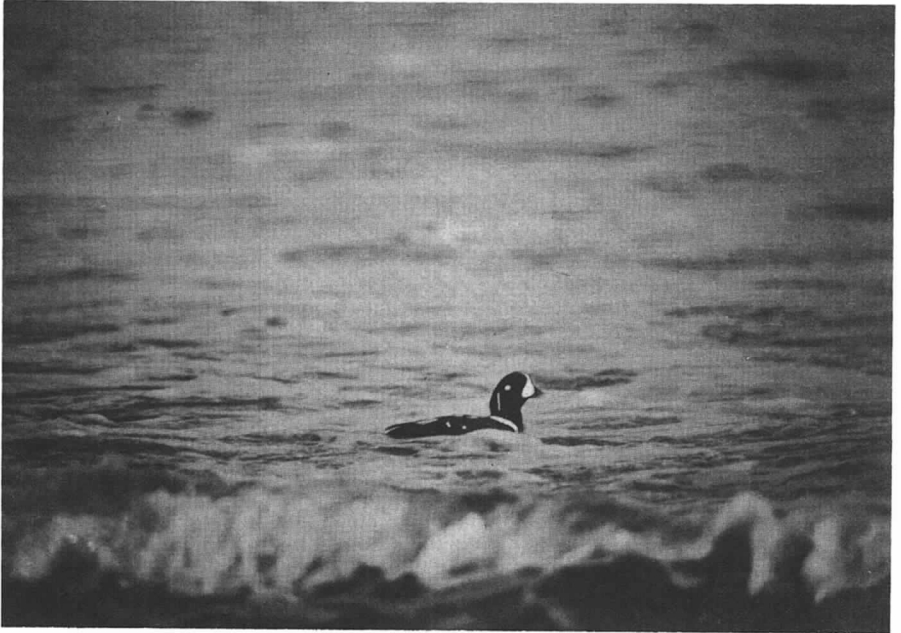


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Cylburn Mansion, 4915 Greenspring Ave., Baltimore, Maryland 21209

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Cover: Adult male Harlequin Duck, 18th St., Ocean City, Jan. 24, 1988. Photo by Michael O'Brien.



## BARNACLE GOOSE IN MARYLAND

ROBERT F. RINGLER

On October 13, 1986 at about 7:30 a.m. I found a Barnacle Goose (*Branta leucopsis*) on a pond with a flock of several hundred Canada Geese (*B. canadensis*). The pond is located immediately west of the intersection of US 13 and Business US 13 southwest of Fruitland, Wicomico County, Maryland. The birds of this flock were resting on an island in the pond or swimming. The Barnacle Goose was one of the swimming birds.

At a range of about 100-150 yards I observed the bird through a Questar at 50X magnification and made mental notes of the plumage. The Barnacle Goose was slightly smaller than the Canadas. The upper body was gray with dark, curved stripes crossing the wings and back. The sides were pale gray to white. The neck was black and this color extended onto the breast where it was distinctly separated from the white of the sides. The black also extended onto the upper back where it blended into the gray. The face was very white, being separated distinctly from the black of the neck. This separation curved from the crown back to the rear of the face and down to somewhat below the chin. The forehead was white.

I did not observe any of the finer points as I attempted to put the bird into other telescopes for everyone in the party to see. Unfortunately, as other cars pulled up, the flock became nervous and took off, the Barnacle Goose included. I did not see it fly.

I eliminated the possibility of an aberrant Canada Goose by the clearly defined contrast between the black and white parts of the plumage, the lack of the gray-brown coloration typical of Canadas, and the extension of the black onto the breast. I eliminated Brant (*B. bernicla*) by the grayer plumage and the white face of the Barnacle Goose.

Barnacle Goose has been reported 14 times previously in Maryland and the District of Columbia. All but two of the sightings, all single birds, have been in late fall to early winter. See Table 1 for a list of the sightings in Maryland and the District of Columbia.

In the past, Barnacle Goose has not been considered for inclusion on the state list because of the possibility of any single bird being an escape. I propose that this species is more likely to be a natural vagrant. The question is one of probability and arises any time a species known to be held in captivity occurs far outside its normal range. This is particularly true with waterfowl.

