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RECENT EVIDENCE OF BREEDING BY COMMON MERGANSERS IN EAST TENNESSEE

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Common Mergansers (*Mergus merganser*) are Holarctic ducks that breed along forested rivers and lakes, generally nesting in tree cavities. Their breeding range in North America extends across the forested zones of Canada and Alaska, as well as in the western and northeastern states of the contiguous United States (Dunn and Alderfer 2011). In the eastern U.S. this species regularly breeds south to northern Pennsylvania (Reid 1992). They breed sparingly in Virginia south to Montgomery and Giles counties (Rottenborn and Brinkley 2007, Kessler 2016), with a surge of breeding records in recent years (Beamer and Paisley 2017). There are recent nesting records from three sites in western North Carolina: the Green River in Polk County in 2008 and 2011 (Rhodes and Johnson 2011), the Tuskasegee River in Jackson County in 2016 (Southern 2016), and the Dan River in Stokes County in 2017 (Southern 2017). Two sightings of one or two birds each in early June 2017 in eastern Kentucky (Yandell 2017) add to the growing pattern of breeding season records in the region.

In Tennessee Common Mergansers have long been considered to be rare to uncommon migrants and winter residents (Ganier 1933, Robinson 1990). Breeding was unknown in the state until the late 1980's when historical records were found describing a combined total of six egg sets collected in Smith County, Tennessee, from 1896 to 1899 (Kiff 1989, Knight 1989; Table 1).

However, since 2014 there have been several late spring and summer records of Common Mergansers from East Tennessee, including one confirmed breeding record as well as compelling evidence of breeding from several other locations. Herein I summarize recent breeding season records of Common Merganser in East Tennessee.

Little River, near Walland, Blount County. Breeding confirmed in 2017; details

provided elsewhere in this issue by Jeremy Lloyd (Lloyd 2018).

Little Pigeon River, near Greenbrier, Sevier County. Apparent breeding reported in 2015 - 2017; details provided elsewhere in this issue by Keith Watson (Watson 2018).

Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area, Scott County. A female Common Merganser was seen on 2 June 2015 at Burnt Mill Bridge by Antonio Xeira, and eight female-types were found later that same year on 22-23 September at Big Island by Nora Murdock, Robert Emmot, and Evan Raskin (Knight 2016a). The former site is approximately 20 river miles (32 km) upstream from the latter site. The September record almost certainly represents evidence of successful local breeding, as the date is much earlier than the expected arrival date of migrant Common Mergansers and given the June sighting there, as well.

Watauga River, Carter and Washington Counties. A female Common Merganser was seen on 26 April 2014 on the Watauga River near Elizabethton, Carter County (Lewis 2014). In 2015 one or both members of a pair were seen several times from 4 April to 11 May in the same section of river, and two female-types were photographed a few miles downstream on 7-15 June (Lewis 2015a, 2015b). There were no spring sightings in 2016 on the river. However, on 9 July 2016 a group of ten female-type Common Mergansers floated down the Watauga River at Winged Deer Park in Washington County as the Elizabethton Bird Club held its annual picnic (Knight 2016c). At least 20 observers viewed the birds. All ten appeared to be the same size and no plumage differences were noted that might have aged any of them as juveniles. Despite this, they almost certainly represented a family group raised on the river. On 18 August and 7 September 2016 up to eight female-types were sighted a few miles upstream near Austin Springs, Washington County (Knight 2017), probably the same family group. A pair was seen on the river near Austin Springs on 24 February 2017 (RLK, pers. obs.). The distance from Elizabethton to Winged Deer Park is about 24 km (15 river miles).

Beaver Creek, Sullivan County. Common Mergansers have been observed annually on the lower portions of Beaver Creek and at its mouth, where it flows into Boone Lake, from 2014 through 2017. A female was seen on the creek from 6 April to 25 May 2014 by Ron Carrico and Rob Biller (Knight 2014). A hen was observed at the creek mouth from 12 January to 8 March 2015, accompanied by a drake on 2-8 March (Knight 2015a), and a hen was present at the same site on 10 July 2015 (Knight 2015b). The following year two to five females were on Boone Lake at the mouth of Beaver Creek during January, after which one to three males and two to five females were seen on the creek a short distance upstream from the lake from 28 January to 22 March 2016, with two still there on 30 April and 5 May 2016 (Knight 2016b). On 17 May 2016 Knight observed a Common Merganser on the lake at the mouth of Beaver Creek that appeared to be a fully grown juvenile (Knight 2016b). Ten female-types were present on Beaver Creek on 15 November 2016 (Knight 2017). Although these last birds could have been migrants from the north, it is worth noting that until this recent flurry of potentially breeding mergansers on area streams that virtually all local

records of migrant and wintering mergansers were on lakes. In 2017 a pair was present on Beaver Creek from 2-17 January, and a drake was seen on 8 March (RLK, pers. obs.), while a female was observed at the creek mouth on 10 June (eBird record). All sightings on Beaver Creek were within 1.6 - 2.4 km (1 - 1.5 miles) of the creek mouth on Boone Lake.

Hiwassee River, Polk County. A pair of Common Mergansers was seen from 25 March through 16 April 2016 by Jamin Beachy and Mathan Beachy, with the pair observed copulating on the last date (Lewis 2016).

South Holston River, Sullivan County. A female Common Merganser was seen at the weir just downstream from South Holston Dam on 5 July 2015 by Mike Sanders and Don Carrier and again a little further downstream on 18 July by Wallace Coffey (Lewis 2015b).

Nolichucky River, Washington County. A male Common Merganser accompanied by three females was observed on 13 April 2016 by Glen Eller and Pete Range, then again on 21 April by Knight (Lewis 2016). A pair was seen in the same vicinity on 7 March 2017 (RLK, pers. obs.). Although possibly transients, these birds were present during the presumed nesting period for this species, particularly those in 2016. These apparently represent the first records of this species on the Nolichucky River.

In summary, unequivocal evidence of local breeding by Common Mergansers was provided by the brood on the Little River in Blount County, Tennessee. Additionally, records from the Little Pigeon River, Big South Fork, Watauga River, Beaver Creek and Hiwassee River provide compelling evidence of breeding at these sites. Combined with the recent breeding records from Virginia and North Carolina, it is clear that this species is extending its breeding range southward within or near the Appalachian Mountain range, perhaps to reoccupy historic breeding range. Observers should be alert for additional occurrences on clear water rivers in this region and document any further breeding records.

Table 1. Historical nest records of Common Merganser from Smith County, Tennessee.

<u>Date</u>	No. Eggs	Nest site	Reference
28 Apr 1899	9	cavity in cottonwood*, 15 ft high	Kiff 1989
9 May 1898	7	hole in a tree	Kiff 1989
x Apr 1898	9	cavity in cottonwood, 10 ft high	Kiff 1989
21 Apr 1897	9	broken limb of beech*, 18 ft high	Kiff 1989
30 Apr 1897	7	hole in cottonwood, 7 ft high	Kiff 1989
13 May 1896	5 7	hollow tree, 13 ft high	Knight 1989

^{*} cottonwood (Populus deltoides); beech (Fagus grandifolia).

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COMMON MERGANSERS IN SEVIER COUNTY, TENNESSEE 2015 – 2017

J. Keith Watson Pittman Center, Tennessee

On 2 March 2016 an area resident and outdoor enthusiast observed a pair of "mergansers" in a shallow river pool in the Middle Prong of the Little Pigeon River (hereafter referred to as Middle Prong) in the Greenbrier section of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Sevier County, Tennessee. On 6 March 2016 she notified me of the mergansers and stated they looked very "exotic". On 11 March 2016 I travelled into Greenbrier hoping to catch a view of the mergansers, which I assumed to be Hooded Merganser (*Lophodytes cucullatus*), the male certainly having an exotic appearance and not an uncommon resident in the park and surrounding area as migrants and breeders. However, I was surprised to find an adult pair of Common Mergansers (*Mergus merganser*) perched on exposed river rock approximately 672 m (2,204 ft) upriver from the park boundary at State Highway 321 (Figure 1).



Figure 1. Male and female Common Merganser on the Middle Prong of the Little Pigeon River, Great Smoky Mountains National Park, 11 March 2016.

On this day I observed the female lying in the prone position in the river with the male circling her, a pre-copulation behavior; however, no copulation was observed (Figure 2). Following this initial visit, I monitored the pair almost daily throughout the spring. The pair had high site fidelity to this section of the Middle Prong even though it was often crowded with visitors to the park and river. The pair foraged and swam in the area, and rested on exposed river rock; they were easily observed throughout the spring.

The pair was observed together consistently throughout March along this section of the Middle Prong, occasionally straying from the lower section of Greenbrier and being seen in

Pittman Center and farther upstream in the park. Toward the end of March, the female was seen less with the male and often absent for long periods during the day. This behavior is consistent with nest selection and egg laying (Pearce et al. 2015).



Figure 2. Female in prone position for mating while the male is circling her.

On 3 or 4 April, the male departed the area and was not seen again, an indication that the female had begun incubation of eggs (Sandilands 2010). Based on the departure date of the male and the female's behavior, egg hatching was suspected to occur at the end of April or the first week of May (Pearce et al. 2015). Near the end of April, the female was observed on the river more frequently indicating hatching was nearing (Mallory and Lumsden 1994). Great anticipation abounded of this historic breeding event, and efforts were made to have "clutch watches" during the expected hatching period. Several volunteers were recruited and spent time on the river watching for the female and anticipated young. However, the female began to be seen off the river (6 May 2016) in a nearby pond for several evenings during the expected hatch period. She was observed on the river again only one time, on 14 May 2016. After this date, she was not observed again. I assume the nesting attempt failed, and she departed the area.

I shared our observations with several social media forums in 2016. In response, three people who frequently use the Greenbrier section of the park came forward with four additional reports of Common Mergansers in the same area during the spring and summer of 2015. The first report was 3 March 2015 and submitted by a Great Smoky Mountains National Park employee. The second report was in "the spring" (specific date unknown), reported by a photographer. The third and fourth reports were submitted by Pittman Center residents; an undetermined date in "the spring" and the second sighting of the female with 4 or 5 chicks on the Middle Prong in Pittman Center during the 4 and 5 July 2015. The observer stated that the chicks were "tiny and black". The observer stated she and her husband did not know what they were observing, only that these birds were different from any other they had seen on the river previously, and they have lived by the river for most of their adult life. Through their personal search on the internet, they determined that these were Common Mergansers.

On 12 May 2016, I observed another pair of adult Common Mergansers on the Middle Prong in Pittman Center near the Copeland Creek conjunction. This pair was noticeably

different in appearance and stature than the other pair. This pair was observed for a period of two days. Additionally, I observed and photographed a group of 4 Common Mergansers, three males and one female, in the Silva Branch/Flat Creek section of Douglas Lake on 1 March 2015, a distance of 16 km (10 miles) from the territory on the Middle Prong.

By the winter of 2017 area residents and bird enthusiasts were well aware that the birds were likely to return to the area, and many kept a watchful eye. On 29 January 2017, an adult pair of Common Merganser was observed near Sevierville, Tennessee on the Middle Prong but several miles downstream from the Greenbrier territory. The pair was monitored and by the first of March, they had gradually worked their way upriver and were fairly well situated in the Greenbrier section of the Middle Prong and in Pittman Center. The pair moved around extensively in February, observed from Sevierville to near the Ranger Station in Greenbrier, a river distance of 17.7 kilometers (11 miles). Once settled, the pair used the same area extensively as in 2016, exhibiting the usual behaviors associated with breeding and nesting; however, no copulation was observed. One significant departure from 2016 timeline is that the male had left the area by 20 March 2016, at least two weeks earlier than in 2017. Perhaps the pair is adjusting their breeding timeline due to the familiarity with each other and the area. The female was observed in March and was expected to have young by the end of April. However, once again, she was seen away from the river and on a nearby pond during the expected hatch time. She was watched several days for return trips to the river, but she could not be located and no young were observed. Again, the assumption is that the nesting attempt failed for the second consecutive year.

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FIRST CONFIRMED BREEDING BY COMMON MERGANSERS IN TENNESSEE IN MORE THAN A CENTURY

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A female Common Merganser (*Mergus merganser*) with ducklings spent part of Memorial Day 2017 swimming near my home in Walland, Blount County, Tennessee. On 29 May 2017, my wife and I, along with our three-year-old son, decided to go for a swim in the Little River behind our house. I stepped into the fast-moving current and immediately spotted the birds perched on a rock approximately 150 m (420 ft) upstream. Being only an occasional birder, yet having a basic working knowledge of the natural history of the Southern Appalachian Mountains, I knew I was looking at something unusual.

Hurrying back to my house, I grabbed my pair of Leica binoculars and a field guide. In order to get a better view unobstructed by thick riparian vegetation, I had to leave shore and wade back into the river. The birds were still there: a female Common Merganser with eight young. The current in that section of river is swift, making difficult my attempts to steady my hands while using my wife's iPhone to capture a photo through the lens of the binoculars. When I took several steps forward in order to find better footing and smoother waters, the birds departed the rock and began swimming upstream, away from me. I would not see them again along our stretch of river.

The following day I reported the sighting to Logan Rosenberg, my colleague at Great Smoky Mountains Institute at Tremont, who captured the birds on camera on 3 June near Walland Center. A nest was never located, but multiple members of the local birding community made additional sightings of the birds in the days that followed (Figure 1). According to Keith Watson of Pittman Center, Common Mergansers may have nested in Sevier County in 2015, in the Greenbrier area of Great Smoky Mountains National Park, though no photographic evidence was obtained (Watson 2018). The Common Mergansers spotted near my house were the first confirmed of breeding Common Mergansers in Tennessee since 1899 (Knight 1989).



Figure 1 . Female Common Merganser with eight nearly grown young on 10 June 2017 on the Little River in Blount County, Tennessee. *Photo by: Warren Bielenberg*.

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BOOK REVIEW — THE CROSSLEY ID GUIDE: WATERFOWL

The Crossley ID Guide: Waterfowl. Richard Crossley, Paul Baicich, and Jessie Barry. Crossley Books, West Cape May, NJ, 2017. 510 pages. <u>www.crossleybooks.com</u>.

Bird identification guides have made huge advances in the use of pictures for birds and habitats in the last few decades. With the most recent guide, *The Crossley ID Guide: Waterfowl* (2017), Richard Crossley, Paul Baicich and Jessie Barry continue to break new and exciting ground. This field guide covers all the ducks, geese and swans of North America in over 5,000 photos on approximately 300 pages of plates, including pictures and descriptions of wing patterns. Furthermore, individual species accounts and a chapter on waterfowl and wetlands conservation round out the information provided. Scattered throughout the book are "mystery images" and quizzes to keep the learning interactive.

One rationale for the Crossley-style approach is to help an observer develop a reality for a mental picture of birds in the field. As a result, the plates of images include clear identification marks for birds that are close, but also include depth; that is, field marks for birds at a variety of distances. In addition, plates include birds in winter/spring as well as summer/fall, birds in different plumages, and both male and female birds at different ages. All birds are pictured in a wide variety of behavior and action, from flying to feeding and resting. To accentuate field marks for identification of species as well as ageing and sexing at different distances, each plate has a background picture of a typical habitat for the species addressed. While I found the plates a little difficult to interpret at first, in the field I found that with very little practice I could quickly understand and better "see" field marks in a way that helped me with identification.

One section of the guide focuses on upper wing pattern to help observers identify waterfowl to species, age and sex. Each plate includes pictures and a discussion of wing pattern for immature and adult of both male and female. This is an especially valuable addition to any duck hunter's blind as well as any birder's backpack. The individual species accounts are comprehensive and go far beyond the identification and range maps included in most field guides. I particularly like the sections in each account on "Year in the Life" which describes the species annual life cycle. Sections on "Hunting" and "Population and Conservation" provide information on the importance of the species as a gamebird and the population estimates and trends over the years.

The final chapter is a comprehensive review of the history of waterfowl and wetlands conservation in North America. The history of successful waterfowl conservation is one that well illustrates what birders and hunters can do together. As a long-time birder and a waterfowl hunter, I appreciate the way this book addresses the needs and interests common to both groups. It is a guide for study and use before, during, and after time in the field with waterfowl for improved identification and a deeper understanding and appreciation of this group of North America's birds.

Bob Ford, Brownsville, Tennessee

ROUND TABLE NOTES

PREY SELECTION OF BARN OWLS AT BARK CAMP BARRENS WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA - Bark Camp Barrens Wildlife Management Area (WMA) is located northeast of Manchester, Tennessee in rural Coffee County. It is managed by Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency primarily for game species, including Wild Turkey (Meleagris gallopavo), and Northern Bobwhite (Colinus virginianus).

Barn Owl (*Tyto alba*) is a species of concern in Tennessee. It is usually associated with open fields, grasslands, and agricultural land. In 2008 a Barn Owl box was placed in a barn on a section of the WMA of approximately 100 ha (250 acres) of mixed woods and open fields. In 2013 the box was cleaned of all material, and I analyzed the total biomass of 6.57 kilograms (14.5 lbs). Most of the material consisted of regurgitated pellets containing the bones and fur of prey animals. Pellet analysis can provide substantial data on the preference, existence, and abundance of prey species within the owl's range, which can be helpful in evaluating habitat components to support Barn Owl populations.

