early bird at the Altamaha WMA on 21 March.

LESSER YELLOWLEGS - A bird at the CCWTP on 25 June was assumed to be an early fall migrant (Patrick Brisse).

UPLAND SANDPIPER - Tom Patterson recorded the species seven times from 2 April through 1 May in Laurens County. The high count was 16 birds on 6 April. John Paget saw a small group at the Gainesville Airport on 14 April. He also had an early fall migrant there on 27 July.

WHIMBREL - Accidental inland were six birds seen flying over Lake Oconee on 8 May by Peter Yaukey.

MARbled GODWIT - John Thompson saw a very early bird at the south end of Jekyll Island on 9 July.

SANDERLING - Peter Yaukey saw two at Lake Oconee on 23 July and one more on 30 July.

WESTERN SANDPIPER - Anne Waters saw a very rare and early spring migrant at MBBT on 26 March.

WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER - CCWTP hosted the species from 4 through 28 May (Patrick Brisse) with a high count of seven on 21 May. Joe Greenberg, Terry Johnson and others saw one at the RCWMA on 14 May and Patrick Brisse, Hugh Garrett and Terry Moore saw three at Eufaula NWR on 7 May. Although unusual in the Piedmont in the fall, one was reported from Pendergrass on 30 July by John Paget and Jack Carusos.

PECTORAL SANDPIPER - A bird on 4 June at the CCWTP was most likely a late spring migrant (Patrick Brisse).

STILT SANDPIPER - Uncommon in the spring, single birds were seen at the MIA on 3 April (Ty Ivey); near Kathryn on 16 and 17 April (Don and Joyce Duncan); and three were at the CCWTP on 4 May (Dale Hardee).

LAUGHING GULL - Always of note inland, two were spotted by Don Duncan on 3 April on a pond at Robins Air Force Base.

BONAPARTE'S GULL - Very unusual in Laurens County was one sighted by Tom Patterson on 16 April. In Atlanta one was late at SCSP on 19 April (Paul Raney) and even later was one at the RCWMA on 15 May (Terry Johnson).

HERRING GULL - John Paget's first summer record for the species on Lake Lanier was one on 11 June.

GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL - An immature spent most of June at St. Simons's Island East Beach and was joined by two adults on 8 July (*fide* Terry Moore). Four adults were there on 12 July according to Dennie and Pam McClure. The species has been found along the coast during the summer only in the past few years.

CASPIAN TERN - Always rare inland, one was at the MIA on 2 April (Ty Ivey) and three were at MBBT on 16 April (Anne and Vernon Waters).

COMMON TERN - A rare transient in the Piedmont, the species was seen by John Paget at Lake Lanier on 23 July.

FORSTER'S TERN - Single birds were observed on 23 April at the RCWMA by Dale Hardee and at SCSP by Paul Raney. Another bird found at PCL on 4 June by Patrick Brisse was the latest spring record ever for the Atlanta area. The species was already back at MBBT on 11 July as reported by Clarence Belger.

BLACK TERN - Donny Screws saw two individuals at the Chester sewage ponds in Dodge County on 23 July for the only period report.

COMMON GROUND-DOVE - Jerry Amerson saw three birds at the Macon city landfill on 10 July for a rare sighting along the fall line.

BURROWING OWL - On 14 April John Paget, David and Dot Bulluck saw a Burrowing Owl at the Gainesville Airport (*Oriole* 53:31). Later that day, the bird was flushed a few times by Robert and Didi Manns, Hugh and Liz Garrett, Greg Valpey and Martha Shelton. If accepted by the Checklist Committee this record will be the fourth for Georgia.

OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER - Mike Chapman and Ty Ivey saw the first one at the Ocmulgee National Monument near Macon on 30 April and Georgann Schmalz saw a late one at the CRNRA in north Atlanta on 25 May.

WILLOW FLYCATCHER - For the first time in a number of years, a bird was heard in Atlanta during the summer: Ken Blackshaw found the bird along the Chattahoochee River in north Atlanta on 19 June. The bird could not be located later.

SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER - Amazingly, four reports were received this period. A bird was spotted by Nancy Iha, Barbara Brigham and Pat Fincher northeast of Columbus on 4 June (*Oriole* 53:32). On 3 July Richard White found a bird near Adairsville and later that day it was located again by Robert and Didi Manns (*Oriole* 53:32-33). We learned much later that a pair nested in the Cartersville area and they were successful in fledging one young (Mike and Cathy Harris). On 11 July in Harris County, Dr. Luther Roberts got a good view of what he thought was a young bird (*fide* Sam Pate).

TREE SWALLOW - The species may have nested at Lake Oconee as Peter Yaukey saw adults in three different places on 10 June and one or two birds were seen entering a hole in a snag. In the Piedmont area a bird was back as early as 8 July at Commerce Lake (John Paget).

BANK SWALLOW - John Paget also had an early bird at Commerce Lake on 8 July.

CLIFF SWALLOW - Peter Yaukey found three nests under the Highway 44 bridge over Lake Oconee on 18 June. This represents a new nesting site for the species in the Piedmont area.

FISH CROW - Terry Moore recently commented that this species was on the increase in the Atlanta area with many observers reporting the species mostly from parks and reservoirs.

GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET - A bird at Fernbank Forest in Atlanta on 23 April during an Atlanta Audubon Society walk was quite late (late date for the state is 26 April).

GRAY-CHEEKED THRUSH - The only report received was of four birds on 30 April during an AAS walk at Fernbank Forest.

WARBLER (sp.) - General comments about warbler migration this season: Anne Waters reported it poor in Augusta and Terry Moore thought it was about average in the Atlanta area. When you send in your field notes, your general comments would be appreciated.

BREWSTER'S WARBLER - One bird was seen by Joe Greenberg on 11 May along Dawson Woods Road north of Atlanta for a rare but now regular sighting of that hybrid.

CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER - An adult male was an extremely early migrant at Pendergrass on 8 July (John Paget).

CERULEAN WARBLER - Where have all the Cerulean Warblers gone? Terry Moore received only one report during the spring and Atlanta is definitely on the species' migration path. In July he received only two sightings: John Paget recorded one in Dawson County on 9 July and Terry and Peggy Moore saw two in north Fulton County on 31 July.

SWAINSON'S WARBLER - The species was noted in Augusta at MBBT during the summer but Anne Waters said only one pair could be located. In north Atlanta, a bird was heard singing and was seen along the Chattahoochee River on 14 and 21 May (*fide* Terry Moore). John Paget and Jack Carusos found one in Dawson County on 9 July and Peter Yaukey reported a singing bird in Oconee County on 14 May. Were any of these birds nesting?

NORTHERN WATERTHRUSH - A very early fall migrant was a bird at Thomasville on 25 July (Leon Neel).

SCARLET TANAGER - Mike and Cathy Chapman reported the species from Piedmont NWR on 2 June. This seems to be rather late for migrants through that area - could they be nesting that far south?

ROSE-BREASTED GROSBILL - The female frequenting Greg Valpey's feeder in Gainesville last winter remained at least until 27 March. In Atlanta, a late migrant was sighted at Fernbank Forest on 26 May by Georgann Schmalz.

DICKCISSEL - A few birds were reported by Joel Volpi from Roger's Bridge near Duluth from May until late June.

BREWER'S BLACKBIRD - Tom Patterson was the only observer to report this species. His latest date for the species was 2 April which is his latest record ever.

NORTHERN ORIOLE - Rarely reported anymore as a wintering bird was a female near Columbus seen by Robert Terhune from 3-23 March. Certainly as interesting was a male seen several times at the Chattahoochee Nature Center in north Atlanta during June by Nanette Johnson.

PINE SISKIN - This was a good year again for siskins and as usual some lingered into May. The last ones were seen on 9 May at Watkinsville (Paul Sykes, Jr.); 15 May at the RCWMA (Terry Johnson); and 20 May in north Fulton County (Peggy and Terry Moore).

EVENING GROSBILL - Although not an invasion year, small flocks were seen around the state. A few birds lingered as usual. Helen Ogren saw nine birds at Crabapple in north Atlanta on 12 April; Bill and Sue Carr saw the last ones coming to their feeders on 1 May at Augusta and Paul Sykes, Jr. had two birds as late as 2 May at Watkinsville.

Patrick Brise, 4960 Gatehouse Way, Stone Mountain, GA 30000.

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