Table 1. Barnacle Goose Reports from Maryland

Date	Location	Situation	Reference
1/2/86	Cambridge	through 2/21	Armistead 1986
1/9/79	Blackwater NWR	through 1/10	Ringler 1979
1/9/81	West River	through 1/10	Armistead 1981
2/24/85	Deer Creek	through 5/24	Ringler 1985b
5/8/81	Patuxent WRC		Ringler 1981
11/10/56	Anacostia River	flying over	Abbott 1972
11/12/47	near Langford	reported killed	Stewart & Robbins, 1958
11/22/75	Remington Farms	unbanded adult	Robbins 1976
11/24/84	near Bowie	flying over	Ringler 1985a
11/25/66	Blackwater NWR	through 12/4	DuMont 1967
11/26/64	Blackwater NWR	through 11/28	Pyle 1965
12/19/82	Remington Farms	Lower Kent CBC	Gruber 1983
12/ /65	Remington Farms	shot in late Dec.	Robbins 1966

Most Barnacle Geese leave their breeding grounds by the middle of September (Cramp 1977). Despite the fact that Barnacle Geese may be fairly common in captivity, the timing of the fall occurrences in Maryland is consistent with the migration of the species from its breeding grounds and it has been reported in numbers far disproportionate to its status in captivity. Barnacle Geese are long-distance migrants and legitimate vagrancy to North America has been positively established by the presence of a bird banded at Spitsbergen, Norway that was shot by a hunter in Newfoundland (Montevocchi and Wells 1984). The appearance of a flock of seven in Nova Scotia in 1969 (Finch 1970) also indicates natural occurrence. Most of the North American records are from the Atlantic coast rather than distributed more randomly across the continent as would be expected of escapes. A clear pattern of vagrancy has been presented visually in a histogram, which shows the concentration of reports of Barnacle Geese in North America in the fall and to a lesser extent in the spring (Szantyr 1985). There are virtually no records from mid-summer, as might be expected with escapes. Virtually all the reports are of birds that remain for short periods of time, as if migrating.

The other side of the coin is represented by the arguments for the likelihood of these birds being escapes (Ryff 1984). Good points are made here: the possibility of several reports over a period of years may be the responsibility of one individual, Barnacle Geese are kept in many locations over a wide range of the continent and some are known to have escaped or been stolen. However, there are too many sightings of Barnacle Geese in the Canadian Maritimes and in the eastern United States to believe that all, or even most, are the result of escaped captive birds. The more probable conclusion is that these birds are truly wild vagrants unless there is evidence to the contrary.

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[This report, and the status of the Barnacle Goose in Maryland, are presently under review by the MOS Records Committee.—Ed.]

## PREY OF AN URBAN PEREGRINE FALCON - PART II

JOHN C. BARBER AND MARGARET M. BARBER

In an earlier paper (*Maryland Birdlife* 39 (4):108-110), we analyzed the prey taken by a single female Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) over a three-year period. That particular Peregrine, which lived in downtown Baltimore, Maryland, mated with a male in 1984, died that fall, and was replaced by a new female. That pair has nested on the United States Fidelity and Guaranty (USF&G) building in downtown Baltimore since September, 1984. Here we present a summary of the prey of this pair during the period 1984-1987.

### HISTORY AND METHODS

The earlier paper contains a general history of urban Peregrines in the United States and the methods we used to gather prey data used in the previous study. The methods used this time are the same as used in the earlier study, consisting of identification of prey carcasses where possible, on an identical route three to seven days a week. Prey carcasses were saved by USF&G maintenance workers when possible. Prey items were discarded after identification.

### RESULTS

During the study period, we found 472 prey items of 26 species around the USF&G building (Table 1).

### DISCUSSION

Our results show that the pair in Baltimore has a broad diversity of prey, far more so than the prey taken by the single female as described in the earlier paper. The lone female preyed primarily on Rock Doves (*Columba livia*) (almost 91%) with no

other species comprising more than 3 percent of the prey. In contrast, we identified 26 species of prey, none of which made up more than 31 percent of the total. This could be because of the presence of a male falcon (absent in the prior study), and also because of the difference in where the current pair originated. The female in our earlier study came to Baltimore when she was less than a year old. Our current female spent her first 15 months in the marshes of New Jersey before nesting in Baltimore. (The current male is unbanded and of unknown origin). This also suggests a further study of Peregrines living in urban areas — is there a correlation between food preference and being raised in an urban or non-urban environment?

**Table 1: Peregrine Falcon Prey by Month, 1984-87**

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total	%
Horned Grebe			1										1	0.2
Mallard	1		3	2	3	1	4		2		1	4	21	4.4
Wood Duck									1				1	0.2
Ruddy Duck	3	1	2								6	1	13	2.8
Duck sp.			1	2	2								5	1.1
American Kestrel					3	4	2		1				10	2.1
Common Gallinule						1							1	0.2
Semipalmated Plover					3								3	0.6
Killdeer			2	1	3								6	1.3
Lesser Yellowlegs					1	1		3	2				7	1.5
Yellowlegs sp.				4	2	3			4	2			15	3.2
Spotted Sandpiper					7	1		2	1				11	2.3
Sandpiper sp.				3	4	1	1	2	1	1			13	2.8
American Woodcock			1	2						1	2		6	1.3
Ring-billed Gull										2			3	0.6
Rock Dove	19	12	13	10	11	17	15	12	7	9	12	11	148	31.4
Mourning Dove	3	4	7	9	12	7	3	11	6	8		2	72	15.3
Common Nighthawk								4					4	0.8
Northern Flicker				12	4	1			7	3			27	5.7
Barn Swallow						1							1	0.2
Blue Jay	2			3	7	12	1	3	1	7			36	7.6
Crow sp.			1					2					3	0.6
Northern Mockingbird			1	1									2	0.4
European Starling	4	3	4	7	4	11	3	5	5	4	3		53	11.2
Ovenbird					1								1	0.2
Common Grackle			2	1			1			1	4		9	1.9
													472	99.9

Table 2 shows the breakdown of prey by families for the most common prey items.