Unbroken pellets were examined individually while broken pellets and compacted pellet material were examined en masse. In total, 2,014 prey animals occurred in pellets. Prairie Vole (*Microtus ochrogaster*) was the principal prey, comprising 66%; shrew (*Sorex* sp.) was second at 14%. There were 129 rodent skulls and 111 shrew skulls that were not identifiable due to age and wear of the pellets. Most studies in the southern United States (Hamilton and Neil 1981, Huston and Nelson 1994, Tedards 1963) have found that Cotton Rat (*Sigmodon hispidus*) is the primary prey species of Barn Owls; however, in this study Cotton Rat represented only 4.5% of the biomass.

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Polly Rooker, Chapmansboro, Tennessee

CERULEAN WARBLER FAMILY UNIT ENCOUNTER -- Cerulean Warblers (*Setophaga cerulean*) are long distance migrants that breed across much of the northern half of the eastern United States and into Canada and spend the nonbreeding season on the eastern slopes of the Andes Mountains in South America. Based on Breeding Bird Survey results, Rosenberg et al. (2016) document a population decline of 72% between 1970 and 2014 and estimate that the current population may decline another 50% in 26 years without direct conservation actions.

The Tennessee River Gorge in southeast Tennessee is near the southernmost limit of their breeding range in the Appalachian Mountains. As a result, monitoring and documentation of successful nesting for this species continue to be a high priority to ensure it maintains a viable population here.

On the morning of 19 June 2014 at the intersection of the Pot Point Trail and River Canyon Road in Marion County, Tennessee, I observed four birds approaching my location through the leaf cover. One bird perched near the open edge of the branches in clear view at approximately 6 m (20 ft); it was a male Cerulean Warbler. The other three birds stopped in the darker confines of the leaf cover but continued to move about. Two of the three birds remained in cover, but I was able to observe them exhibiting begging behavior towards the other bird.

Although I did not get a definitive view of the two birds exhibiting the begging behavior due to the poor lighting conditions and cover, I am confident they were associated with the other two birds because they approached with them and remained with them throughout my observation. The fourth bird finally came out of the cover though did not come as close as the male. However, I did get a clear look at it from about 8 m (26 ft). It was a female Cerulean.

Based on my field experience with this species, the date of the observation, and the exhibition of the begging behavior, I feel certain this was a family unit of Cerulean Warblers that had nested nearby in the Tennessee River Gorge. A similar and nearby nest record is documented in the files of the Tennessee River Gorge Trust Stewardship. A family unit of five Cerulean Warblers, three males and two females were banded within 1,200 m (3,937 ft) of my observation on July 1, 1996 by Kevin Calhoon and David Vogt.

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Rick Huffines, Hamilton County, Tennessee

RARE YELLOW VARIANT OF THE SCARLET TANAGER -- On 6 June 2015 Jacki Henshaw, Rob Armistead and I were birding in Unicoi County, Tennessee. We were walking on Rich Mountain Road along the margin of a regenerating burn area within the Cherokee National Forest when we spotted a bright yellow bird in an oak tree about 20 m (65 ft) away. I noted the following characteristics during five minutes of study through 10X binoculars. The bird's size and shape were that of a tanager, including the bill shape. Its wings were unmarked jet black and the tail was black. The plumage underneath and on the lower back was bright lemon yellow, while the head was orange blending into yelloworange on the upper back. My initial impression of the bird was of a male Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*); however, it lacked wing bars and the back was yellow-orange rather than black. The combination of size, shape, and solid black wings led me to conclude that it was an adult male Scarlet Tanager (*Piranga olivacea*), albeit unlike any other that I have ever seen. The yellow on this bird was much brighter than any typical female or juvenile Scarlet Tanager, and it lacked any olive tones.

A similar "brilliant adult male yellow morph" Scarlet Tanager was observed by Simon Thompson on 26 April 2015 along the Cherohala Skyway, Graham County, in western North Carolina. Could both sightings have been of the same individual six weeks and 160 km (100 miles) apart or were two such aberrantly plumaged individuals present in the Southern Appalachians?

LITERATURE CITED

Southern, J. 2015. Briefs for the files, The Chat 79:125-139

Richard L. Knight, Johnson City, Tennessee.

THE 2017 TENNESSEE CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT SUMMARY

Ron Hoff Loudon, Tennessee

The 2017 Tennessee Christmas Bird Count (CBC) season was the 74th consecutive compilation of CBC's in Tennessee, and the 87th overall. Twenty-eight counts with 508 observers recorded 166 species. The relatively new Duck River count tallied the highest count total with 129 species, eclipsing the old record of 124 at Reelfoot. The weather across the state was the usual mix, but only a few counts had rain affecting outcomes. Several counts had windy conditions to deal with as well. Temperatures ranged from a brittle 6° F at Hickory-Priest to a warm 70° F at Cade's Cove (despite heavy rains).

Scarlet Tanager, found on two counts, was a new species for the Tennessee CBC compilation, bringing the total to 269. Other count highlights included Eurasian Wigeon, Northern Goshawk, Sora, Solitary Sandpiper, Glaucous Gull, Least Flycatcher, Whiteeyed Vireo, and Barn Swallow. Notable low totals were recorded for Northern Bobwhite, continuing the downward trend for this species in Tennessee.

COUNT SUMMARIES

cw = count week species (3 days before and 3 days after actual count date, but not on count day) F/Y = feeder/yard watcher

BIG SANDY – BGSA (36.34050°, -88.08210°) - 17 December; 0615-1915. Weather: light rain; 41-52° F. Surf Scoter, Lesser Black-backed and Glaucous gulls were notable. Observers: Joseph Hall, Cyndi Routledge, Steve Routledge, Ruben Stoll, and Victor Stoll (compiler).

BRISTOL – BRST (36.58300°, -82.10000°) – 31 December; 0715-1730. Weather: partly cloudy; wind N 0-13 mph; 19-23° F. Highlights included Tundra Swans, Surf and Whitewinged Scoters, Long-tailed Duck, and Peregrine Falcon. Observers: Rob Biller, Richard Blanton, Ron Carrico, Mary Clark, Angela Cross, Rack Cross, Sam Evans, Matt Fleenor, Ron Harrington, Rick Knight, Roy Knispel, Phillip Lewis, Richard Lewis (compiler), and Thomas McNeil.

BUFFALO RIVER – BUFF (35.30000°, -87.46700°) – 14 December; 0630-1630. Weather: partly cloudy; wind N 0-10 mph; 26-45° F. Least Sandpiper, Barn Owl, and Brewer's Blackbird were notable. Observers: Bernie Fuller, Ann Hartsfield, Tim Hartsfield, Jud Johnston, Paul Kittle, Frances Markine, Gary Markine, Warren Massey, Fran Menapace, Royce Neidert, Polly Rooker, Damien Simbeck (Co-compiler), Don Simbeck (Co-compiler), Soiree-Leone Sinclair, and Jane Worn.

CADE'S COVE – CADE (35.60000°, -83.83300°) – 23 December; 0730-1715. Weather: overcast with strong winds (35 mph gusts) in the morning, followed by heavy rains in

early afternoon; 54-70° F. Observers: Jean Alexander, Kat Barrow, Rick Barrow, Wanda DeWaard, Daniel Geleynse, Julianne Geleynse, Paul Hartigan, Susan Hoyle (compiler), Jim Human, David Johnson, Tony King, Martha Rudolph, Marianne Searfoss, and June Welch.

CHATTANOOGA - CHAT (35.10000°, -85.23300°) – 16 December; 0530-1930. Weather: clear; 25-45° F. Osprey was a new species. Highlights included Peregrine Falcon and Blueheaded Vireo. Observers: David Aborn, Tim Baker, Nelson Bennett, Harold Birch, Gary Brunvoll, Kevin Calhoon (compiler), Eli Davidson, John Diener, Lizzie Diener, Chelsea Feast, Danny Gaddy, Bob Goodrich, William Haley, Tegan Hendricks, Daniel Jacobson, Kathy Jacobson, Gary Lanham, Pixie Lanham, Jonnie Sue Lyons, Mike McMahan, Tommie Rogers, Caryn Ross, Jeffrey Schaarschmidt, Susan Schott, and Dan Williams.

CLARKSVILLE - CLRK (36.50000°, -87.38300°) – 16 December; times not given. Weather: clear; wind SW 21-27 mph; 30-53° F. Forster's Tern and Lapland Longspur were notable. Observers: Jackie Bastin, Suva Bastin, John Beasley, Alan Bottomlee, Tammy Devine, Elaine Foust, Joe Hall, Deborah Hamilton (Compiler), Steve Hamilton, Joshua Kee, Daniel Moss, Polly Rooker, Cyndi Routledge, Steve Routledge, Nicole Santoyo, Joe Schiller, Sally Schiller (F/Y), Brandy Schnettler, Paul Schwab, Rick Shipkowski, and Barbara Wilbur.

DUCK RIVER – DUCK (35.53300°, -86.90000°) - 23 December; 0500-1830. Weather: rain in the morning, wide spread flooding from heavy rain day before; wind NW 15-20 mph; 38-48° F. New species included Eurasian Wigeon, Northern Goshawk, Short-eared Owl, Spotted Sandpiper, Solitary Sandpiper, Dunlin, Sedge Wren, and Harris's Sparrow. Observers: Jim Arnett, Adam Beachy, Evan Beachy, Jamin Beachy, Malon Beachy, Nathan Beachy, Seth Beachy, Susanna Beachy, Victor Beachy, Graham Gerdaman, David Kinsinger, James Schrock, Ruben Stoll (compiler), Victor Stoll, Judith Swartz, Martha Swartz, Alan Troyer, Leona Troyer, Chloe Walker, and Nolan Walker.

ELIZABETHTON – **ELIZ** (36.33300°, -82.12300°) – 16 December; 05100-1730. Weather: clear to partly cloudy, 0-2" of snow cover; wind SW 5-10 mph; 21-49° F. Highlights included Greater White-fronted Goose, Ruddy Duck, Red-headed Woodpecker, Blueheaded Vireo and Gray Catbird. Observers: Fred Alsop, Jim Anderson, Jerry Bevins, Rob Biller, Rick Blanton, Kevin Brooks, Gil Derouen, Harry Lee Farthing, Dave Gardner, Carl Hacker, Jackie Hinshaw, David Irick, Rick Knight (compiler), Roy Knispel, Richard Lewis, Joe McGuiness, Charles Moore, Brookie Potter, Jean Potter, Brenda Richards, Chris Soto, Amber Stanley, Bryan Stevens, Kim Stroud, and Scott Turner.

FAYETTE – FACO (35.20000°, -89.42000°) – 15 December; 0645-1645. Weather: cloudy to clear; 33-51° F. Notable sightings included Ross's Goose (new for this count), Barn Owl, Blue-headed Vireo, Marsh Wren, and LeConte's Sparrow. Observers: Ginny Bell, Michael Collins, Judy Dorsey, Fields Falcone (co-compiler), Kate Gooch (co-compiler), Rob Harbin, Van Harris, David Higelman, Gaynell Perry, Dick Preston, Agnes Stark, Allen Trently, Martha Waldron, and Dick Whittington.

FRANKLIN/COFFEE COUNTIES – FRCO (35.30200°, -86.05700°) – 18 December; 0800-1200. Weather: fog and light rain to partly clear; wind SW 7-10 mph; 48-52° F. Observers: Dwain Adams, Joyce Adams, Larry Bowers, Jim Harwell, Rachel Harwell, Ruth Ann Henry, Janet Hill, Cheryl King, John Lamb, Laura McCall, Monica Oosting, LouAnn Partington, Polly Rooker, Rhonda Seitzinger, Kraig Smith, Kerry Syler, Marie Syler, and Lisa Trail. Murray King (non participating compiler).

GREAT SMOKEY MOUNTAINS N. P. - GSMT (35.71700°, -83.48300°) – 17 December; 0630-1730. Weather: overcast with periods of rain and strong winds in the afternoon; 27-48° F. Gray Catbird and Scarlet Tanager were noteworthy. Observers: Riley Aldrich, Mark Armstrong, Tiffany Beachy, Warren Bielenberg (compiler), Tommy Bird, Rebecca Bradford, Melissa Crisp, Lisa Duff, Daniel Geleynse, Julianne Geleynse, Frances Hensley, Tony King, Andrea Kupfer, Herb Kupfer, Julie Labhart, Jaimie Matzko, Dana Murphy, Becky Nichols, Ron Oliver, Doug Schnellenberg, Judy Steadman, Kendra Straub, Debbie Troutman, Jeff Troutman, Don Utterback, Keith Watson, Stacey Whetstone, and Mirand Zwingelberg.

HICKORY-PRIEST - HKPR (36.20000°, -86.66700°) – 1 January; 0500-1700. Weather: fog to clear in the afternoon; wind NW 5-15 mph; 6-25° F. Observers: Phillip Casteel, Richard Connors (co-compiler), Jerry Drewry, Richard Fox, Tarcila Fox (co-compiler), Steven Goodbred, John Kell, Brad Mitchell, Colleen Mitchell, Sarah Scott, Jan Shaw, Mike Smith, and Joe Stone.

HIWASSEE – HIWA (35.36700°, -84.90000°) – 1 January; 0600-1800. Weather: clear; wind 0-8 mph; 9-25° F. Tundra Swan, Whooping Crane, Forster's Tern, and Gray Catbird were highlights. Observers: David Aborn, Nelson Bennett, Harold Birch, Kevin Calhoon (compiler), John Dever, Lizzie Diener, John Diener, Chelsea Feast, Danny Gaddy, William Haley, Rick Houlk, Charles Murray, Tommie Rogers, Jeffrey Schaarschmidt, Susan Schott, David Spicer, Luke Thompson, Paige Thompson, and Libby Wolfe.

JACKSON – JKSN (35.61700°, -88.81700°) – 30 December; 0645-1730. Weather: overcast; wind N 9-18 mph; 23-40° F. Ross's Goose and Gray Catbird were notable. Observers: Maureen Ellis, Bob Ford, Mattie Ford, Mark Greene (compiler), Rick Light, Beth Peterson, Kathy Sellars, and Allen Trently.

KINGSPORT – KGSP (36.50000°, -82.51370°) - 30 December; 0630-1720. Weather: cloudy with flurries in the afternoon; 28-36° F. Common Merganser, Peregrine Falcon, and Blue-gray Gnatcatcher were notable. Observers: Betty Bailey, Gary Bailey, Rob Biller, Rick Blanton, Belinda Bridwell, George Bridwell, Sandy Caster, Ben Chaney, Sunny Chaney, Angela Cross, Rack Cross, Glen Eller, Bambi Fincher, William Grigsby (compiler), Jean Henson, Neal Henson, Mike Hubley, Susan Hubley, Jack Kinkade, Nancy Kinkade, Rick Knight, Roy Knispel, Priscilla Little, Cathy McNeil, Thomas McNeil, Jennifer Meade, Rick Phillips, Sherrie Quillen, Peter Range, Gale Starnes, and Penny Starnes.

KNOXVILLE - KNOX (35.91700°, -84.08300°) - 30 December; 0545-1832. Weather: clear; wind W 0-15 mph; 29-39° F. Ross's Goose (previously only a count week species), Sora, and White-eye Vireo were new species. Other highlights included Greater Whitefronted Goose, Marsh Wren, Greater Scaup, and Gray Catbird. Observers: Mark Armstrong, Khushboo Bafna, Stephen Lyn Bales, Rachel Barker, Frank Bills, DeeDee Blane, Sharon Bostick, Sean Brereton, Doug Bruce, Gail Clendenen, Steve Clendenen, Abigail Duvail, K. Dean Edwards (compiler), Chuck Estes, Melinda Fawver, Patty Ford, Carole Gobert, Cheryl Greenacre, Dottie Habel, Paul Hartigan, Vickie Henderson, Ron Hoff, Angela Hoffman, Tom Howe, David Howell, Susan Hoyle, Kirk Huffstater, James Human, Kristine Johnson, Bill Keeler, Tony King, Toby Koosman, Jerry Ledbetter, Morton Massey, Seth McConchie, Janet Lee McKnight, Jennifer Miller, Dollyann Myers, Denise Nauman, Charles P. Nicholson, Amber Parker, Karen Petrey, Joseph Pyle, Talissa Ralph, Jo Roy, Kelly Roy, Martha Rudolph, Michael Ryon, Elizabeth Schilling, Shantanu Shukla, Kurt Sickafus, Nickolus Stahlman, Linda Steffens, Susie Stout, Jimmy Tucker, Dean Turley, Katie Wakefield, Merikay Waldvogel, Chris Welsh, Deb Welsh, Eddy Whitson, and Michael Winck.

LEBANON – **LEBN** (36.19440, -86.38920) - 30 December. Weather: cloudy; wind NW 5-13 mph; 30-36° F. Vesper Sparrow was notable. Observers: Chris Agee, Jason Dill, William Fissell, Todd Foster, Kenneth Gum, Karen Hudson, Mary Beth Kappel, Justin Nation, Robin Nation, Greg Tomerline, Melissa Turrentine, Roy Turrentine, Anne Maples Vaught, and Stephen Zipperer (compiler).