**Table 2: Dominant Prey by Group**

Group	Number	Percent
Pigeons and Doves	220	46%
Waterfowl	42	9
Shorebirds	61	13
Passerines	105	22
All other species	44	10
Totals	472	100%

In sharp contrast to the dominance of the doves in the first study (91%), they comprise only 46 percent of the prey of this pair. Waterfowl and shorebirds make up a total of 22 percent of the prey compared to less than 3 percent of the prey in the first study. This suggests that the pair is hunting in marsh and open water habitats more than the single bird did.

There is also a marked seasonal difference in the number of Rock Doves taken as a percentage of the overall prey numbers. In the period of November 1 through February 28, Rock Doves averaged 51% of the total prey. From March 1 to October 31, Rock Doves averaged 24% of the total prey. The number of migrants and juvenile birds present during the March to October period is reflected in the prey chart, suggesting that prey preference is influenced by seasonal availability. Loyalty to Rock Doves as a prey species is undermined by the availability of other species flying by the building.

## CONCLUSIONS

The results suggest that Peregrine Falcon food habits vary considerably among individuals. There appeared to be no major changes in Rock Dove populations around the USF&G building during the study, yet clearly the prey preference of this pair was different from that of a single female. We suggest that two factors may be responsible for this. The single female in the earlier study grew up in an urban setting and developed "urban" prey preferences, while the two birds studied here grew up in non-urban habitat, and developed other preferences. Secondly, the results in this study are biased by the presence of a male falcon, increasing the diversity of species and number of individuals taken. If food preference is related to the habitat of early life, the results here are predictable. However, if food preference is more influenced simply by the kinds and numbers of birds migrating past the USF&G building, then the results are less predictable.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Tom Cade and Marty Gilroy of the Peregrine Fund encouraged us in this study. Eirik Blom and Bob Ringler reviewed drafts of the manuscript. The USF&G Corporation employees helped monitor prey throughout the study. This help is gratefully acknowledged.

### Scientific Names

Horned Grebe - *Podiceps auritus*  
 Mallard - *Anas platyrhynchos*  
 Wood Duck - *Aix sponsa*  
 American Kestrel - *Falco sparverius*  
 Common Moorhen - *Gallinula chloropus*  
 Semipalmated Plover - *Charadrius semipalmatus*  
 Killdeer - *Charadrius vociferus*  
 Lesser Yellowlegs - *Tringa flavipes*  
 Yellowlegs sp. - *Tringa*  
 Spotted Sandpiper - *Actitis macularia*  
 American Woodcock - *Scolopax minor*  
 Ring-billed Gull - *Larus delawarensis*

Rock Dove - *Columba livia*  
 Mourning Dove - *Zenaida macroura*  
 Common Nighthawk - *Chordeiles minor*  
 Northern Flicker - *Colaptes auratus*  
 Barn Swallow - *Hirundo rustica*  
 Blue Jay - *Cyanocitta cristata*  
 Crow sp. - *Corvus*  
 Northern Mockingbird - *Mimus polyglottos*  
 European Starling - *Sturnus vulgaris*  
 Ovenbird - *Seiurus aurocapillus*  
 Common Grackle - *Quiscalus quiscula*

## GREAT HORNED OWL PREYS ON PURPLE MARTIN COLONY

JOSEPH DIPIETRO

I would like to share an interesting experience I had with my Purple Martins (*Progne subis*) in 1987.

That year the martins returned to the colony about the last week in March, which is normal in this area. The arrival of the older birds was more prolonged than usual, extending into early May, and the number of young birds returning was disappointingly low. In 1986 I had about 40 pairs, and they produced many young. In 1987 the size of the colony did not increase and there were only six pairs of first-year birds despite more than adequate housing.

At about dawn one day in mid-June I saw a Great Horned Owl (*Bubo virginianus*) sitting on a perch near the martin colony. Suddenly it swooped down to the martin castle. When it flew back to the perch its talons held a martin, which it proceeded to eat. I was able to frighten it away, and assumed it would not be back.

Over the next few weeks, and before any young martins had fledged, I noticed that a number of previously active nests were no longer being used. In addition, martin feathers were scattered over a large portion of the back yard. I also noticed an adult martin without a tail. It occurred to me that the owl had returned and was working on the colony. That night I turned on the floodlight and saw the owl sitting on top of a shed about 30 feet from the martin houses. I tried to frighten it away, but it always returned within a couple of minutes.

I witnessed several attacks on the martin castles and on the smaller trio houses. Each attack I observed was successful and the owl seemed to know which holes had active nests. The attacks were mostly on nests that had young on the verge of fledging. Great Horned Owls are very large and when this bird landed on the 12-unit trio house the wings and body covered the entire unit. Each morning I found a pile of martin feathers under the owl's favorite perch. On several nights the owl stalked the colony from dusk to dawn, and before the predation ceased I lost about half the colony.

I think it is possible that some of the people with martins who have complained about colonies being abandoned may have had an owl problem. It might be easy to overlook an owl in this situation for several reasons. First, they hunt in the dark. Second, they leave no sign of their presence except for feathers scattered in the area of the houses. Third, the other martins remained entirely silent during the attacks.

My colony is now sparrow free, starling free, parasite free, squirrel proof, snake proof, and finally, owl proof.

1512 Miller Rd., Westminster, MD 21157



## REPORT OF THE STATE-WIDE BIRD COUNT, MAY 14, 1988

JIM STASZ .

The 41st Annual May Count broke some new ground in our effort to learn more about spring migration. Most of the previous "Bird Day" counts (all since 1954) were held on the first Saturday in May; this year is the first of an extended series that will summarize the pattern of distribution across Maryland on the second Saturday. Once again, all 23 counties and the District of Columbia are represented on the main table. Comparable data were submitted from Delaware, where members of the Delmarva Ornithological Society held their 20th annual "Spring Round Up." Everyone had at least some neotropical migrants and best of all, no rain.

The 415 observers and 199 parties were above average—a remarkable achievement considering the relatively late change from the "expected" date of May 7, a change that resulted in low coverage in Montgomery and Talbot counties. The 5646 party-miles and 1355 party-hours were similarly good effort. In comparison, Delaware fielded 96 observers in 41 parties, and logged 1599 party-miles in 320 party-hours. In both states the average party walked just under 4 miles at about 0.8 mph and drove about 25 miles at 12.5 mph. It is beyond the scope of this report to provide a complete comparison, but to tease your interest: in birds per party-hour, Delaware had 650 times more Short-billed Dowitchers, 266 times more Ruddy Turnstones, 236 times more Red Knots, and 200 times more Sanderlings than Maryland, reflecting Delaware's coastal position. Both states had statistically identical numbers of Wood Duck, Osprey, Common Nighthawk, Chimney Swift, Eastern Kingbird, European Starling, and Common Yellowthroat. Maryland had 6.5 times more Eastern Bluebirds, 8.4 times more Hooded Warblers, 13 times more Warbling Vireos, 25 times more Bobolinks, and, surprisingly, 26 times more Royal Terns.

For the first time in many years, no new species were added to the composite list. When you consider that the composite list for the first 40 years is 325 species, this should be no surprise. Perhaps you now understand my request for details when someone offers a new species. The added coverage and our increased understanding of what should be expected has reduced the "glamour" of rare birds. In this category are birds like the Northern Saw-whet Owl in Garrett County, Loggerhead Shrike in Washington, Black-necked Stilt in Dorchester and Somerset, and the typical Worcester finds: Brown Pelican, Northern Gannet, Jaeger, Red Knot, and Gull-billed Tern. The larger-than-usual numbers of Gray-cheeked Thrush (4), Mourning Warbler (3), and Lincoln's Sparrow (3) reflect the late date of the count. When lists contain "crow sp.," there is a better relationship in the ratio of America/Fish Crow; on the other hand, reporting distant unidentifiable blackbirds as "blackbird sp." serves no useful purpose. I admit there is always a thrill in finding and identifying a rare bird, but we should not forget to use the same skill when identifying "mundane" species before adding them to the day's tally. In compiling this year's list I have retained a few birds with less than perfect details, as their inclusion does not detract from the overall value of our efforts. Certain species, however, were treated more carefully, especially if there is a real concern about their regional population. The Sedge Wren is the best example. Prior to