MEMPHIS - MPHS (35.15000°, -89.93300°) - 17 December; 0430-1900. Weather: cloudy with light rain in the morning; wind 4-17 mph; 42-49° F. Highlights included Cackling Goose, Mute Swan, Blue-headed Vireo, and Sedge Wren. Observers: Betty Blaylock, David Blaylock, Chad Brown, Michael Collins, Judy Dorsey, Gregg Elliot, Sue Ferguson, Austyn Harriman, Van Harris, David Hilgeman, Margaret Jefferson (compiler), Lisa Jorgensen, Keith Kunkel, Brooke Miller, George Payne, Gaynell Perry, Dick Preston, Virginia Reynolds, Mary Schmidt, Nick Smith, Edwin Thomas, Alan Trently, Nitya Vital, Steven Wagner, Jim Waldron, and Martha Waldron.

NASHVILLE – NASH (36.05000°, -86.93300°) – 17 December; 0530-1730. Weather: partly sunny; 28-51° F. Harris's and Lincoln's sparrows were notable. Observers: Dane Anderson, Rachel Anderson, Kristy Baker, Scott Bender, Sandy Bivens, Susan Bradfield, Jean Buchanan, Ed Byrne, Richard Connors, Ian Duvenhage, Susan Duvenhage, Francis Fekel, Tarcila Fox, John Froeschauer, Amanda Fulda, Kevin Fulda, Heather Gallager, Steve Goodbred, Kristin Hopkins, John Kell, Dennis Lovell, Camille Monohan, Bethany Pierce, Amy Potter, Marion Pratt (co-compiler), Jan Shaw, Kathy Shaw, Sheila Shay, Mike Smith, Rita Venable, LinnAnn Welch, Melinda Welton, Mary Glynn Williamson, Meagan Winans, Schuyler Winans, and Mary Zimmerman. Non-participating co-compilers: Scott Block and Ann Inouye.

NICKAJACK LAKE - NKJK (35.06700°, -85.51700°) - 27 December; 0445-1715.

Weather: cloudy to partly cloudy; 29-48° F. Highlights included Osprey, Golden Eagle, and Loggerhead Shrike. Observers: Nelson Bennett, Harold Birch, Bruce Dralle, Danny Gaddy, William Haley, Tommie Rogers, David Spicer (compiler), Jonathan Spicer, Scott Spicer, and Libby Wolfe.

NORRIS – NORR (36.21700°, -84.08300°) - 16 December: 0615-1715. Weather: calm to windy in the afternoon; 21-48° F. Orange-crowned Warbler was a new species for this count. Northern Harrier, Sandhill Crane, and House Wren were also noteworthy. Observers: Doug Bruce, Char Chang, Nikhil Deshmukh, Tyler Edmondson, Chuck Estes, Lola Estes, Melinda Fawver, Julie Ferrara, Ron Hoff, Harold Howell, Susan Hoyle, Bill Keeler, Tony King, Dollyann Myers, Charles Nicholson (compiler), Martha Rudolph, Ron Shrieves, and Dan Thomas.

PERRY COUNTY – PRRY (35.70800°, -87.77500°) - 16 December; 0430-1830. Weather: partly cloudy; wind SW 5-15 mph; 28-48° F. Greater White-fronted Goose, Ross's Goose, Cackling Goose, Redhead, Sandhill Crane, Whooping Crane, Short-eared Owl, Marsh Wren, Lapland Longspur, Scarlet Tanager, Western Meadowlark, and Brewer's Blackbird were all new. Observers: Adam Beachy, Evan Beachy, Seth Beachy, Joseph Byler, David Kinsinger, James Shrock, Ruben Stoll (compiler), Victor Stoll, Alan Troyer, and Leona Troyer.

REELFOOT LAKE – REEL (36.41700°, -89.38300°) – 16 December; 0630-1730. Weather: partly cloudy to clear; wind S 5-10 mph; 33-55° F. Glaucous Gull was a new species. Other notable sightings included Sora, Little Gull (cw), Barn Swallow, and Common Yellowthroat. Observers: Chris Agee, Jerry Drewry, Maureen Ellis, Rob Ellis, Bob Foehring, Graham Gerdeman, Mark Greene (compiler), Mark Haas, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Joshua Stevenson, Joe Stone, Mike Todd, and Allan Trently.

ROAN MOUNTAIN – **ROAN** (36.10600°, -82.11100°) – 17 December; 0600-1615. Weather: cloudy with drizzle afternoon; wind SSW 0-10 mph; 23-44° F. Up to 4 inches of snow blanketed the area; roads were clear. Observers: Fred Alsop, Jim Anderson, Rick Blanton, Kevin Brooks, Rick Knight (compiler), Roy Knispel, Guy McGrane, Judi Sawyer, Amber Stanley, and Charles Warden.

SAVANNAH – SVNH (35.13300°, -88.15000°) – 3 January; 0630-1715. Weather: partly cloudy to clear; 18-28° F. Twenty-five species of waterfowl and Barn Owl were of note. Observers: Dwight Cooley, Jeff Garner, Marcus Johnson, David King, Frances Markine, Gary Markine, Warren Massey, Jack Paul, Floyd Sherrod, Damien Simbeck (compiler), Ruben Stoll, Victor Stoll, Andrew Suddith, Alan Troyer, and Daniel Twedt.

SHADY VALLEY/MOUNTAIN CITY – SHDV (36.50000°, -81.85000°) – 22 December; 0630-1530. Weather: cloudy to clear; 28-60° F. Observers: Robert Biller (co-compiler), Rick Blanton, Ronald Carrico, Rack Cross, Harry Lee Farthing, Rick Knight, Richard Lewis, Guy

McGrane, and Thomas McNeil (co-compiler).

WARREN COUNTY – WRRN (35.66700°, -85.76700°) – 3 January; 0500-1600. Weather: cloudy to partly cloudy; wind SW 0-10 mph; 16-38° F. A count week Golden Eagle was noteworthy. Observers: Judy C. Fuson, Gregg Garrison (compiler) Nancy S. Layzer, Mac McWhirter, Susan McWhirter, Stephen J. Stedman, and Carole Williams.

WHITE COUNTY - WHTE (35.90800°, -85.59800°) – 16 December; 00-1. Weather: clear; 20-51° F. Snow Goose and Virginia Rail were highlights. Observers: Daniel Combs, Darcie Cripps, Douglas A. Downs (compiler), Michael Hawkins, Nancy S. Layzer, Edmund K. LeGrand, Joseph Mast, Allen Nabors, Richard Pirkle, Kathryn Uziel, Carol D. Williams, and Reuben Yoder.

2017 TENNESEE CBC

Count Names	MPHS	FACO	REEL	JKSN	SVNH	BGSA	DUCK	PRRY	BUFF	CLRK	NSHV	HKPR	LEBN
Count date	17-Dec	15-Dec	16-Dec	30-Dec	3-Jan	17-Dec	23-Dec	16-Dec	14-Dec	16-Dec	16-Dec	1-Jan	30-Dec
Species					,							,	
Snow Goose	2	408	250982		8	201	2628	6	_	3	_	3	_
Ross's Goose	_	1	29	1	_	24	154	1	_	_	_	4	_
Snow/Ross's goose	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_
Greater White-fronted													
Goose	2	_	926	_	_	450	4931	5	_	_	_	_	_
Cackling Goose	1	_	-	_	_	6	134	3	_	_	_	cw	-
Canada Goose	1014	46	17	81	477	292	240	268	60	154	101	224	108
Mute Swan	1	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_
Tundra Swan	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_
Swan sp.	4	_	2	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_
Wood Duck	60	17	9	1	2	2	206	21	_	_	1	_	6
Blue-winged Teal	_	_	_	_	_	_	1	_	_	_	_	_	_
Northern Shoveler	110	_	277	28	347	32	86	_	_	_	5	78	6
Gadwall	254	_	415	15	247	2180	20992	41	_	12	30	74	67
Eurasian Wigeon	_	_	_	_	_	_	1	_	_	_	_	_	_
American Wigeon	-	_	34	_	4	300	885	1	_	_	3	8	3
Mallard	198	67	5148	188	412	4540	77954	376	2	65	78	326	153
American Black Duck	-	_	2	_	3	44	29	2	_	_	_	1	_
Northern Pintail	-	_	35	7	53	20	13529	4	_	_	_	1	6
Green-winged Teal	-	_	412	2	45	463	1136	_	_	_	5	3	_
Canvasback	-	_	26	2	112	625	48	_	_	3	_	9	_
Redhead	-	_	1	-	27	-	7	6	-	_	-	cw	1
Ring-necked Duck	140	10	61	18	265	670	2230	27	2	2	14	64	23
Greater Scaup	-	-	1	-	19	93	2	-	-	_	-	-	_
Lesser Scaup	95	_	352	-	219	450	196	30	-	_	8	3	_
Surf Scoter	-	-	-	-	2	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
White-winged Scoter	-	_	-	-	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black Scoter	-	_	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Long-tailed Duck	-	_	-	-	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bufflehead	23	_	183	-	304	266	592	4	-	-	2	25	40
Common Goldeneye	-	-	3	-	135	600	23	2	4	-	-	22	-
Hooded Merganser	178	22	68	36	17	13	60	3	8	-	-	196	20
Common Merganser	-	-	-	-	1	cw	1	-	-	-	-	4	-
Red-breasted Merganser	-	-	9	-	2	28	36	-	-	-	-	4	-
Ruddy Duck	28	-	1685	1	5	60	33	-	-	-	42	21	37
Duck sp.	-	-	-	-	201	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-
Northern Bobwhite	-	-	2	-	-	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	1
Ruffed Grouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wild Turkey	12	-	7	31	3	28	5	1	4	215	42	cw	75
Pied-billed Grebe	19	1	115	3	101	26	23	4	15	4	8	50	24

Count Names	MPHS	FACO	REEL	JKSN	SVNH	BGSA	DUCK	PRRY	BUFF	CLRK	NSHV	HKPR	LEBN
Horned Grebe	_	_	10	_	77	96	28	_	_	_	_	26	_
Rock Pigeon	260	_	14	315	100	1	67	23	28	110	118	27	180
Eurasian Collared-Dove	59	1	2	1	17	-	9	3	18	1	5	_	13
Mourning Dove	271	5	109	129	240	21	154	143	204	42	43	12	410
Rufous Hummingbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Virginia Rail	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sora	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Coot	11	-	57	-	2134	30	60	-	-	18	-	226	-
Sandhill Crane	-	-	-	-	7	-	2	4	-	-	1	-	-
Whooping Crane	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-
Killdeer	116	96	795	101	477	62	113	214	168	42	32	26	37
Dunlin	1	-	cw	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-
Least Sandpiper	64	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
American Woodcock	-	-	1	-	cw	-	4	4	2	-	-	-	-
Wilson's Snipe	20	3	172	7	19	30	28	97	77	32	-	-	15
Spotted Sandpiper	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Solitary Sandpiper	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Greater Yellowlegs	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bonaparte's Gull	1	-	1125	-	279	100	411	1850	-	8	-	59	39
Little Gull	-	-	cw	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ring-billed Gull	135	-	14370	3	6218	851	1332	574	-	40	4	1581	70
Herring Gull	6	-	5	-	103	90	10	4	-	1	-	2	-
Lesser Black-backed Gull	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Glaucous Gull	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Forster's Tern	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
Red-throated Loon	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Loon	-	-	-	-	51	155	-	-	-	-	-	47	-
Double-crested Cormora	nt 1	-	347	-	cw	6	220	1	-	2	-	-	-
American White Pelican	-	-	464	-	-	35	239	15	-	30	-	-	-
Great Blue Heron	40	6	34	7	49	26	77	23	10	25	11	45	12
Great Egret	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-
Green Heron	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black-crowned Night-													
Heron	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	11	-
Black Vulture	20	35	88	124	69	22	45	96	73	95	208	203	165
Turkey Vulture	7	141	113	150	125	72	76	152	159	130	24	11	14
Osprey	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bald Eagle	2	2	87	3	25	8	42	12	4	7	1	8	1
Northern Harrier	7	2	40	3	28	3	23	5	5	3	-	-	1
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1	-	1	1	3	-	2	1	3	-	2	-	2
Cooper's Hawk	5	1	3	2	3	1	3	2	4	3	3	-	5
Northern Goshawk	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Accipiter sp.	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-shouldered Hawk	19	8	19	9	23	8	17	22	7	13	5	6	5

FRCO	WRRN	WHTI	E NKIK	СНАТ	' HIWA	KNOX	NORR	CADE	GSMT	KGSP	ELIZ	ROAN	BSTL	SHDY	TOTALS
-	_	3	24	47	_	12	14	_	_	_	27	_	4	_	368
18	103	115	147	995	1	512	171	22	102	500	305	19	166	53	4472
2	4	5	3	10	10	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	164
191	87	198	80	232	188	571	89	14	104	321	157	70	230	230	4545
-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
122	-	1	1651	3094	3	250	26	-	-	13	-	-	18	-	7714
205	2	4	47	213	10773	43	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11303
-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
83	55	95	16	38	29	79	30	-	25	27	17	-	5	22	2800
-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17
75	-	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	151
-	-	-	1	3	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	18
-	9	14	1	-	4	12	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	543
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	2 1
-	-	_	-	_	_	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	1
_	_	_	241	196	213	385	29	_	_	_	_	_	3	_	4939
_	_	_		-	-	-	_	_	_	_	_	_	-	_	cw
219	32	61	1336	1480	743	8487	381	_	5	166	27	_	500	_	38615
-	-	-	2	3	1	12	-	_	-	-	-	_	1	_	240
_	_	_	-	_	_	-	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	1
_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	2
-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
7	-	1	3	69	-	cw	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	335
90	-	1	154	16	222	49	-	-	-	31	-	-	1	-	1141
-	-	-	-	-	30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	813
18	8	27	42	57	64	198	19	3	15	36	18	3	30	9	912
-	-	-	-	-	1	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	22
-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16
59	29	95	59	98	86	135	98	2	-	317	3	-	15	32	2271
34	11	127	38	37	18	6	74	-	-	108	12	-	36	27	1702
-	-	-	1 11	1	-	- 0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
- 5	2	2	-	14	28	8 -	3 1	3	-	6	3	-	3	-	280 132
2	-	_	-	-	1	2	-	-	2	2	1	-	2	1	29
7	5	5	1	3	-	16	3	2	2	6	2	1	3	1	92
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	_	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
-	_	_	_	_	_	2	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	3
_	8	10	7	11	4	20	11	3	3	2	2	1	_	7	250
	3	10	,	- 1	1	20			0	-	_	•		,	250

Count Names	MPHS	FACO	REEL	JKSN	SVNH	BGSA	DUCK	PRRY	BUFF	CLRK	NSHV	HKPR	LEBN
Red-tailed Hawk	42	20	76	14	65	5	43	48	25	29	24	18	20
Buteo sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	_	-	_	-	_	-	_
Golden Eagle	-	-	-	-	cw	cw	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Barn Owl	-	1	-	-	2	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-
Eastern Screech-Owl	-	-	5	1	5	-	1	6	2	-	3	2	2
Great Horned Owl	3	-	6	1	1	-	5	1	2	-	3	-	1
Barred Owl	3	2	6	1	6	-	9	8	1	5	1	1	-
Short-eared Owl	2	-	4	-	2	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-
Belted Kingfisher	14	3	7	6	10	2	19	11	10	11	9	10	12
Red-headed Woodpecker	6	18	4	1	20	18	36	17	42	3	1	-	-
Red-bellied Woodpecker		71	75	30	98	40	85	25	44	78	76	11	26
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker		14	6	8	28	6	22	18	10	14	22	8	13
Downy Woodpecker	59	24	47	12	44	19	60	24	25	53	45	20	30
Hairy Woodpecker	-	4	11	2	5	3	26	5	5	10	9	3	2
Northern Flicker	79	43	85	25	80	32	84	35	21	25	35	31	29
Pileated Woodpecker	22	12	21	4	14	14	17	12	23	13	12	3	4
American Kestrel	18	5	48	9	14	7	19	7	61	21	13	1	16
Merlin	_	_	_	_	1	_	1	1	_	_	_	_	_
Peregrine Falcon	_	_	_	_	2	_	2	_	_	_	_	_	_
Least Flycatcher	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_
Eastern Phoebe	12	34	27	4	29	14	47	18	25	14	14	3	3
Loggerhead Shrike	_	_	10	_	_	_	_	_	26	_	_	_	_
White-eyed Vireo	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_
Blue-headed Vireo	3	2	_	_	_	-	_	_	_	_	_	_	_
Blue Jay	144	104	86	76	208	59	153	132	152	118	158	42	185
American Crow	84	163	219	595	258	63	332	1290	547	167	348	60	92
Fish Crow	_	_	1	_	1	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_
Common Raven	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_
Horned Lark	_	_	147	6	43	cw	7	_	1	40	_	_	_
Barn Swallow	_	_	1	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_
Carolina Chickadee	86	37	103	19	87	67	108	63	47	139	271	76	63
Black-capped Chickadee	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_
Tufted Titmouse	70	100	59	33	160	53	387	70	117	102	196	53	36
Red-breasted Nuthatch	_	2	1	1	4	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_
White-breasted Nuthatch	10	12	15	4	30	12	23	4	51	34	89	_	10
Brown-headed Nuthatch	_	_	_	_	34	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_
Brown Creeper	_	6	12	1	19	4	11	5	5	6	6	6	3
House Wren	4	1	1	_	3	cw	6	2	1	_	4	_	_
Winter Wren	6	14	47	6	17	6	49	22	5	6	4	3	3
Sedge Wren	1	_	1	_	_	_	1	3	_	_	_	_	_
Marsh Wren	_	2	_	_	_	_	1	2	_	_	_	_	_
Carolina Wren	200	51	103	44	113	40	90	66	67	94	138	40	29
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	_	_	-	-	-
Golden-crowned Kinglet	27	51	55	12	126	47	99	66	29	22	34	20	14
				_		•			-	-		-	_