Table 1. Statewide Bird Count, May 14, 1988

Species	Garr.	Allc.	Wash.	Fred.	Mont.	D.C.	Carr.	Howa.	Balt.	Harf.	Cecl.
Common Loon	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	5	6	1	-
Pied-billed Grebe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Gannet	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brown Pelican	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Double-crested Cormorant	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	7	8	37	70
American Bittern	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Least Bittern	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Blue Heron	2	2	2	3	5	3	5	14	28	47	16
Great Egret	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Snowy Egret	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-
Little Blue Heron	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tricolored Heron	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Cattle Egret	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
Green-backed Heron	13	2	4	11	14	5	5	12	8	9	1
Black-crowned Night-Heron	-	-	-	-	-	23	-	-	3	5	19
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
Glossy Ibis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tundra Swan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mute Swan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	-	-	-
Snow Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Canada Goose	19	5	42	51	87	6	112	96	50	107	81
Wood Duck	14	53	21	38	7	3	14	16	26	9	3
American Black Duck	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	4	-	-
Mallard	26	30	100	47	48	31	60	196	130	78	46
Blue-winged Teal	3	2	-	6	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Shoveler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gadwall	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Wigeon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Ring-necked Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Greater Scaup	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lesser Scaup	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black Scoter	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Surf Scoter	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Goldeneye	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bufflehead	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Hooded Merganser	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Common Merganser	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Red-breasted Merganser	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ruddy Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black Vulture	-	-	16	8	6	-	13	6	9	36	2
Turkey Vulture	6	32	24	48	18	-	79	125	65	75	59
Osprey	1	-	3	1	-	2	3	4	8	6	2
Bald Eagle Adult	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
Bald Eagle Immature	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
Bald Eagle Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Harrier	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sharp-shinned Hawk	-	2	-	-	-	-	3	4	2	2	1
Cooper's Hawk	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	1	-
Red-shouldered Hawk	-	2	-	5	10	-	9	43	15	3	-
Broad-winged Hawk	1	8	3	-	-	-	6	6	5	4	-
Red-tailed Hawk	4	5	4	5	1	-	21	15	12	25	3
American Kestrel	2	5	4	10	1	1	15	13	12	6	2
Merlin	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Peregrine Falcon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-
Ring-necked Pheasant	-	-	6	8	-	-	68	6	14	1	3

Table 1 (cont.) Statewide Bird Count, May 14, 1988

Pr.G.	Anne	Calv.	Chas.	St.M.	Kent	QuAn.	Caro.	Talb.	Dorc.	Wico.	Some.	Worc.	Total	Co's.
-	1	5	1	-	4	1	-	2	2	-	-	1	32	13
3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	4	2
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	1
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1
1	101	5	3	13	2	1	23	6	300	4	-	50	634	17
-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
-	1	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	3	-	1	-	8	5
27	31	19	73	51	106	29	33	2	35	2	6	-	541	23
-	1	9	3	11	-	2	1	-	20	-	6	12	68	10
-	-	6	-	3	-	6	-	1	40	-	4	10	73	8
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	3	2
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	1	5	4
-	1	3	-	-	1	2	5	2	-	-	5	29	58	9
9	11	5	5	15	11	20	16	1	15	-	5	1	198	23
-	-	2	-	7	-	-	-	-	2	-	10	4	75	9
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	2
-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	3	19	3
-	-	-	-	1	2	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	5	4
-	8	-	-	1	32	10	1	-	20	-	-	-	86	7
-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	9	2
211	29	6	21	-	111	47	9	8	45	26	4	24	1197	23
18	1	11	30	4	36	30	39	4	10	-	2	-	389	22
15	2	9	-	-	5	33	6	-	15	-	10	2	102	11
61	115	61	76	66	788	107	97	11	35	5	8	64	2286	24
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	8	-	27	6
-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2	-	8	-	12	3
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1
-	-	-	-	-	34	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	35	2
-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3
-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	2
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	5	2
-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	2
3	4	8	3	7	22	2	14	11	3	-	-	-	173	18
6	37	20	25	25	171	61	283	12	65	28	25	52	1341	23
6	34	25	23	34	49	20	22	17	30	1	1	8	300	22
-	-	2	2	2	3	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	17	0
1	-	-	1	1	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	9	0
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16	3	-	-	19	8
-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	5	1	2	-	10	5
-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	17	8
-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	4
8	7	3	13	6	3	2	4	-	1	-	-	-	134	16
-	1	11	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	47	10
5	3	7	8	5	9	6	8	1	7	1	3	-	158	22
9	1	-	1	1	4	2	4	-	-	-	-	-	93	18
-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	2
-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	108	9

Table 1 (cont.) Statewide Bird Count, May 14, 1988

Species	Garr.	Alle.	Wash.	Fred.	Mont.	D.C.	Carr.	Howa.	Balt.	Harf.	Cecl.
Ruffed Grouse	5	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wild Turkey	5	10	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Bobwhite	-	2	12	2	2	2	2	7	6	10	9
Black Rail	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Clapper Rail	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
King Rail	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Virginia Rail	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Sora	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Common Moorhen	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Coot	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black-bellied Plover	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Semipalmated Plover	5	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	1	8	3
Killdeer	26	32	8	15	-	4	46	29	7	14	11
American Oystercatcher	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black-necked Stilt	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Greater Yellowlegs	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	8
Lesser Yellowlegs	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	3	4	-	4
Solitary Sandpiper	21	6	-	3	2	-	5	23	19	8	1
Willet	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Spotted Sandpiper	11	2	-	8	11	2	11	30	29	13	2
Upland Sandpiper	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ruddy Turnstone	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red Knot	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sanderling	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Semipalmated Sandpiper	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	12	-
Least Sandpiper	18	3	-	26	-	-	1	9	-	-	7
White-rumped Sandpiper	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pectoral Sandpiper	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Purple Sandpiper	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dunlin	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Short-billed Dowitcher	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Snipe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
American Woodcock	1	10	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1
Jaeger sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Laughing Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	23	-	10
Bonaparte's Gull	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Ring-billed Gull	7	-	-	-	-	65	-	-	320	162	61
Herring Gull	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	80	15	4
Great Black-backed Gull	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	25	21	4
Gull sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25	14
Gull-billed Tern	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Caspian Tern	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	1
Royal Tern	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Tern	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Forster's Tern	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Least Tern	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	89	-	-
Black Tern	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black Skimmer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rock Dove	68	168	70	53	51	192	535	540	346	166	30
Mourning Dove	35	121	112	155	175	73	443	436	196	247	44
Black-billed Cuckoo	1	9	5	-	3	-	5	13	6	-	-
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	8	20	22	29	42	3	20	45	26	2	2
Common Barn-Owl	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eastern Screech-Owl	2	5	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	5	3
Great Horned Owl	1	1	2	-	-	-	3	1	2	1	-
Barred Owl	3	1	2	1	3	-	6	6	3	3	1
N. Saw-whet Owl	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Nighthawk	1	23	-	1	2	-	2	2	15	-	1
Chuck-will's-widow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Whip-poor-will	1	5	-	-	-	-	2	-	16	1	1

Table 1 (cont.) Statewide Bird County, May 14, 1988

Pr.G.	Anne	Calv.	Chas.	St.M.	Kent	QuAn.	Caro.	Talb.	Dorc.	Wico.	Some.	Worc.	Total	Co's.
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	2
-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17	4
8	11	10	24	16	46	27	73	12	20	-	4	9	314	22
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	7	1
-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	5	2
-	-	3	-	-	4	-	-	4	1	-	-	-	12	4
1	5	1	-	-	19	4	-	22	47	-	2	-	104	10
-	2	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	10	6
-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	4	-	7	4
-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1
-	3	2	-	-	86	-	-	-	2	-	-	40	133	5
1	1	6	-	-	2	12	-	-	6	-	-	6	54	12
12	8	8	5	12	18	13	30	1	4	-	2	3	308	22
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	5	6	2
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	5	-	6	2
11	7	-	-	-	6	4	3	1	20	-	1	-	63	10
3	-	-	-	1	4	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	28	9
5	1	10	2	-	4	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	111	15
-	-	1	-	5	-	-	-	-	20	-	5	28	59	5
3	12	26	9	5	13	7	10	-	2	2	-	-	208	20
-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2
-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	3	-	-	50	54	3
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	213	213	1
-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	30	34	3
-	24	16	-	6	10	-	10	-	80	-	1	43	205	11
1	6	12	-	1	25	12	-	-	80	-	-	-	201	13
-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	2
-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	2
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	10	1
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	390	-	-	100	491	3
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	-	-	-	9	1
-	-	-	-	9	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	20	3
-	5	1	1	-	5	1	-	-	4	-	-	-	32	12
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1
6	761	240	41	326	73	337	534	112	375	27	92	143	3100	15
-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	4	4
-	302	34	36	41	445	115	51	18	10	-	3	123	1793	16
-	192	53	10	76	17	1	-	-	170	30	15	91	757	14
-	17	5	-	1	9	-	-	-	6	-	-	22	112	10
-	-	-	-	35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	74	0
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	1
-	4	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	5
-	-	55	45	16	-	-	-	-	40	15	19	-	190	6
-	-	54	-	6	-	2	-	-	30	-	-	110	202	5
-	-	15	-	5	3	5	3	1	155	-	25	2	215	10
-	-	7	-	10	-	6	2	-	5	-	-	64	183	7
-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	30	33	2
14	252	1	4	-	84	51	144	4	2	8	-	3	2786	22
82	152	61	108	87	143	98	124	6	12	7	2	21	2940	24
1	-	-	-	-	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	51	10
12	9	2	19	8	14	13	36	9	20	-	2	3	366	23
-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	8	3
-	5	-	1	-	4	1	1	1	3	1	-	-	33	13
1	3	2	4	1	23	7	7	-	7	-	2	-	68	17
2	-	5	11	4	8	7	9	1	1	1	-	2	80	21
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
-	-	2	-	-	1	-	6	-	4	-	-	2	62	13
-	7	-	-	5	27	1	5	2	8	1	1	7	65	11
-	-	6	16	-	7	2	11	4	3	2	-	-	77	14