Count Names	MPHS	FACO	REEL	JKSN	SVNH	BGSA	DUCK	PRRY	BUFF	CLRK	NSHV	HKPR	LEBN
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	37	14	59	5	58	9	63	28	21	11	18	9	6
Eastern Bluebird	72	74	69	61	211	46	105	112	281	152	201	112	108
Hermit Thrush	33	40	16	10	77	16	12	20	25	3	19	32	4
American Robin	468	132	33	656	814	85	254	3500	69	102	449	259	185
Gray Catbird	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brown Thrasher	21	25	21	5	18	7	34	17	9	3	6	9	1
Northern Mockingbird	72	23	43	32	98	16	32	28	111	77	115	78	49
European Starling	936	60	10088		10457	27	469	1500	1520	1167	629	1325	1195
Cedar Waxwing	108	51	53	78	355	39	409	280	32	78	83	12	69
House Sparrow	43	1	142	10	70	5	11	51	37	33	5	12	55
American Pipit	18	-	144	2	42	100	29	3	-	1	1	-	-
House Finch	56	3	114	104	80	2	6	25	15	25	78	24	137
Purple Finch	-	12	2	2	25	-	1	4	1	-	cw	-	2
Pine Siskin	2	20	2	2	45	_	37	7	-	2	5	_	-
American Goldfinch	108	75	136	37	79	13	305	92	66	44	133	20	126
Lapland Longspur	-	-	153	-	101	-	-	1	-	6	-	-	-
Eastern Towhee	- 75	58	12	28	101	25	53	41	58	39	62	41	10
American Tree Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
*	82	46	1	9	399	40	201	109	154	96	10	8	49
Chipping Sparrow Field Sparrow	48	33	60	39	154	107	170	156	342	66	102	6 59	6
-	40				20	107	9	9	1	1			
Vesper Sparrow		-	207	- 27						2	-	-	1
Savannah Sparrow	93	48	207	27	310	23	143	295	83	_	4	-	-
Le Conte's Sparrow	2	1	1	-	-	1	9	10	-	-	-	-	-
Fox Sparrow	20	24	29	19	47	1	38	51	7	2	12	9	4
Song Sparrow	168	247	168	78	425	132	919	459	97	98	148	95	57
Lincoln's Sparrow	-	-	100	-	120	-	2	1	-	-	1	-	16
Swamp Sparrow	100	64	198	52	130	31	1230	386	24	35	72	9	16
White-throated Sparrow		305	337	236	487	148	999	315	177	119	254	180	50
Harris's Sparrow	-	-	26	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
White-crowned Sparrow		12	36	8	13	3	20	71	40	17	5	3	1
Dark-eyed Junco	302	226	326	200	711	260	437	188	161	114	54	45	54
Sparrow sp.	166	-	124	-	- 2.47	-	-	-	25	-	-	-	-
Eastern Meadowlark	166	95	134	20	347	44	144	77	202	2	4	15	18
Western Meadowlark	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Red-winged Blackbird	774	81	3853	545	1449	614	6300	324	11	789	259	100	5
Brown-headed Cowbird	44	31	426	34	81	1	165	37	277	275	-	23	16
Rusty Blackbird	341	9	86	3	138	-	86	232	54	107	45	-	38
Brewer's Blackbird	-	-	9	-	11	-	4	2	3	-	-	-	-
Common Grackle	2495	5	713		1142	13	1441	456	4	-	60	276	75
Orange-crowned Warble		-	3	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
Common Yellowthroat	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Palm Warbler	3	-	-	-	8	-	1	-	3	-	-	1	-
Pine Warbler	2	-	2	2	43	3	1	3	5	-	-	-	-
Yellow-rumped Warbler	117	43	135	29	747	27	182	298	48	107	162	111	65

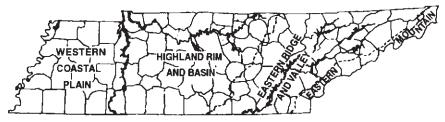
FRCO	WRRN	WHTE	NKIK	СНАТ	HIWA	KNOX	NORR	CADE	GSMT	KGSP	ELIZ	ROAN	BSTL	SHDY	TOTALS
1	3	15	19	31	19	64	8	1	6	11	8	-	13	5	542
104	109	129	70	92	302	375	114	52	43	160	111	30	139	111	3545
-	14	9	22	13	33	50	13	cw	5	2	111	-	4	3	486
265	198	912	342	599	249	2730	163	295	278	941	277	12	164	33	14464
-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	6
_	9	9	15	14	9	24	7	_	2	2	1	_	1	_	269
52	76	72	35	108	53	230	58	7	15	78	49	6	68	20	1701
4056	1793	6085	951	1597	551	1797	482	210	154	1653	1335	83	1682	454	53395
106	17	139	24	171	28	332	53	86	72	61	154	2	309	75	3276
4	3	64	9	87	13	28	10	_	2	16	41	41	15	28	836
_	112	76	_	_	6	_	_	_	_	_	75	_	_	_	609
12	45	33	54	137	41	330	27	5	67	90	100	8	87	1	1706
-	1	-	-	-	-	cw	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	50
-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	25	-	-	-	1	-	151
19	54	62	175	116	53	334	115	46	176	194	90	54	132	101	2955
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	261
15	24	33	52	39	17	146	21	-	22	48	22	9	10	16	1079
30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	32
71	55	22	72	142	85	102	38	12	8	53	4	-	-	-	1868
28	81	60	127	49	64	79	18	4	24	99	8	11	11	38	2043
1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	48
6	1	43	4	2	60	25	4	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	1382
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24
1	5	2	6	-	-	11	2	1	1	7	-	-	3	4	306
35	64	116	125	162	109	264	57	27	73	95	142	87	104	186	4737
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
-	6	68	11	21	83	41	11	-	12	11	5	2	2	8	2628
23	94	80	156	73	167	296	47	7	66	116	102	13	64	39	5757
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
56	4	32	-	-	-	10	2	-	8	12	-	-	35	13	417
16	54	23	95	103	147	69	20	32	49	25	16	57	126	73	3983
16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	- 1.4	-	-	-	-	25
16	132	109	33	24	7	9	33	7	-	14	1	-	-	7	1660
-	-	- 271	-	126	-	-	2000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
526 5	2	371	280	126	465	488	3000	-	-	-	1 2	-	-	11	20374
-	1	1279	-	22	131	33	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2861
3	2	22	36	32	52	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1296
248	- 4507	- 6145	- 57	- 116	- 1	-	157	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	29
248		6145	57 1	116 1	1	cw 2	157 3	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	22948
-	-	-	1			-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20 2
-	3	12	-	3	3	34	3	-	_	-	2	-	1	2	2 79
-	-	12	3	3 11	3 1	54 6		-	_	-	1	-	1		79 84
1	- 74	120	3 74	119	190	343	- 98	-	5	183	154	-	76	- 25	3533
1	/ 1	120	/ 1	112	120	545	20	-	5	105	134	-	70	43	3333

Count Names	MPHS	FACO	REEL	JKSN	SVNH	BGSA	DUCK	PRRY	BUFF	CLRK	NSHV	HKPR	LEBN
Scarlet Tanager	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Cardinal	255	156	340	136	282	140	231	191	162	200	428	318	188
Total individuals	1782	140	6439	342	1994	9174	117478	749	64	236	237	788	373
Total Species	96	74	119	83	117	98	125	105	83	78	79	79	78
Count Week species	-	-	2	-	3	4	-	-	-	-	-	3	-
Observers	26	14	13	8	15	5	20	10	15	20	36	13	14
Parties	11	5	57	35	9	3	7	5	9	6	9	4	5
Party Hours	52.6	32.75	58.25	43.6	71.5	21	79	45.5	50.5	49	53	35.3	36
Hours by car	11.1	12.75	31	23.5	43	20	25	13	33.75	24.25	18.9	13.3	29.5
Hours by foot	41.5	20	27.25	20.1	28.5	1	53	27	16.75	24.75	34.1	22	2.5
Hours by boat or other	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5.5	-	-	-	-	4
Miles by car	143.8	180	426	124	301	175	140	55	223.1	261.5	220.1	84	290
Miles on foot	29.5	20.5	11.4	302	14.5	2	32	19	8.5	18.5	71.65	17.39	2.5
Miles by boat or other	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	12	-	-	-	-	4.5
Hours Owling	-	-	2.5	0.5	1.25	-	2	-	3.25	0.5	5.75	2	0.5
Miles Owling	-	-	21	6	8.3	-	14	-	14.9	0.5	23.65	2	1
Feeder / yard watchers	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Feeder / yard hours	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1

FRCO	WRRN	WHTE	NKJK	CHAT	HIWA	KNOX	NORR	CADE	GSMT	KGSP	ELIZ	ROAN	BSTL	SHDY	TOTALS
-	-	-	-	-	_	_	_	-	1	-	-	-	_	-	2
111	143	116	129	180	127	637	107	18	80	210	111	19	190	82	5287
368	694	993	592	1201	2862	1615	174	53	139	525	927	24	1024	295	702373
79	80	84	89	90	93	104	73	48	56	73	81	44	81	57	166
-	1	-	-	-	-	6	-	3	2	1	1	-	1	-	1
18	7	12	10	23	19	62	18	14	28	31	25	10	13	9	508
6	4	-	6	8	6	31	6	6	14	9	6	3	5	4	187
21.6	35.2	47.25	48.75	70	31	126.26	35.25	25.6	62	40.1	50	19	44	32.25	1316.26
21.1	29.45	-	34	36	20	39.38	20.75	11.6	23	18.75	28	6	20	17.5	624.58
0.5	5.57	-	14.75	34	11	83.08	14.5	14	39	21.35	22	13	24	14.75	629.95
-	-	-	-	-	-	3.8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14.3
248	338.15	-	264	317	184	420.7	211	93.7	175	267	343	75	339	215	6114.05
1	4.05	-	11.6	18	10	63.53	11	10.4	38.2	23	14	10	10	7.5	781.72
-	-	-	-	-	-	6.75	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24.25
3	2	-	2	5	-	3.62	1.25	-	-	0.75	4	2	3	1	45.87
-	11.5	-	18	-	-	20.5	1.5	-	-	4.5	17	5	36	5	210.35
-	-	-	-	2	-	5	1	-	4	-	-	-	1	-	16
_	_	_	_	2.	_	13.47	1.5	_	3	_	_	_	3	_	25.97

THE FALL SEASON

Richard L. Knight, Editor



1 August - 30 November 2017

It was a busy year for the Atlantic hurricane season, and the remnants of three hurricanes made it to Tennessee this fall. Much of the state's rain during August, September and October was from these tropical systems. After hitting the Gulf coast, the remnants of Hurricane Harvey brought heavy rain to West and Middle Tennessee from 30 August to 2 September. The second hurricane was Irma, which hit the Florida Keys then moved northward up the Florida peninsula and well into Georgia, where it turned northwest toward south-central Tennessee, bringing moderate rain and wind on 11-12 September. Nate was the last of the hurricanes to affect Tennessee. After hitting the central Gulf coast its remnants moved inland rapidly, passing through East Tennessee 8 - 9 October.

The avian fallout from these storms included two species new to Tennessee: a Brown Noddy at Pickwick Lake on 13 September and separate Black-capped Petrels at Pickwick Lake on 13 September and at Woods Reservoir on 9 October. Sooty Terns were found at Pickwick Lake and Chickamauga Lake, while a Royal Tern appeared at Gibson County Lake. Phalaropes and an unidentified jaeger were at Pickwick Lake. Other terns and shorebirds were either displaced by these systems or southbound migrants grounded by the inclement weather. A Parasitic Jaeger at Center Hill Lake on 17 - 18 September may have been wandering after having been displaced by Irma.

Five new species were added to the Tennessee checklist this fall. Besides the two mentioned above, the three additional species new to the state were a Common Eider on Old Hickory Lake, a Crested Caracara along the Mississippi River in Dyer County, and a Bronzed Cowbird in Shelby County. Acceptance of these new birds is pending action by the Tennessee Bird Records Committee.

Also notable this season were a Brant in East Tennessee; Yellow Rails, Red Knots, and Sabine's Gulls in two regions apiece; a California Gull in West Tennessee; a Great White Heron in East Tennessee; Swallow-tailed Kites in three regions; a Say's Phoebe in West Tennessee; an amazing roost of 46 Scissor-tailed Flycatchers in Wayne County; a Common Redpoll and Kirtland's Warbler in East Tennessee; and good numbers of Nelson's Sparrows in the two western regions. Other gems lurk in the regional reports that follow.

The totals for two East Tennessee hawkwatches are presented in Table 1. Data for Soddy Mountain in Hamilton County was compiled by Jimmy Wilkerson, and data for Big Bald Mountain in Unicoi County was compiled by Mark Hopey. In addition, the reports for

three banding stations are presented in the Eastern Mountain Region.

The Fifty-eighth Supplement to the American Ornithological Society's Check-list of North American Birds (Chesser et al. 2017; The Auk 134:751-773) brought a few revisions to the Tennessee checklist. Thayer's Gull has been lumped with Iceland Gull, thus the state list declines by one species. The New World Sparrows are now placed in their own family, and Yellow-breasted Chat has been placed into a family of its own, separate from the warblers. These two new families, along with the blackbirds, are now placed ahead of the warblers in the new checklist sequence.

Standard Abbreviations

ad - adult	lrs - latest reported sighting
ba - banded	max - maximum count
Co - County	m.ob many observers
Cr - Creek	Mtn - Mountain
ers - earliest reported sighting	NWR - National Wildlife Refuge
et al and others	R - River

fide - reported by

SP - State Park

AVM A Wildlife N

im - immature WMA - Wildlife Management Area

L - Lake yg - young

Table 1. Fall hawkwatch totals for Soddy Mtn and Big Bald Mtn in 2017.

<u>Species</u>	Soddy Mtn	Big Bald Mtn	
Black Vulture	29	11	
Turkey Vulture	338	462	
Osprey	21	6	
Bald Eagle	21	9	
Northern Harrier	13	11	
Sharp-shinned Hawk	133	167	
Cooper's Hawk	20	42	
Northern Goshawk	1		
Red-shouldered Hawk	6	8	
Broad-winged Hawk	2275	1440	
Red-tailed Hawk	34	118	
Golden Eagle		1	
American Kestrel	9	46	
Merlin	10	19	
Peregrine Falcon	17	12	
Unknown	1	76	
Total vultures	367	473	
Total hawks and falcons	2561	1955	

WESTERN COASTAL PLAIN REGION - - Throughout the season, rainfall and temperatures were near normal across the region. The exception was August, which was nearly 3°F cooler than normal and also saw several storms produce rain that was 6.5 inches above historic averages.

The birding highlights of the season were a state first Crested Caracara in Dyer County and state first Bronzed Cowbird in Shelby County, plus a California Gull in Henry County, and a Royal Tern and Say's Phoebe in Gibson County. Single Sabine's Gulls appeared in both Dyer and Lake counties. Waterfowl made a good early season showing with all three species of scoters and several Long-tailed Ducks. Common Loons are abundant on Kentucky Lake and along the Tennessee River, but uncommon to rare in most of the rest of the region. In early November, several individuals appeared on small lakes in Fayette, Gibson, Madison, and Shelby counties. Also notable this season were Yellow Rail, Piping Plover, Swallow-tailed Kite, and several Nelson's Sparrows.

Thanks to all those who reported their sightings, especially those who submitted photographs or written details.

Waterfowl - Crane: Black-bellied Whistling-Duck: 25 Aug (2 new broods of yg) Ensley (DDP), late breeders; 13 Nov (7) Ensley (Douglas Logan), lrs. Snow Goose: 28 Oct (1) Britton Ford (MM, BSc), ers. Ross's Goose: 3 Nov (1) Britton Ford (RS, AT), ers. Surf Scoter: 29 Oct - 19 Nov (2-5) Paris Landing SP (MM, BSc, AT, RS); 3 Nov (1) Reelfoot L (MAG); 16 Nov (2) Lower Hatchie NWR, Lauderdale Co (Van Harris). White-winged Scoter: 6 Nov (2) Pace Point (RWh); 7 Nov (2) Booth's Point (MAG); 11 Nov (1) Paris Landing SP (AT). Black Scoter: 11-19 Nov (1-5) Paris Landing SP (AT, RS, JAr); 26 Nov (1) Britton Ford (RS). Long-tailed Duck: 17 / 26 Nov (9 / 5) Paris Landing SP (RS, JAr); 21-27 Nov (1) Edmund Orgill Park, Shelby Co (DDP, m.ob.). Northern Bobwhite: 11 Jul - 8 Aug (2) Mid-South Raptor Center (Knox Martin, Michael Collins, MGW), 16 Aug (1) Ensley (VBR). Neotropic Cormorant: 20 Aug (1 im) Ensley (VBR). Yellow Rail: 31 Oct - 1 Nov (1) Forked Deer Refuge (MCT / DDP). Virginia Rail: 17 Oct (1) Bartlett, Shelby Co (Judy Dorsey), found stunned in strip mall, taken to vet, treated and released; 20 Oct (1) Busseltown Unit (RS, VS); 30 Oct (1) Forked Deer Refuge(MAG). Sandhill Crane: 9 Nov (4) Britton Ford (RWh); 12 Nov (7) Gibson Co L (AJT); 16 Nov (30) Tipton Co (Van Harris); 16 Nov (flock heard early morning) east Memphis (MGW), 27 Nov (19) Camden WMA, Benton Co (AT).