Table 1 (cont.) Statewide Bird County, May 14, 1988

Species	Garr.	Allc.	Wash.	Fred.	Mont.	D.C.	Carr.	Howa.	Balt.	Harf.	Cecl.
Chimney Swift	19	228	186	87	62	80	161	242	164	101	82
Ruby-thrt'd. Hummingbird	9	20	2	6	7	2	18	26	17	10	2
Belted Kingfisher	5	4	12	11	3	1	11	13	12	11	3
Red-headed Woodpecker	-	-	-	2	-	-	4	-	-	9	-
Red-bellied Woodpecker	-	66	72	66	73	39	119	249	104	53	22
Yel.-bellied Sapsucker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Downy Woodpecker	20	30	24	19	40	21	43	63	44	14	4
Hairy Woodpecker	7	13	3	-	6	6	4	16	12	5	1
Northern Flicker	6	56	31	34	43	13	79	74	84	41	5
Pileated Woodpecker	1	27	14	9	21	4	5	20	11	4	-
Olive-sided Flycatcher	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
Eastern Wood-Pewee	17	38	30	44	49	9	56	106	50	29	7
Acadian Flycatcher	8	18	25	26	73	3	32	158	47	30	7
Willow Flycatcher	5	1	-	1	-	-	6	2	-	-	-
Least Flycatcher	18	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	2	-
<i>Empidonax</i> sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eastern Phoebe	4	65	37	10	9	1	31	49	57	29	6
Great Crested Flycatcher	30	84	41	31	36	18	24	29	34	7	9
Eastern Kingbird	9	11	48	32	31	7	58	135	62	53	12
Horned Lark	4	4	-	-	-	-	19	-	-	-	-
Purple Martin	12	-	45	20	7	-	41	30	28	44	9
Tree Swallow	53	26	18	3	-	-	3	15	12	73	16
N. Rough-winged Swallow	2	40	35	36	3	5	19	65	75	13	19
Bank Swallow	1	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	136	6
Cliff Swallow	4	9	1	-	-	-	7	27	86	-	-
Barn Swallow	98	132	68	98	27	27	405	387	330	200	34
Blue Jay	109	244	75	47	108	55	261	327	225	151	29
American Crow	108	174	259	150	148	71	595	336	308	142	82
Fish Crow	-	1	12	20	9	11	57	17	16	19	15
Crow sp.	-	16	2	-	5	-	101	194	-	36	10
Common Raven	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black-capped Chickadee	98	51	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carolina Chickadee	-	-	39	36	87	51	67	182	120	54	14
Tufted Titmouse	21	93	47	56	79	38	90	234	131	24	2
Red-breasted Nuthatch	4	6	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
White-breasted Nuthatch	25	21	9	6	11	8	21	15	19	6	-
Brown-headed Nuthatch	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brown Creeper	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-
Carolina Wren	2	42	42	25	50	38	37	82	57	24	4
House Wren	28	24	66	66	71	12	97	81	63	11	5
Winter Wren	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Marsh Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	22	1	1
Wren sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Golden-crowned Kinglet	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	5	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	45	84	62	39	80	3	62	190	115	40	3
Eastern Bluebird	7	39	62	17	12	-	100	115	49	40	5
Veery	55	-	-	3	27	17	8	33	37	10	-
Gray-cheeked Thrush	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	-
Swainson's Thrush	2	1	7	-	5	23	5	28	19	3	-
Hermit Thrush	15	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
Wood Thrush	49	100	24	69	45	37	116	324	111	59	25
American Robin	181	629	245	144	98	96	458	756	203	302	47
Gray Catbird	120	107	75	154	153	99	367	746	203	133	14
Northern Mockingbird	-	37	47	66	70	29	167	264	97	106	30
Brown Thrasher	7	13	-	7	2	11	33	30	9	14	7
Water Pipit	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cedar Waxwing	18	89	160	12	153	228	59	188	297	63	43
Loggerhead Shrike	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
European Starling	74	394	400	433	197	325	1009	1242	1063	761	110