Shorebirds: American Avocet: 5 Aug (1) North Treatment Plant, Shelby Co (VBR); 10 Oct (1) Thorny Cypress WMA, Dyer Co (Timothy Jones). Black-bellied Plover: 1 Sep (1) Ensley (MCT); 15 Oct - 18 Nov (12-2) Big Sandy Flats (RS, VS, m.ob.). American Golden-Plover: 2 Sep (1) Ensley (DDP et al.); 13 Sep / 15 Oct (2 / 3) Big Sandy Flats, Henry Co (JH / RS, VS). Piping Plover: 27 Aug (1) sand bar in Mississippi R, seen from Shelby Forest (DDP). Upland Sandpiper: 9 Aug (1) Ensley (MCT). Ruddy Turnstone: 2 / 14 Sep (1) Ensley (SZ et al. / Bob Foehring); 7 Sep (1) TVA Lake, Shelby Co (BZ). Stilt Sandpiper: 1 Sep (65) Ensley (MCT), max. Sanderling: 2 Sep (1) Ensley (SZ et al.); 16 Sep (1) Big Sandy Flats (JH); 28 Sep (1) Mississippi R, Lake Co (MAG); 28 Sep / 10 Oct (1) Mississippi R, Dyer

Co (MAG); 3 / 11 Nov (5 / 2) Big Sandy Flats (RS, AT). **Dunlin**: 7 Sep (3) Ensley (BZ), ers; 23 Oct - 28 Nov (2-8) Gibson Co L (MAG); 23 Oct (8) Big Sandy Flats (RS); 3 Nov (490) five sites on Kentucky L, Henry Co (RS, AT), max; 12 Nov (77) Ed Davis Fish Farm, Gibson Co (MAG); 29 Nov (8) Lake Co (MAG). **Baird's Sandpiper**: 12 Aug - 18 Sep (1-6) Ensley (DDP, BZ, Bob Foehring); 15 Oct (1) Big Sandy Flats (RS, VS). **White-rumped Sandpiper**: 25 Aug / 16 Sep (3 / 5) Ensley (DDP); 15 Oct (1) Big Sandy Flats (RS, VS). **Buff-breasted Sandpiper**: 21 Aug (1) Ensley (DDP); 2 Sep (9) Tiptonville Bar, Lake Co (MAG et al.); 28 Sep (1) Mississippi R, Dyer Co (MAG). **Pectoral Sandpiper**: 12 Aug (2,200) Ensley (DDP), max. **Long-billed Dowitcher**: 9 Aug (2) Ensley (MCT); 11 Oct (17) Mississippi R, Dyer Co (DDP); 23 Oct / 3 Nov (58 / 7) Big Sandy Flats (RS); 15 Nov (1) Gibson Co (MCT). **Wilson's Snipe**: 20 Nov (673) Friendship, Crockett Co (MAG), new high count in state. **Spotted Sandpiper**: 11 Nov (1) Paris Landing SP (AT), Irs. **Lesser Yellowlegs**: 13 Nov (3) Gibson Co L (MAG), Irs. **Willet**: 8 Oct (1) Ensley (VBR). **Wilson's Phalarope**: 12 Aug - 21 Sep (1-4) Ensley (DDP, VBR, BZ, m.ob.).

Gull - Loon: Sabine's Gull: 10 Oct (1 im) Mississippi R, Dyer Co (MAG); 3 Nov (1) Reelfoot L (MAG). Laughing Gull: 29 Sep / 15 Oct (1) Pace Point (MCT / RS, VS). Franklin's Gull: 13 Sep / 23 Oct / 3 Nov (2-5) Big Sandy Flats (JH, RS, AT); 28 Sep (1) Reelfoot L (MAG); 15 Oct (11) Pace Point (RS, VS); 21 Oct / 3 Nov / 19 Nov (1-2) Britton Ford (AT, RS, DDP); 29 Oct / 11 Nov (1) Paris Landing SP (DDP / AT); 3 Nov (125) Reelfoot L (MAG). CALIFORNIA GULL: 18 Nov (1 im) Paris Landing SP (VS, RS, MCT, MAG et al., photo). Herring Gull: 6 Nov (1) Herb Parsons L (RH), rare in Co. Lesser Black-backed Gull: 22 Sep (1) Booth's Point (MAG); 29 Sep / 11 Nov (2 / 5) Paris Landing SP (MCT, JH / AT), ers / max at this regular site. Great Black-backed Gull x Glaucous Gull: 15 Oct - 3 Nov (1 im) Paris Landing SP (RS, photo), same bird as first seen at Duck R Unit on 7 Oct (see Highland Rim and Basin Region). Least Tern: 28 Aug (1) Gibson Co L (MAG). Caspian Tern: 13 Sep (42) Big Sandy Flats (JH), max. Black Tern: 11 Aug (15) Mississippi R, Lake Co (MAG); 14-28 Aug (2-3) Gibson Co L (MAG); 2 Sep (50) Tiptonville Bar, Lake Co (MAG); 13 Sep (2) Big Sandy Flats (JH). Common Tern: 28 Aug (2) Gibson Co L (MAG). Forster's Tern: 13 Sep / 16 Nov (10 / 1) Gibson Co L (MAG); 13 Sep (16) Big Sandy Flats (JH). ROYAL TERN: 13 Sep (1 ad) Gibson Co L (MAG), in the wake of Hurricane Irma, 6th state record. Red-throated Loon: 17-18 Nov (1) Pace Point (RS, m.ob.). Pacific Loon: 17 Nov (1) Kentucky L, Henry Co (RS). Common Loon: 6 Nov (7) Herb Parson's L (RH); 7 Nov (3) Edmund Orgill Park, Shelby Co (DDP); 8 Nov (1) L Graham, Madison Co (Mike Chouinard); 12 Nov (1) Patriot L, Shelby Co (DDP); 17 Nov (1) Gibson Co L (DDP).

Stork - Falcon: Wood Stork: 5 Sep (23, flying over) Ensley (BZ); 11 Oct (1 im) Mississippi R, Island 21 Chute, Dyer Co (DDP), rather late. Neotropic Cormorant: 27-28 Aug (1 im) TVA Lake, Shelby Co (DDP, m.ob.). Double-crested Cormorant: 18 Oct (4500) Reelfoot L (MAG), max. Anhinga: 8 Nov (11, soaring) Navy L, Shelby Co (DDP), very late. American White Pelican: 11 Aug (244) Mississippi R, Lake Co (MAG); 13 Sep (10) Pace Point (AT); 13 Sep - 15 Oct (100 - 250) Big Sandy Flats (JH, RS, VS); 26 Sep (1,000) Reelfoot L (MAG); 11 Oct (5,000) Mississippi R, Fritz Landing, Dyer Co (MAG); 28 Oct (345) Busseltown

Unit (RS). American Bittern: 15 Oct (1) Big Sandy Unit (RS, VS). Snowy Egret: 23 Oct (1) Gibson Co L (MAG), Irs. Roseate Spoonbill: 11 Aug (1) Tiptonville Slough, Lake Co (MAG); 10 Oct (2) Fritz Landing, Dyer Co (MAG). Swallow-tailed Kite: 7 Aug (1) Collierville, Shelby Co (Wayne Kirk, photo). Mississippi Kite: 15 Aug (1) Jackson, Madison Co (MCT). Red-tailed Hawk: 19 Oct (1, calurus) Obion Co (MAG); 31 Oct (1, dark morph Harlan's) Obion Co (MAG); 9 Nov (1, calurus) Lake Co (MAG); 15 Nov (1 Harlan's and 1 Krider's) Dyer Co (MAG); 16 Nov (1, calurus) Gibson Co (MAG); 16 Nov (2 calurus and 1 Krider's) Obion Co (MAG). CRESTED CARACARA: 20 Sep (1) Booth's Point (MAG, photo), 1st state record. Merlin: 20 Aug / 23 Oct (1) Ensley (VBR / BZ); 29 Sep (1) Big Sandy Flats (JH); 21 Oct (1) Decatur Co (MM); 5 Nov (2 im) Ensley (VBR); 26 Nov (1) Gibson Co (DDP). Peregrine Falcon: 29 Sep / 28 Oct (1 / 2) Paris Landing SP (MCT, JH / MM, BSc). 11 Oct (1) Mississippi R, Dyer Co (MAG); 29 Oct (1) Camden WMA, Benton Co (MM, BSc).

Flycatcher - Siskin: Olive-sided Flycatcher: 27 Aug (1) Shelby Forest (DDP); 1 Sep (2) Hatchie NWR, Haywood Co (MCT); 16 Sep (1) W.C. Johnson Park, Shelby Co (Wayne Kirk, photo); 21 Sep (1) Island 21 Chute, Dyer Co (DDP); 29 Sep (1) Millington, Shelby Co (MGW). Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: 10 Sep (1) Shelby Forest (DDP). Willow Flycatcher: 8 Sep (1) Shelby Co (BZ), Irs. SAY'S PHOEBE: 11-26 Nov (1) Ed Davis Fish Farm, Gibson Co (Maureen Ellis, MAG, photo, m.ob.). Western Kingbird: thru 17 Aug (1) Ensley (BZ), lrs. Scissor-tailed Flycatcher: 6 Sep (1) Decatur Co (DJS). Blue-headed Vireo: 14 Nov (1) Shelby Co (Jim Varner), Irs. Fish Crow: 21 Nov (57) Mt Orange, Gibson Co (MAG). Tree Swallow: 3 Nov (5,000) Reelfoot L (MAG), max. Northern Rough-winged Swallow: 10 Nov (1) Reelfoot L (DDP, RH), Irs. Cliff Swallow: 10 Nov (1) Reelfoot L (RH, DDP), new late date in state. Barn Swallow: 10 Nov (1) Reelfoot L (DDP, RH), lrs. Red-breasted Nuthatch: 24 Oct (1) Pinson Mounds SP, Madison Co (Stanley York, Jr.); 7 Nov (1) Herb Parson's L (RH); only reports. House Wren: 9 Nov (2) Mid-South Raptor Center (MGW). Sedge Wren: 21 Aug / 28 Nov (1) Gibson Co L (MAG); 30-31 Oct (2-12) Forked Deer Refuge (MAG, m.ob.), max. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: 10 Nov (1) Reelfoot L (DDP, RH), lrs. Purple Finch: 24 Oct (1) Busseltown Unit (RS); 19 Nov (2) Paris, Henry Co (Shawna Ellis). Pine Siskin: 10 Oct (6) Camden WMA, Benton Co (RS, VS, AT); 11 Oct (1) Dyer Co (MAG); 15 Oct (1) Big Sandy Unit (RS, VS); 20 Oct (1) Decatur Co (RS, VS); 23 Oct (18) Big Sandy Flats (RS); 24 Oct (18) Busseltown Unit (RS); 8 Nov (40) Ghost River SNA, Fayette Co (AJT); 12 Nov (12) Paris, Henry Co (RWh).

Sparrow - Bunting: Vesper Sparrow: 29 Sep (1) Britton Ford (MCT), ers; 12 Nov (16) Shelby Farms, Shelby Co (DDP, MTOS), max. Lark Sparrow: 20 Aug (1) Black Bayou, Lake Co (Therese Cummiskey, photo). Henslow's Sparrow: 30 Oct (1) Forked Deer Refuge (MAG). LeConte's Sparrow: 21 Oct (2) Big Sandy Unit (AT); 22 Oct - 5 Nov (2-15) Busseltown Unit (RS, VS, AT); 23 Oct (2) Gibson Co (MAG); 26 Oct - 11 Nov (1-5) Britton Ford (RWh, m.ob.); 30-31 Oct (1-8) Forked Deer Refuge (MAG / MCT); 6 Nov (1) Millington, Shelby Co (DDP); 7 Nov (1) John Tully WMA, Lauderdale Co (AJT); 26 Nov (1) T.O. Fuller SP, Shelby Co (MGW, MTOS). Nelson's Sparrow: 23 Oct (1) Gibson Co

(MAG); 24 Oct (1) Busseltown Unit (RS, photo); 26 Oct - 3 Nov (1-2) Britton Ford (RWh, m.ob.); 30 Oct (1) Forked Deer Refuge (MAG); good showing. Western Meadowlark: 31 Oct (5) Obion Co (MAG). BRONZED COWBIRD: 17 Nov (1 male, at feeder) Bartlett, Shelby Co (Holly Writt, photo, fide Scott Somershoe), 1st state record, but not brought to the attention of the birding community until Feb 2018. Golden-winged Warbler: 9 / 28 Sep (1) Munford, Tipton Co (DDP); 10 Sep (2) Shelby Forest (DDP). Tennessee Warbler: 27 Aug (1) Shelby Forest (DDP), ers. Common Yellowthroat: 26 Nov (2) T.O. Fuller SP, Shelby Co (MGW, MTOS), lrs. Northern Parula: 29 Oct (1) Britton Ford (DDP), lrs. Magnolia Warbler: 26 Aug (1) Munford, Tipton Co (DDP), ers. Blackpoll Warbler: 22 Sep (1) Gibson Co (Maureen Ellis, photo). Black-throated Green Warbler: 29 Oct (1) Britton Ford (DDP), lrs. Indigo Bunting: 11 Nov (1) Big Sandy Unit (AT), lrs.

Locations: Big Sandy Flats - Henry Co; Big Sandy Unit - unit of Tennessee NWR, Henry Co; Booth's Point - Dyer Co; Britton Ford - Henry Co; Busseltown Unit - unit of Tennessee NWR, Decatur Co; Ensley - Shelby Co; Forked Deer Refuge - Madison Co; Herb Parsons L - Fayette Co; Pace Point - Henry Co; Paris Landing SP - Henry Co; Reelfoot L - Lake Co; Shelby Forest - Shelby Co.

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HIGHLAND RIM AND BASIN REGION - - Weather in Middle Tennessee this fall was influenced by the passing of the remnants of two hurricanes, both resulting in rarities showing up in the region. Regional temperatures were near normal in August and September, while October (+3.3°F) and November (+2.3°F) were warmer than normal. Rainfall was heavy in August, at 5.2 inches above normal, while the remaining three months received slightly above average precipitation. Highlights were many this fall, including three species new to the state: Common Eider on Old Hickory Lake, Brown Noddy at Pickwick Lake, and separate Black-capped Petrels at Pickwick Lake and Woods Reservoir. Also notable were Black-chinned Hummingbird, Yellow Rail, Parasitic Jaeger, Sabine's Gull, Great Blackbacked Gull, Sooty Tern, Neotropic Cormorant, Swallow-tailed Kite, Clay-colored Sparrow, and a large roost of Scissor-tailed Flycatchers.

Goose: Crane: Snow Goose: 31 Oct (1) Lincoln Co (DJS), ers; 6 Nov (50+) Maury Co (Tommy Edwards); 6 Nov (40+) Williamson Co (HB); 6 Nov (2900) Dickson Co (VS, Adam Beachy); 6 Nov (900) Duck R Unit (RS); 7 Nov (125) Bell's Bend (FF); 7 Nov (125) Dickson Co (Marjorie Dunham); 22 Nov (2) Old Hickory L (Jackie Corbin). Ross's Goose: 6 Nov (36) Dickson Co (VS, Adam Beachy); 6 Nov (65) Duck R Unit (RS). Greater White-fronted Goose: 17 Oct (28) Perry Co (RS), ers; 30 Oct (125) Robertson Co (SR, CR). Cackling Goose: 16 Nov (3) Tennessee R, Perry Co (RS), ers. Tundra Swan: 12 Nov (1) Old Hickory L, Sumner Co portion (MS). Gadwall: 6 Aug (2) Duck R Unit (RS, AT), ers. American Wigeon: 6 Aug (1) Duck R Unit (RS, AT), ers. Northern Pintail: 6 Aug (1) Duck R Unit

(RS, AT), ers. **COMMON EIDER**: 11 Nov (1 female) Old Hickory L (Jackie Corbin, photos on eBird), 1st state record. **Surf Scoter**: 7 Nov (1) Fowler Rd (DJS). **Black Scoter**: 11 Nov (2 males, 6 females) Tennessee R, Perry Co / Decatur Co (RS); 12 Nov (1 male) Old Hickory L (RS, VS); 15 Nov (4 males, 17 females) Pickwick L (Jud Johnston), new high count in state; 23 Nov (3 females) Duck R Unit (AT). **Long-tailed Duck**: 17 Nov (7 males, 3 females) Duck R Unit (RS, JAr). **Chimney Swift**: 21 Oct (2) Perry Co (RS, VS), Irs. **BLACK-CHINNED HUMMINGBIRD**: 26 Nov (1 im male, ba) Coffee Co (CR). **Ruby-throated Hummingbird**: 14 Nov (1) Clarksville (CR), Irs. **Rufous Hummingbird**: 28 Sep (1) Williamson Co (Graham Gerdeman, photo), returning for its 3rd winter. **Yellow Rail**: 31 Oct (1, roadkill) Nashville (fide Scott Somershoe); 27 Oct / 2 Nov (1 / 5) Duck R Unit (CF), flushed while mowing; 4 Nov (1) Duck R Unit (RS, AT). **Virginia Rail**: 4 Nov (6) Duck R Unit (AT, RS). **Sora**: 2 Nov (35) Duck R Unit (CF), flushed while mowing. **Sandhill Crane**: 6 Nov (2) Duck R Unit (RS); 11 Nov (30) Sumner Co (MS); 23 Nov (3) Perry Co (RS). **Whooping Crane**: 21 Nov (1) Putnam Co (MT), flying over with Sandhill Cranes.

Shorebirds: Black-necked Stilt: 16 Aug (1) Fowler Rd (DJS). American Avocet: 28 Oct (9) Duck R Unit (AT). Black-bellied Plover: 7 Oct - 19 Nov (1-12) Duck R Unit (RS, AT). American Golden-Plover: 23 Aug - 5 Sep (1-4) Eagleville sod farm (HB, SZ, m.ob.); 1 Sep (2) Duck R Unit (Josh Stevenson); 1 Nov (6) Bark Camp Barrens sod farm (SNM, NPM). Upland Sandpiper: 6 Aug (1) Duck R Unit (RS, AT); 6 Aug (1) Cross Cr NWR (JH); 19 Aug (1) Eagleville sod farm (HB, MS, MM). Ruddy Turnstone: 26 Aug (1) Duck R Unit (Maureen Ellis). Stilt Sandpiper: 19 Aug (1) Eagleville (HB, MS); 27 Aug (14) Duck R Unit (AT); 30-31 Aug (1) Carter's Cr Pike, Williamson Co (JAr, m.ob.); 12-13 Sep (2) Pickwick L (AT, MCT). Sanderling: 1 Sep (4) Tim's Ford L, Franklin Co (DSn); 1-2 Sep (1-5) Old Hickory L (PDC, MS, FF, KO); 7 Oct (4) Duck R Unit (RS). Dunlin: 7 / 28 Oct (2 / 310) Duck R Unit (RS / AT), ers / max; 28 Oct (8) Barkley WMA, Stewart Co (JH, SA); 1 Nov (15) Bark Camp Barrens sod farm (SNM, NPM); 1 Nov (12) Lobelville Bottoms, Perry Co (RS); 1-5 Nov (33) Tom's Cr, Perry Co (RS). Baird's Sandpiper: 26 Aug - 6 Sep (1) Eagleville sod farm (SZ et al.); 27 Aug (1) Duck R Unit (AT). Pectoral Sandpiper: 19 Nov (1) Duck R Unit (RS, AT), Irs. Buff-breasted Sandpiper: 26 Aug - 5 Sep (1-3) Eagleville sod farm (SZ, m.ob.); 31 Aug (1) Carter's Cr Pike, Williamson Co (JAr); 1 Sep (2) Duck R Unit (Josh Stevenson); 2 Sep (1) Bell's Bend (FF, MS); 12 Sep (1) Coffee Co (SNM). Shortbilled Dowitcher: 25 Aug (2) Cross Cr NWR (JH); 27 Aug (3) Duck R Unit (AT); 1 Sep (5) Bell's Bend (FF). Long-billed Dowitcher: 28 Oct - 4 Nov (4-1) Duck R Unit (AT, RS). Lesser Yellowlegs: 4 Nov (1) Duck R Unit (AT, RS), lrs. Red-necked Phalarope: 14 Sep (3) Pickwick L (AT, MM). **Red Phalarope**: 14 Sep (1-2) Pickwick L (DDP, AT).

Jaeger - Pelican: PARASITIC JAEGER: 17-18 Sep (1 im) Center Hill L, DeKalb Co (MT, m.ob., photos). jaeger sp.; 13 Sep (1-2) Pickwick L (MAG, MCT, AT); 11 Nov (1) Percy Priest L (RHC, JKS). SABINE'S GULL: 2 Sep (1 im) Old Hickory L (MS, FF, KO, photos). Laughing Gull: 27 Aug / 19 Sep / 29 Oct (1) Duck R Unit (AT, RS); 1 Sep (1) Old Hickory L (MS, FF); 12-16 Sep (2-5) Pickwick L (AT, MCT, m.ob.). Franklin's Gull: 3-4 Nov (1) Duck R Unit (RS, AT); 12 / 15 Nov (1) Old Hickory L (PDC, MS / KO). Lesser Black-backed

Gull: 12-14 Sep (1-2 ad) Old Hickory L (MS, PDC, FF, SZ, et al.). Great Black-backed Gull: 29 Nov (1 im) Percy Priest L, Rutherford Co portion (RHC, photo). Great Black-backed Gull x Glaucous Gull: 7 Oct (1 im) Duck R Unit (RS), seen later at Paris Landing SP (see Western Coastal Plain Region). BROWN NODDY: 13 Sep (1) Pickwick L (MCT, MAG), 1st state record. SOOTY TERN: 13 Sep (1 ad, 1 im) Pickwick L (MCT). Least Tern: 12 Aug (1) Duck R Unit (AT). Caspian Tern: 1 Sep (8) Old Hickory L (MS); 3 Sep (2) Fowler Rd (DSn); 13 Sep (6) Pickwick L (MCT).17 Sep (3) Center Hill L, DeKalb Co (MT); 5 Nov (1) Britton Ford, Henry Co (SA, photo), late. Black Tern: 12 Aug (3) Duck R Unit (AT); 1 Sep (1) Old Hickory L (MS); 1 Sep (1) Fowler Rd (DSn); 13 Sep (10) Pickwick L (MCT). Common Tern: 13 Sep (10) Pickwick L (MCT); 1 Oct (3) Duck R Unit (Chris Sloan, CW et al.). Forster's Tern: 13 Sep (30) Pickwick L (MCT), plus 30 unidentified Sterna sp.; 13 Sep (17) Duck R Unit (AT); 4 Nov (4) Cumberland R, Montgomery Co (SR, CR), lrs. Redthroated Loon: 7 Nov (1) Old Hickory L (Graham Gerdeman); 21 Nov (1) Percy Priest L (RHC). Common Loon: 1 Nov (154, flying over) Tennessee R, Perry Co (RS), max. Pacific Loon: 11-15 Nov (1) Percy Priest L (RHC, JKS, m.ob.). BLACK-CAPPED PETREL: 13 Sep (1) Pickwick L (MCT, photo); 9 Oct (1) Woods Reservoir, Franklin Co (RS, VS, photo, m.ob.);1st and 2nd state records. Neotropic Cormorant: 12-14 Sep (1 im) Pickwick Dam (AT); 1 Oct (1) Duck R Unit (Chris Sloan, CW et al.). Anhinga: thru 3 Sep (2) Duck R Unit (AT, RS), Irs following nesting at this site. American White Pelican: 10 Sep (35) Perry Co (AT); 11 Sep thru season (100-400) Duck R Unit (SR, CR, AT, RS, VS); 28 Oct (35) Cross Cr NWR (JH, SA); 2 Nov (26) Percy Priest L, Rutherford Co portion (JN); 18 Nov (17) Old Hickory L, Sumner Co portion (Jerry Webb).

Bittern - Falcon: American Bittern: 31 Oct / 3 Nov (1) Duck R Unit (CF / RS, AT). Snowy Egret: 11 Oct (1) Trousdale Co (MM), lrs. Little Blue Heron: 1 Aug (1 im) Radnor L (Paul Schauer, Ann Inouye); 11 / 30 Aug (1 / 2) Fort Campbell, Stewart Co portion (DMo); thru 22 Aug (1-2) Wilson Co (JN, SZ); 27 Aug (74) Duck R Unit (AT), max; 31 Oct (1 im) Dunbar Cave SP, Montgomery Co (JH, photo), Irs. Cattle Egret: 10 Nov (1) Percy Priest Field Trial Area, Rutherford Co (Dan Dwyer, Katie Sellers), lrs. White-faced Ibis: 28-29 Oct / 8 Nov (1) Duck R Unit (AT, RS / CF). Plegadis sp.; 26 Oct (1) marsh on Walter S. Davis Blvd, Nashville (FF). Osprey: 10 Nov (1) Duck R Unit (JH), lrs. Swallow-tailed Kite: 2 Aug (1) Duck R Unit (SHu et al.); 6 Sep (1) Giles Co (Jessie Wheeler, photo). Mississippi Kite: 8 Aug (3) Clarksville (Mike O'Malley); 12 Aug (1) Duck R Unit (AT); 20 Aug (2) Bell's Bend (William Fissell); 2-3 Sep (2-3) Murfreesboro (CW). Northern Harrier: 12 Aug (1) Bark Camp Barrens (John Diener, Lizzie Diener), ers. Red-tailed Hawk: 8 Nov (1, calurus) Wilson Co (RS); 11 Nov (1, dark Harlan's) Cross Cr NWR (Stefan Woltmann, photo). Rough-legged Hawk: 26 Nov (1) Duck R Unit (Judy Bumpus, RS, photo). Golden Eagle: 11 Nov (1 ad) Perry Co (RS). Short-eared Owl: 31 Oct (1) Fort Campbell (DMo); 31 Oct / 3 Nov (1) Duck R Unit (CF / AT); 25 Nov (1) Perry Co (AT); 28 Nov (1) Shelton Ferry WMA, Montgomery Co (Stanley York, Jr.). Northern Saw-whet Owl: 22 Nov (1, ba) Stewart Co (CR). Merlin: 9 Sep thru season (1) Edgar Evins SP, DeKalb Co (MT); 12 Sep (1) Old Hickory L (MS, PDC, FF, SZ et al.); 14 Sep (1) Pickwick L (AT); 17 Sep (1) Perry Co (Evan Beachy, AT); 28 Oct (1) Barkley WMA, Stewart Co (JH, SA); 29 Oct / 11 Nov (1)

Perry Co (RS); 1 Nov (1) Montgomery Co (AT); 4-5 Nov (1) Duck R Unit (RS, AT, m.ob.); 22 Nov (1) Percy Priest L (Graham Gerdeman). **Peregrine Falcon**: 9 Sep / 10 Oct / 10 Nov (1) Duck R Unit (AT, RS, VS, JH); 14 Sep (1) Pickwick L (AT).

Flycatcher - Siskin: Olive-sided Flycatcher: 28 Aug (1) Humphreys Co (MM); 31 Aug (1) Bell's Bend (FF); 3 Sep (1) Duck R Unit (AT); 6 Sep (1) Coffee Co (SNM); 7-8 Sep (1) Shelby Park (MS, PDC, FF); 8 Sep (1) Fort Campbell (DMo); 9 Sep (1) Crooked Branch Park (MS); 16 Sep (1) Smith Co (Chris Agee, photo); 18 Sep (1) Haynes Bottoms WMA, Montgomery Co (JH). Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: 2 Sep(1) Bark Camp Barrens WMA, Coffee Co (SNM); 10 Sep (1) Perry Co (AT); 19 Sep (1) Radnor L (FF); 30 Sep (1) Duck R Unit (AT); 5-6 Oct (1) Perry Co (RS). Acadian Flycatcher: 7 Oct (1) Perry Co (RS, VS), lrs. Willow Flycatcher: 16 Aug (2) Fort Campbell (DMo); 3 Sep (1) Humphreys Co (AT), lrs. Scissor-tailed Flycatcher: 7 Aug (16, about half im) Lytle Cr Rd, Rutherford Co (Randy Winstead), exceeds previous high count in state; 10 Aug (1) Wartrace, Bedford Co (Melissa Turrentine); 23 Sep (46, at roost) Clifton, Wayne Co (AT), sets a new high count for the state by a large margin; 21 Sep (1) Murfreesboro (MT), lrs. Loggerhead Shrike: 9 Sep (2) Coffee Co (SNM). Bell's Vireo: 16 / 30 Aug (1) Fort Campbell (DMo). Philadelphia Vireo: 12 Aug (1) Duck R Unit (AT), new early fall date in state. Fish Crow: 5 Aug (1) Woods Reservoir, Franklin Co (SZ); 12 Sep (30+) Pickwick L (AT); 16 Nov (2) Tennessee R, Perry Co (RS). Purple Martin: the large roost in Nashville, forced to move to a new site this year, peaked at about 60,000 birds in mid Aug (MJW et al.). Bank Swallow: 7 Oct (1) Duck R Unit (RS), lrs. Barn Swallow: 7 Nov (1) Bell's Bend (FF), lrs. Red-breasted Nuthatch: 22 Nov (1) Dickson Co (RS), only report. Winter Wren: 1 Oct (1) Old Hickory Dam (MS), ers. Sedge Wren: 16 / 30 Aug (3 / 1) Fort Campbell (DMo); 14 Oct (1) Crooked Branch Park (MS); 19 / 25 Oct (2 / 1) Bell's Bend (FF); 4 Nov (18) Duck R Unit (RS, AT), max; 30 Nov (4) Perry Co (AT). Marsh Wren: 30 Sep / 4 Nov (19 / 17) Duck R Unit (AT / RS), max. Bewick's Wren: 23 Sep (1) Bark Camp Barrens (SNM); 1st report in state since May 2015. Purple Finch: 14 Nov (1) Rutherford Co (CW), only report. Red Crossbill: 17 Sep (1, flying over) Perry Co (Evan Beachy, AT). Pine Siskin: 9 Sep (1) Murfreesboro (CW), ers; 10 Oct (2) Duck R Unit (RS, VS, AT); 12 Oct (3) Perry Co (RS); 18 Oct / 17 Nov (2/14) Humphreys Co (RS); 25 Oct (35) Fort Campbell (DMo).

Sparrow - Dickcissel: Clay-colored Sparrow: 27 Sep (1) Fort Campbell (DMo); 4-5 Nov (1) Duck R Unit (RS, VS, AT, m.ob., photo). Vesper Sparrow: 27 Sep (3) Fort Campbell (DMo), ers; 3 Nov (7) Perry Co (VS), max. Lark Sparrow: 28 Aug (2 im) Henry Horton SP, Marshall Co (RHo). Henslow's Sparrow: 16 / 30 Aug (9 / 8) Fort Campbell (DMo). LeConte's Sparrow: 28 Oct - 6 Nov (max 27 on 4 Nov) Duck R Unit (AT, RS, m.ob.); 28 Oct (1) Cross Cr NWR (JH, SA); 5-30 Nov (1-7) Perry Co (AT, RS, VS). Nelson's Sparrow: 28 Oct - 5 Nov (1) Duck R Unit (AT, RS, m.ob.); 2 Nov (1) Perry Co (VS). Lincoln's Sparrow: 8 Oct (1) Perry Co (RS); 10 Oct (2) Duck R Unit (RS, VS, AT); 17 Oct (1) Percy Priest Field Trial Area, Rutherford Co (SZ); 19 Oct (1) Bell's Bend (FF); 26 Oct (2) Fort Campbell (DMo); 3 Nov (2) Perry Co (VS). Yellow-breasted Chat: 7 Oct (1) Paris, Henry Co (RWh), Irs. Bobolink: 30 Aug (6) Fort Campbell (DMo), ers. Western Meadowlark: 17

Oct (3) Perry Co (RS). Northern Waterthrush: 24 Aug (1) marsh on Walter S. Davis Blvd., Nashville (FF), ers. Blue-winged Warbler: 7 Oct (1) Shelby Park and Bottoms (MS), Irs. Golden-winged Warbler: 4 Sep (1) Crooked Branch Park (MS); 6-24 Sep (1-3) Radnor L (JKS, MS, m.ob.); 9 Sep (1) Edgar Evins SP, DeKalb Co (MT); 21 Sep (1) Coffee Co (DJS); 24 Sep (1) Perry Co (AT); 28 Sep (1) Forest Hills, Davidson Co (Chris Sloan); 30 Sep (1) Franklin, Williamson Co (MJW); 12 Oct (1) Radnor L (MJW). Tennessee Warbler: 7 Nov (1) Murfreesboro (CW, photo), Irs. Orange-crowned Warbler: 25 Oct (1) Fort Campbell (DMo); 9 Nov (1) Murfreesboro (CW). Connecticut Warbler: 1 Oct (1) Old Hickory Dam (MS). Common Yellowthroat: 26 Nov (1) Duck R Unit (RS), lrs. Cape May Warbler: 9 Nov (1) Lebanon, Wilson Co (JN, photo), Irs. Magnolia Warbler: 10 Aug (1) Smith Co (Chris Agee), ers. Blackburnian Warbler: 26 Aug (1) Sumner Co (MS), ers. Chestnutsided Warbler: 29 Oct (1) Wilson Co (Greg Tomerlin); 31 Oct (1) Thompson Station, Williamson Co (EBo, photo); both rather late. Palm Warbler: 18 Aug (1) Bridgestone-Firestone Centennial Wilderness WMA, White Co (MM), very early; 28 Oct (1 "Yellow") Duck R Unit (AT); 2 Nov (1 "Yellow") Wilson Co (JN). Black-throated Green Warbler: 1 Nov (1) Duck R Unit (AT, photo); 7 Nov (1) Murfreesboro (CW, photo), lrs. Canada Warbler: 25 Aug (1) Shelby Park and Bottom (PDC), ers. Wilson's Warbler: 12 Aug (1) Perry Co (AT), ers. Indigo Bunting: 7 Nov (1) Perry Co (RS); 9 Nov (1) Murfreesboro (CW); lrs. Dickcissel: 10 Sep (1) Smith Co (Chris Agee), lrs.

Locations: Bark Camp Barrens - Coffee Co; Bell's Bend - Davidson Co; Crooked Branch Park - Davidson Co; Cross Cr NWR - Stewart Co; Duck R Unit - unit of Tennessee NWR, Humphreys Co; Eagleville - Rutherford Co; Fort Campbell - Montgomery Co (unless specified otherwise); Fowler Road - irrigation pond in Lincoln Co; Old Hickory L - Davidson Co (unless specified otherwise); Percy Priest L - Davidson Co (unless specified otherwise); Pickwick L - Hardin Co; Radnor L - Davidson Co; Shelby Park and Bottoms - Davidson Co.

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CUMBERLAND PLATEAU / RIDGE and VALLEY REGION - - The fall season was warmer and drier than normal. Rainfall in the Tri-cities area was about 2 inches above average in both August (6 inches) and October (4.5 inches), but September and November were very dry with just 1 inch of rain apiece. Three tropical systems affected East Tennessee this fall. Remnants of Hurricane Harvey produced light rain on 30-31 August. The remnants of Hurricane Irma brought heavy rain on 11-12 September to Chattanooga and the east slope of the Appalachians in North Carolina; however, easterly downsloping winds kept northeast Tennessee relatively dry. Hurricane Nate brought moderate rains to East Tennessee on 8-9 October.

The waterfowl highlight was a Brant in Knox County. Upper Douglas Lake, including Rankin Bottoms, hosted 25 species of shorebirds this fall, highlighted by single Marbled

and Hudsonian Godwits and a Red Knot. Notable for East Tennessee was a Long-billed Dowitcher at Brainerd Levee. An immature Sooty Tern appeared on Chickamauga Lake in the wake of Hurricane Irma. Tropical systems may have accounted for the presence of Red Phalarope and Least Tern in the region. A continuing Brown Pelican and a Great White Heron graced northeast Tennessee, while a White-faced Ibis appeared briefly in Hamblen County. Notable raptors included four Swallow-tailed Kites in Sequatchie County, three reports of Mississippi Kites, two reports of Northern Goshawks and a Golden Eagle. A Common Redpoll in Washington County was very early and quite unexpected; of 20+records in the state, this was just the second record from November (most are in January or February). Modest numbers of Pine Siskins were found, but Purple Finches and Redbreasted Nuthatches were scarce. Two Red Crossbills in Van Buren County and a Claycolored Sparrow in Hamilton County were notable. Common Ravens continue to wander around the northern portions of the region; particularly noteworthy raven sightings this fall came from Hamblen, Morgan, and northern Blount counties.

Goose - Crane: Snow Goose: 4-9 Nov (1, blue) John Sevier L (SHu); 4 Nov (1) Upper Douglas L (Michael Winck); 9 Nov (70, flying over) Vonore, Monroe Co (Tony King, David Verhulst); 19 Nov (2) UT Plant Science Farm, Knox Co (Evan Buck); 20-22 Nov (3) Chickamauga L (SKJ); 21-28 Nov (1) Pellissippi State, Knox Co (Terry Crowe, m.ob.); 22 Nov (6) Powell Valley, Claiborne Co (NeM); 23-25 Nov (1) Cove Lake SP (NeM). Ross's Goose: 6 Nov (1) Cove Lake SP (KTOS); 8-15 Nov (2-8) John Sevier L (SHu); 9 Nov (1) L Tansi (EKL); 9 Nov (1) Soddy L, Hamilton Co (RSh, DSh); 11 Nov (1) Kingsport (FRC); 14 Nov (2) Oneida, Scott Co (NeM); 20-22 Nov (3) Chickamauga L (SKJ); 22 Nov (2) Powell Valley, Claiborne Co (NeM); 23-25 Nov (1) Cove Lake SP (NeM). Greater Whitefronted Goose: 9 Nov (2) L Tansi (EKL); 12-15 Nov (1-2) John Sevier L (SHu); 20-22 Nov (2-3) Chickamauga L (SKJ). BRANT: 21 Nov - 2 Dec (1) Pellissippi State campus, Knox Co (Terry Crowe, m.ob., photo), 12th record in state. Blue-winged Teal: 6 Sep (320 +) Rankin Bottoms (RLK), max. Redhead: 9 Nov (110) L Tansi (EKL), max. Surf Scoter: 18 Oct (1) John Sevier L (SHu). Common Merganser: 9 Nov (4, female-type) Beaver Cr, Sullivan Co (RLK). Horned Grebe: 30 Sep (1) Huntsville L, Scott Co (Betty Dunn), ers. Rufous Hummingbird: 19 Nov (1 ad male) Clinton, Anderson Co (Pat Howard). Virginia Rail: thru season (1-2) Standifer Gap Marsh, Hamilton Co (KAC, m.ob.); 31 Oct (2) Kyker Bottoms, Blount Co (Evan Buck, Cody Allen). Sora: 11 Nov (4) Springfield Branch, Blount Co (TH), max. Common Gallinule: 14 Oct - 12 Nov (1-2) John Sevier L (SHu, photo). Sandhill Crane: 26 Nov (29) Jefferson Co (KW, Craig Watson), east of usual migration corridor. Whooping Crane: 20 Nov (1) Hiwassee Refuge, Meigs Co (Charles Murray).

Shorebirds: American Avocet: 29 Sep (8) Cherokee Park, Knox Co (Michael Winck, photo). Black-bellied Plover: 31 Aug - 4 Sep (max 20 on 1 Sep) Rankin Bottoms (MM, RDH, DMy, RLK), new high count for site; 14 Oct (1) Upper Douglas L (MBS). American Golden-Plover: 25 Aug - 29 Sep (1-5) Rankin Bottoms (MM, RLK, m.ob.); 1 Oct (2) Polk Co (RHo); 29 Oct (1) Raccoon Mtn pumped storage facility, Marion Co (BD). Semipalmated Plover: 29 Aug (35) Rankin Bottoms (MBS), max. Marbled Godwit: 23 Aug (1) Rankin

Bottoms (MM, photo), 6th record for site. Hudsonian Godwit: 31 Aug (1) Rankin Bottoms (MM, photo), 2nd record for site. Ruddy Turnstone: 3-5 Sep (2) Rankin Bottoms (CJW, m.ob.). Red Knot: 3-5 Sep (1) Rankin Bottoms (CJW, photo, m.ob.), 7th record for site. Stilt Sandpiper: 23 Aug - 17 Sep (max 38 on 4 Sep) Rankin Bottoms (MM, RLK, CJW, m.ob.); 30 Aug - 2 Sep (1) Brainerd Levee (MM, m.ob.); 16 Sep (1) Loudon Co (BSc, MM); 14 Oct (2) Upper Douglas L (MBS). Sanderling: 23 Aug - 12 Sep (1-8) Rankin Bottoms (MM, RLK, m.ob.); 25-28 Aug (1) Eagle Bend (EBo, m.ob.); 24 Sep (1) John Sevier L (SHu). Dunlin: 6 Oct / 2-17 Nov (1 / 10-16) South Mouse Cr, Bradley Co (RHo); 30 Oct / 7 Nov (1 / 5) Chester Frost Park (SKJ / Audrey Whitlock); 1 Nov (2) Nickajack Dam, Marion Co (BD); 1 Nov (2) Polk Co (RHo); 3 Nov (1) Soddy L, Hamilton Co (RSh, DSh); 4 Nov (1) Alcoa, Blount Co (Evan Kidd); 26 Nov (29) Upper Douglas L (KW, Craig Watson). Baird's Sandpiper: 24 Aug - 1 Sep (1) Brainerd Levee (BD, m.ob.); 25 Aug - 29 Sep (1-2) Rankin Bottoms (David Kirschke, RLK, MM). White-rumped Sandpiper: 12 Sep (1) Rankin Bottoms (RLK, MM); 14 Oct (1) Upper Douglas L (MBS). Pectoral Sandpiper: 4 Nov (3) Lowland, Hamblen Co (BSc), lrs. Buff-breasted Sandpiper: 20 Aug - 12 Sep (1-5) Rankin Bottoms (FJA, KCB, RLK, m.ob.). Short-billed Dowitcher: 23 Aug - 17 Sep (1-3) Rankin Bottoms (MM, RLK, MBS, m.ob.). Long-billed Dowitcher: 6 Oct (1) Brainerd Levee (BD). Wilson's Snipe: 26 Aug (1) Rankin Bottoms (CJW), ers. Lesser Yellowlegs: 3 Sep (100+) Rankin Bottoms (CJW), new high count for site. Wilson's Phalarope: 15 Aug (1) Eagle Bend (RDH, DMy et al.); 26 Aug - 5 Sep (1-3) Rankin Bottoms (RLK, m.ob.), equals previous high count for site. **Red Phalarope**: 9 Oct (1) Nickajack L, Marion Co (RS, VS, m.ob.).

Gull: 30 Aug (2 im) Rankin Bottoms (RLK), ers. SOOTY TERN: 12 Sep (1 im) Chickamauga L (BD et al), fallout from Hurricane Irma. Least Tern: 1 Sep (1) Rankin Bottoms (RDH, DMy), 3rd record at this site, rare in East Tenn. Caspian Tern: 6 Sep (16) Rankin Bottoms (RLK), max; 11-12 Sep (4-6) Chickamauga L (BD). Black Tern: 10 Aug (45) Chickamauga L (BD); 18 Aug (2) Boone L, Sullivan Co (Glen Eller, Pete Range); 18 Aug / 2 Sep (2 / 4) John Sevier L (SHu); 30 Aug - 6 Sep (1-14) Rankin Bottoms (RLK, m.ob.). Common Tern: 1 Sep (1) Chickamauga L (BD); 6 Sep (17) Rankin Bottoms (RLK). Forster's Tern: 18 Aug (3) Cove Lake SP (NeM); 18 / 29 Aug (2 / 4) John Sevier L (SHu); 1 Sep / 9 Oct (17 / 16) Chickamauga L (BD / KAC et al.); 9 Oct (4) L Tansi (EKL). Red-throated Loon: 1-6 Nov (1) Cove Lake SP (NeM, photo, m.ob.). Common Loon: 29 Aug (1) Watts Bar L, Rhea Co (RSh, DSh), summering bird? Double-crested Cormorant: 14 Oct (650) Upper Douglas L (MBS), max. American White Pelican: 27 Oct thru season (100- 250+, numbers diminishing late in season) Hiwassee Refuge, Meigs Co (Bernie Swiney fide Charles Murray, m.ob.). Brown Pelican: from July thru 12 Nov (1) Fort Patrick Henry L, Sullivan Co (m.ob.).

Bittern - Falcon: American Bittern: 4 Sep (1) Brainerd Levee (BD). "Great White Heron": 7 Aug - 10 Sep (1) Steele Cr, Bristol (Sherry Willinger, Jeremy Stout, photo, m.ob.), 7th record in NE Tennesse and 12th for the state. Great Egret: 29 Sep (450) Upper Douglas L (MBS), new high count for East Tenn. Little Blue Heron: 5-26 Aug (7-1) Rankin Bottoms (MBS, m.ob.); 18 Aug (1 im) Cove Lake SP (NeM); sub-par showing. Green Heron: 17

Nov (1) Cove Lake SP (Evan Kidd), Irs. Yellow-crowned Night-Heron: thru 1 Oct (1-4) Maryville Greenway, Blount Co (Evan Kidd). White-faced Ibis: 4 Nov (1) Lowland, Hamblen Co (BSc), reddish eye noted. Swallow-tailed Kite: 15-20 Aug (4) Sequatchie Co (Gary Lanham, Pixie Lanham, photo, m.ob.). Mississippi Kite: 15-26 Aug (2-5) Sequatchie Co (Gary Lanham, Pixie Lanham, m.ob.); 30 Aug (1) Bradley Co (MM); 11 Sep (1) Eagle Bend (Charles Nicholson). Northern Goshawk: 17 Oct (1 ad) south Johnson City (Larry McDaniel); 11 Nov (1 im) Soddy Mtn hawkwatch, Hamilton Co (Bill Haley). Golden Eagle: 21 Nov (1) Seven Islands SP (Jacob Wessels, photo). Merlin: 20 Sep (1) Knox Co (Dean Edwards); 23 Sep (1) Bledsoe Co (MM, BSc); 1 Oct (1) Brainerd Levee (BD); 1 Oct / 15 Nov (1) John Sevier L (SHu); 18 Oct (1) Blount Co (RSh, DSh); 22 Oct (1) Grundy Co (CW); 22 Oct (1) Cove Lake SP (Melinda Fawver, KTOS); 26 Oct (1) Lakeshore Park, Knox Co (Andrew Core); 27 Oct (1) Bledsoe Co (RSh, DSh); 5 Nov (1) Polk Co (RHo). Peregrine Falcon: 23 Aug / 5-12 Sep (1) Rankin Bottoms (MM / Michael Ryon, MBS); 2 Sep (1 ad) Maryville, Blount Co (Evan Kidd, photo), arrival at wintering site; 28 Sep (1) Lookout Mtn (BD); 1 Oct (2) Polk Co (RHo); 13 Oct (1) Conklin (RLK); 16 Oct (1) Cherokee L, Hawkins Co portion (RLK); 2 Nov (1) South Mouse Cr, Bradley Co (RHo); 11 Nov thru season (1) Chickamauga Dam (m.ob.).

Flycatcher - Bobolink: Olive-sided Flycatcher: 24 Aug / 8 Sep (1) John Sevier L (SHu); 24 Aug (1) Scott Co (Betty Dunn). Eastern Wood-Pewee: 27 Oct (1) Chester Frost Park (SKJ), lrs. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: 29 Aug / 16 Sep (1) Cumberland Co (EKL). Philadelphia Vireo: 3 Sep (1) Craven's House (KAC); 9 Sep (1) Melton Hill Park, Knox Co (Colin Sumrall); 17 Sep - 4 Oct (4 sightings of 1-2 birds) Cumberland Co (EKL); 20 Sep (1) Hamblen Co (MM); 22 Sep (1) Seven Islands SP (Peggy Rudman, photo); 23 Sep (1) Cross Mtn, Campbell Co (Bates Estabrooks, photo); 24 Sep (1) Knox Co (CJW); 27 Sep / 12 Oct (2 / 1) Lookout Mtn (BD); 1 Oct (1) Knoxville (Colin Sumrall); 15 Oct (1) Hamilton Co (KAC et al.). Fish Crow: 24 Sep (2) Kingsport (SHu), lrs in NE Tenn. Common Raven: 18 Aug (1) Lowland, Hamblen Co (AT); 14 Sep (1) Douglas Dam, Sevier Co (Huck Hutchens); 21 Sep thru season (5 reports of 1-2 birds) Kingsport (FRC, SQ et al.); 23 Sep (1) Eidson, Hawkins Co (SHu); 13 / 30 Oct (1) Conklin (RLK); 27 Oct (1) Johnson City (RLK); 31 Oct (1) near Rockford, Blount Co (TH); 10 Nov (1) Laurel Run Park, Hawkins Co (Gary Bailey et al.); 12 Nov (1) John Sevier L (SHu); 15 Nov (1) Obed Wild and Scenic R, Morgan Co (Charles Nicholson); 18 Nov (2) Limestone, Washington Co (RLK et al.); 19 Nov (1) Seymour, Sevier Co (Mark Armstrong). Red-breasted Nuthatch: 18 Sep (2) Gupton Wetland, Roane Co (John Cyrus) and (1) Scott Co (Betty Dunn), ers, few reports. Sedge Wren: 1 / 30 Oct (1) Brainerd Levee (BD / KAC). Marsh Wren: 27 Oct (1) Kingsport (RLK); 30 Oct (1) Brainerd Levee (KAC); 7 Nov (1) Sewanee, Franklin Co (David Haskell); 11 Nov (1) Springfield Branch, Blount Co (TH). Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: 13 Nov (1) Amnicola Marsh, Hamilton Co (BD), Irs. Veery: 31 Aug (1) Lookout Mtn (BD), ers. COMMON REDPOLL: 19 Nov (1) south Johnson City (Larry McDaniel), with goldfinches, well described. Red Crossbill: 23 Sep (2) Fall Cr Falls SP, Van Buren Co (MM, BSc). Pine Siskin: 9 Sep (1) Lookout Mtn (BD), new early date for Hamilton Co; 9 Oct (1) Sewanee, Franklin Co (Jim Peters); 19 Oct (1) Cumberland Co (EKL); 22 Oct (31) Grundy Co (CW); 24 / 30 Oct (1 / 4) Lookout Mtn

(BD); 25 Oct (2) Chattanooga (BD); 29 Oct (4) Tennessee R. Gorge, Marion Co (BD); 3 Nov (1) John Sevier L (SHu); 10 Nov (1) Bledsoe Co (RSh, DSh); 14 Nov (8) Scott Co (NeM). Clay-colored Sparrow: 30 Sep - 1 Oct (1) Discovery Drive, Hamilton Co (BD). Vesper Sparrow: 17 Oct (2) Hamilton Co (BD), ers. Grasshopper Sparrow: 4 Oct (1) Conklin (RLK); 13 Oct (1) Kyker Bottoms, Blount Co (EBo), lrs. Fox Sparrow: 26 Oct (1) Seven Islands SP (EBo), ers. Lincoln's Sparrow: 28 Sep (1) Cumberland Co (EKL); 1 Oct (2) Loudon Co (RDH, DMy); 2 Oct (1) Kingsport (RLK); 5 Oct (1) Norris Dam, Anderson Co (EBo); 5 Oct (1) Melton Hill Park, Knox Co (Colin Sumrall); 6 Oct (1) Chester Frost Park (SKJ); 7 Oct (1) Gupton Wetland, Roane Co (Michael Ryon); 13 Oct (1) Conklin (RLK); 14 Oct (1) Rogersville, Hawkins Co (SHu); 19 Oct (1) Seven Islands SP (Mark Armstrong); 25 Oct (1) Kyker Bottoms, Blount Co (EBo). Bobolink: 3 Sep / 5 Oct (3 / 1) Brainerd Levee (KAC, Daniel Jacobson / BD); 12 Sep (8) Seven Islands SP (Mark Armstrong); 25 Sep (5, nocturnal flight calls) Knoxville (Dean Edwards).

Warbler - Bunting: Golden-winged Warbler: 28 Aug (1) Lookout Mtn (BD); 15 Sep - 2 Oct (16 sightings of 1-3 birds) Cumberland Co (EKL); 15 Sep (1) Grundy Co (MM); 16 Sep (1) Fairfield Glade, Cumberland Co (John Cyrus); 17 Sep (1) Anderson Co (Melinda Fawver et al.); 18 Sep (1, ba) Greenway Farm, Hamilton Co (David Aborn); 20 Sep (1) Hamblen Co (MM); 23 Sep (1) Fall Cr Falls SP, Van Buren Co (MM, BSc). Tennessee Warbler: 28 Aug (1) Lookout Mtn (BD), ers; 9 Nov (1) Lookout Mtn (BD), lrs. Orangecrowned Warbler: 15 Oct (1) Craven's House (BD), ers. Common Yellowthroat: 5 Nov (1) Blount Co (TH); 6 Nov (1) Craven's House (BD), lrs. Cerulean Warbler: 8 / 17 / 26 Aug (5 / 3 / 5) Lookout Mtn (BD); 18 Aug (2) Caryville Mtn, Campbell Co (NeM); 24 Aug (1) North Boundary Trail, Roane Co (EBo); no reports east of Knoxville. Magnolia Warbler: 26 Aug (1) Cumberland Co (EKL), ers. Bay-breasted Warbler: 6 Sep (1) Cumberland Co (EKL), ers. Blackburnian Warbler: 26 Aug (2) Lookout Mtn (BD) and (3) Cumberland Co (EKL), ers. Yellow Warbler: 18 Sep (1) Cumberland Co (EKL), lrs. Chestnut-sided Warbler: 15 Oct (2) Bays Mtn Park, Sullivan Co (BF, SQ), lrs. Blackpoll Warbler: 23 Sep (1) Cross Mtn, Campbell Co (Bates Estabrooks, photo), rare in fall. Black-throated Blue Warbler: 11 Sep (1 female) Cumberland Co (John Cyrus); 6 Oct (2, male / female) Union Co (Sandy Manter, photo); 10 Oct (1 female) Lookout Mtn (BD). Palm Warbler: 6 Sep (1) Rankin Bottoms (RLK), ers. Prairie Warbler: 15 Oct (1) Chester Frost Park (SKJ), lrs. Black-throated Green Warbler: 25 Oct (1) Jonesborough, Washington Co (Jonathan Lugo, David Lugo), Irs. Wilson's Warbler: 27 Aug (1) Cumberland Co (EKL), ers; 15 Oct (1) Craven's House (BD), lrs. Rose-breasted Grosbeak: 29 Oct (1, at feeder) Anderson Co (Melinda Fawver); 9 Nov (2) Craven's House (BD), lrs. Blue Grosbeak: 21 Oct (1) Standifer Gap Marsh, Hamilton Co (Dan Jacobson), lrs. Indigo Bunting: 9 Nov (1) Lookout Mtn (BD), lrs.

Locations: Brainerd Levee - Hamilton Co; Chester Frost Park - Hamilton Co; Chickamauga L - Hamilton Co; Conklin - Washington Co; Cove Lake SP - Campbell Co; Craven's House - unit of Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park, Hamilton Co; Eagle Bend - fish hatchery, Anderson Co; John Sevier L - Hawkins Co; Kingsport - Sullivan Co; L Tansi - Cumberland Co; Lookout Mtn - Hamilton Co; Rankin Bottoms - Cocke Co; Seven

Islands SP - Knox Co; Upper Douglas L - Cocke Co.

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EASTERN MOUNTAIN REGION - - Temperatures were near normal for most of the period except for October, which was warmer than normal. Both August and October had rainfall more than 2 inches above normal; while September and November were dry, with only about 1 inch of rain each. The first snowfall of the season occurred 29 October with 2-3 inches on Roan Mountain and the higher peaks of the Great Smoky Mountains.

Some good shorebirds were noted this autumn, including Red Knot, Long-billed Dowitcher, and Red-necked Phalarope. Particularly noteworthy was a Kirtland's Warbler netted and photographed at Big Bald Mountain. Also of interest were a Mississippi Kite, Golden Eagles, and Short-eared Owls.

Fall banding was conducted at three stations, detailed below. High numbers of Ruby-crowned Kinglets were banded at two stations. Cape May Warblers were in reduced numbers after a big year the previous fall. In addition to seven Northern Saw-whet Owls banded at Big Bald was the recapture of one banded there in fall 2016; two Saw-whets also were banded at Whigg Meadow.

- Big Bald Mountain, Unicoi County: 25 Aug 22 Oct (1993 birds of 58 species banded), Mark Hopey, head bander. Top species banded: Swainson's Thrush (399), Tennessee Warbler (302), Black-throated Blue Warbler (240), Ruby-crowned Kinglet (232), Dark-eyed Junco (217).
- · Whigg Meadow, Monroe County: 9 Sep 1 Oct (1027 birds of 54 species banded), Scott Rush, head bander. Top species banded: Tennessee Warbler (217), Swainson's Thrush (201), Black-throated Blue Warbler (92), Ruby-crowned Kinglet (59), Darkeyed Junco (57).
- · Holston Valley, Sullivan County: 27 Aug 5 Nov (439 birds of 51 species banded), Richard Lewis, bander. Top species banded: Magnolia Warbler (52), Tennessee Warbler (50), Swainson's Thrush (37), Northern Cardinal (30), Ovenbird (28).
- Big Bald Mountain hawk banding operation, Unicoi County: Sep Nov (96 birds of 6 species banded), Mark Hopey, bander. All species banded: Sharp-shinned Hawk (57), Cooper's Hawk (19), Red-tailed Hawk (11), Peregrine Falcon (4), American Kestrel (3), Merlin (2).

Goose - Crane: Ross's Goose: 19 Nov (1) South Holston L (RLK, FRC). Greater White-fronted Goose: 19 Nov - 1 Dec (1) Fishery Park, Unicoi Co (Joe McGuiness, m.ob.); 20 Nov (1) Wilbur L (BP, JP). Tundra Swan: 9 Nov (16) Chota Refuge, Tellico L, Monroe Co (Tony King, David Verhulst). Blue-winged Teal: 9 Oct (160) South Holston L (RLK), max. Northern Shoveler: 6 Sep (2) South Holston L (RLK), ers. Northern Pintail: 19 Nov (8) Rooty Branch beaver pond, Sullivan Co (RLK), max. Canvasback: 29 Oct (2) South Holston L (FRC, m.ob.). White-winged Scoter: 29 Oct (10) South Holston L (FRC). Black

Scoter: 9 Nov (3) South Holston L (RLK). Bufflehead: 26 Oct (2) Wilbur L (BP, JP), ers. Hooded Merganser: 30 Sep (1) Ripshin L, Carter Co (FJA, KCB et al.), ers. Red-breasted Merganser: 9 Nov (15) South Holston L (RLK), max. Horned Grebe: 9 Nov (60) South Holston L (RLK), max. Eared Grebe: 23 Oct (1) South Holston L (RLK), only report, 24th consecutive year present. Black-billed Cuckoo: 23 Sep (1) Roan Mtn SP (RRK et al.). Eastern Whip-poor-will: 26 Sep (2, calling) Wilbur L (BP), Irs. Sandhill Crane: 9 Nov (1) Cades Cove, GSMNP (Billie Knight, photo).

Avocet - Tern: American Avocet: 23 Aug (3) South Holston L (RRK, Glen Eller, Harry Lee Farthing, Jim Anderson, Debi Campbell); 5 Sep (9) South Holston L (Belinda Bridwell, photo). Black-bellied Plover: 29 Oct (4) South Holston L (FRC). Spotted Sandpiper: 4 Nov (1) South Holston R weir, Sullivan Co (Gary Bailey et al.), Irs. RED KNOT: 25-27 Aug (1) South Holston L (BP, JP, BF, SQ, Clancy Deel, RLK), 2nd record in NE Tennessee. Sanderling: 25 Aug - 12 Sep (1-2) South Holston L (BP, JP, m.ob.). Dunlin: 16 Oct / 29 Oct / 4 Nov (1 / 15 / 2) South Holston L (Clancy Deel / RLK et al. / Joe McGuiness et al.). Longbilled Dowitcher: 29 Oct (2) South Holston L (RLK), 3rd record in NE Tennessee. Rednecked Phalarope: 23-25 Aug (1) South Holston L (RRK, Glen Eller, Harry Lee Farthing, Jim Anderson, Debi Campbell, photo, m.ob.), 8th record in NE Tennessee. Bonaparte's Gull: 9 Nov (140) South Holston L (RLK), max. Caspian Tern: 8 Aug - 12 Sep (1-7) South Holston L (RRK, RLK, m.ob.). Black Tern: 18 Aug (33) South Holston L (RLK). Common Tern: 23 Aug - 6 Sep (1-13) South Holston L (RLK, m.ob.); 7 Nov (3) South Holston L (Pete Range), very late. Forster's Tern: 5 Aug - 9 Oct (1-6) South Holston L (RRK, RLK, m.ob.); 30 Sep (1) Watauga L, Carter Co (Tom McNeil).

Loon - Falcon: Common Loon: 9 Nov (85) South Holston L (RLK), max. Great Egret: 30 Nov (1) Watauga River, Carter Co (Jeff Lemons), Irs. Black-crowned Night-Heron: 26 Aug (1) South Holston L (Rick Blanton). Turkey Vulture: 10 Nov (482, migrating thru in one hour) Carver's Gap on Roan Mtn (RLK). Mississippi Kite: 13 Aug (1) Emert's Cove, Sevier Co (KW). Golden Eagle: 30 Oct (1) Wilbur L (BP, JP); 2 Nov (1) Roan Mtn (RLK); 22 Nov (1) Big Bald Mtn (MEH). Barn Owl: 1 Nov (1) Shady Valley (RLK). Short-eared Owl: 19-29 Nov (1-3) Cades Cove, GSMNP (Warren Bielenberg, m.ob.). Northern Saw-whet Owl: 14 Sep (2 ba) Whigg Meadow (Eric Soehren); 30 Sep (1, calling) Roan Cr, Johnson Co (Tom McNeil); thru period (7 ba) Big Bald Mtn (MEH). Red-headed Woodpecker: 10 Nov (1) Round Bald on Roan Mtn (RLK), migrating over. Merlin: 10 / 23 Sep (1 / 2) Roan Mtn (RRK / RLK); 16 Sep (1) Whigg Meadow (Eric Soehren); 30 Sep (1) Unaka Mtn, Unicoi Co (Kim Stroud et al.); 28 Oct (1) Emert's Cove, Sevier Co (KW). Peregrine Falcon: 5 Aug (1) Roan Mtn (Carl Miller); 7 Sep (1) Holston Valley (RRK); 22 Sep (1) Elizabethton, Carter Co (Jonathan Lugo, David Lugo, RRK); 30 Sep (1) Roan Mtn (FJA, KCB et al.); 9 Oct (1) South Holston L (RRK, Jim Anderson, Gil Derouen).

Flycatcher - Siskin: Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: 16 Sep (2 ba) Whigg Meadow (SAR); 16 Sep (1 ba) Big Bald Mtn (MEH); 22 Sep (1) South Holston L (RLK). Philadelphia Vireo: 18 Sep (1) Walland, Blount Co (MM); 28 Sep / 3 Oct (1) Pittman Center (KW); 29 Sep / 1 Oct

(3 ba) Whigg Meadow (SAR); 14 Oct (1) Shady Valley (RLK). **Tree Swallow**: 5 Oct (1,000+) South Holston L (RLK), max. **Bank Swallow**: 27 Aug / 14 Sep (1) South Holston L (RLK), only reports. **Marsh Wren**: 23 Sep (1) Carver's Gap on Roan Mtn (BF, SQ, photo), in alder thicket; 3-26 Oct (1-2) Shady Valley (RLK); 25 Oct (1) Pittman Center (KW). **Swainson's Thrush**: 25 Oct (1 ba) Holston Valley (RPL), Irs. **Hermit Thrush**: 18 Oct (1 ba) Holston Valley (RPL), ers. **Red Crossbill**: 11 Oct (6) Newfound Gap, GSMNP (SHu); 5 / 10 Nov (5 / 1) Roan Mtn (Caitlyn King / RLK). **Pine Siskin**: 4 Sep thru season (2-30) Roan Mtn (RLK, m.ob.); 21 Oct (1) Shady Valley (RLK); 19 Nov (50) Pittman Center (KW).

Sparrow - Grosbeak: Vesper Sparrow: 31 Oct (8) Cades Cove, GSMNP (Warren Bielenberg); 1 Nov (2) Shady Valley (RLK). Grasshopper Sparrow: 7 Oct (1) Shady Valley (RLK, SHu et al.), lrs. Lincoln's Sparrow: 26 Sep - 1 Nov (1-4) Shady Valley (RLK); 28 Sep / 5 Oct (1) South Holston L (RLK); 7 Oct (2) Roan Mtn SP (FJA et al.). White-crowned Sparrow: 26 Sep (1) Shady Valley (RLK), ers. Ovenbird: 17 Oct (1 ba) Holston Valley (RPL), lrs. Blue-winged Warbler: 5-20 Sep (3 ba) Whigg Meadow (SAR); 6 Sep (1) South Holston R. weir, Sullivan Co (BF, SQ). Golden-winged Warbler: 16-29 Sep (4 ba) Whigg Meadow (SAR); 21 Sep (1 ba) Big Bald Mtn (MEH); 22 Sep (1) South Holston L (RLK); 14 Oct (1) Polk Co (BSc), quite late. Prothonotary Warbler: 16 Sep (1) Foothills Parkway, Blount Co (Warren Bielenberg), scarce in region, especially in fall. Orange-crowned Warbler: 9 Oct (1) South Holston L (RLK); 14 / 26 Oct (1 / 3) Shady Valley (RLK); 16 Oct (1) Polk Co (RHo); 17 Oct (1) Pittman Center (KW);19 Oct (1) Roan Mtn SP (RLK); 21 Oct (1 ba) Big Bald Mtn (MEH); 30 Oct (1 ba) Holston Valley (RPL). Common Yellowthroat: 29 Nov (1) Shady Valley (RLK), lrs. KIRTLAND'S WARBLER: 3 Oct (1) Big Bald Mtn (MEH, Evan Buck, photo on eBird), 3rd record in state. Cape May Warbler: 24 Aug (2 / 1) Big Bald Mtn / Roan Mtn (MEH / RLK), ers. Blackpoll Warbler: 5 Oct (1) South Holston L (RLK), rare in fall. Yellow-throated Warbler: 16 Oct (1) Sugarlands, GSMNP (Randy Winstead), Irs. Rose-breasted Grosbeak: 27 Sep (145+) Roan Mtn (RLK), max; 29 Nov (1) near Milligan College, Carter Co (KCB), Irs. Indigo Bunting: 4 Nov (1) Pittman Center (KW), Irs. Blue Grosbeak: 5 Oct (1) Holston Valley (RLK), lrs.

Addendum: Long-eared Owl: 13 Nov 2016 (1) Big Bald Mtn (MEH, photo).

Locations: Big Bald Mtn - Unicoi Co; GSMNP - Great Smoky Mtns National Park; Holston Valley - Sullivan Co; Pittman Center - Sevier Co; Roan Mtn - Carter Co; Shady Valley - Johnson Co; South Holston L - Sullivan Co; Whigg Meadow - Monroe Co; Wilbur L - Carter Co.

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