Table (cont.) Statewide Bird County, May 14, 1988

Pr.G.	Anne	Calv.	Chas.	St.M.	Kent	QuAn.	Caro.	Talb.	Dorc.	Wico.	Some.	Worc.	Total	Co's.
24	61	34	30	73	102	43	133	10	20	1	12	13	1988	24
6	11	16	14	10	29	10	33	3	2	2	1	4	260	24
2	8	2	3	7	-	2	11	1	-	-	-	-	122	19
-	1	2	5	2	-	-	-	7	2	-	-	-	34	9
36	65	18	67	19	73	52	85	8	10	5	2	7	1310	23
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
8	39	4	18	6	30	4	25	2	5	3	1	5	472	24
1	5	-	4	2	15	6	7	4	5	1	1	2	126	22
11	31	2	8	7	58	32	40	2	20	2	1	5	685	24
21	14	4	11	4	2	-	7	1	5	-	1	5	191	21
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2
15	34	10	49	16	52	34	24	5	20	1	7	7	709	24
18	22	17	42	11	31	6	27	2	4	2	3	5	617	24
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	5
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	23	5
-	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	2
5	11	6	32	8	12	8	26	2	-	1	-	2	411	22
8	33	6	21	11	69	47	94	8	30	9	9	14	702	24
29	24	23	30	35	66	44	61	9	20	1	4	2	806	24
-	-	2	-	2	26	6	40	2	7	-	-	-	112	10
79	66	161	68	29	182	107	374	4	40	19	-	38	1403	21
35	6	24	13	10	200	37	28	-	95	1	5	4	677	21
-	7	15	10	-	29	7	33	8	-	-	-	-	421	18
-	42	4	-	-	311	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	524	8
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	134	6
52	175	152	161	108	651	158	524	40	95	10	18	37	3987	24
32	598	100	38	72	169	82	184	4	12	2	2	17	2943	24
57	195	48	114	77	102	33	176	10	25	-	8	30	3248	23
12	112	19	17	29	68	89	42	1	45	-	18	-	629	21
5	-	4	-	60	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	5	443	0
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	151	3
32	96	10	47	12	161	39	109	7	15	6	11	22	1217	22
39	99	14	87	30	66	50	114	7	13	4	1	25	1364	24
-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	5
3	6	-	11	1	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	167	17
-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	5	2	1	-	14	4
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	4
21	73	21	35	48	95	29	41	16	11	2	2	9	806	24
5	29	3	3	-	34	16	14	-	13	-	1	6	648	21
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1
1	7	18	6	6	33	7	2	-	34	-	30	-	168	13
-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	0
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	1
-	1	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17	6
13	46	4	80	17	46	18	31	3	3	8	3	16	1011	24
75	2	44	69	49	38	28	174	40	15	4	4	5	993	23
2	3	20	-	1	5	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	222	14
-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	3
3	14	22	-	1	9	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	146	16
1	2	-	-	-	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	32	6
35	59	23	64	21	189	71	129	14	20	4	3	16	1607	24
64	184	46	111	81	966	180	315	4	45	12	4	51	5222	24
82	80	6	32	61	132	60	67	4	17	10	19	10	2751	24
37	59	19	47	55	149	75	104	4	9	8	9	16	1504	23
7	13	6	14	20	26	19	59	1	-	-	-	18	316	20
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
63	272	125	124	47	384	41	23	16	4	12	-	10	2431	23
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
124	215	165	171	148	518	231	698	15	50	14	51	202	8610	24

Table 1 (cont.) Statewide Bird Count, May 14, 1988

Species	Garr.	Alle.	Wash.	Fred.	Mont.	D.C.	Carr.	Howa.	Balt.	Harf.	Cecl.
White-eyed Vireo	6	15	-	9	25	2	23	185	80	67	16
Solitary Vireo	11	3	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-
Yellow-throated Vireo	-	6	4	4	18	1	14	25	22	7	-
Warbling Vireo	-	1	74	8	23	2	11	11	4	3	-
Red-eyed Vireo	72	152	47	64	135	64	91	454	221	119	9
Blue-winged Warbler	1	7	-	3	2	1	9	18	8	9	2
Brewster's Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Golden-winged Warbler	25	31	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Tennessee Warbler	3	3	2	-	2	8	5	6	7	-	1
Nashville Warbler	1	2	-	-	6	-	-	1	3	-	-
Northern Parula	9	2	9	5	45	6	29	100	61	10	1
Yellow Warbler	53	83	35	43	10	5	88	113	81	80	12
Chestnut-sided Warbler	118	5	8	-	4	1	5	22	20	2	-
Magnolia Warbler	35	9	5	2	1	9	4	7	25	9	-
Cape May Warbler	2	2	3	-	2	2	8	-	4	1	-
Blk.-thrt'd. Blue Warbler	9	-	1	1	12	12	5	11	11	2	-
Yel.-rumped (Myrtle) Warbler	4	5	10	10	4	8	17	14	25	2	-
Blk.-thrt'd. Green Warbler	32	4	3	1	2	4	-	5	16	1	-
Blackburnian Warbler	10	3	1	1	5	6	-	8	4	1	-
Yellow-throated Warbler	-	-	5	1	9	-	4	1	9	1	-
Pine Warbler	-	8	3	-	3	-	4	9	2	1	7
Prairie Warbler	1	22	5	5	8	1	4	46	21	30	5
Palm Warbler	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bay-breasted Warbler	39	3	-	-	1	4	2	4	9	1	-
Blackpoll Warbler	2	1	5	2	36	8	3	22	23	5	-
Cerulean Warbler	1	6	1	-	9	-	16	22	7	4	-
Black-and-white Warbler	16	9	18	-	1	7	20	45	44	15	4
American Redstart	26	37	12	20	35	23	50	143	83	48	3
Prothonotary Warbler	-	1	10	6	22	1	-	2	4	3	-
Worm-eating Warbler	1	8	2	3	-	1	12	11	16	5	5
Ovenbird	33	46	-	18	31	25	28	182	79	15	39
Northern Waterthrush	5	15	7	-	5	1	-	4	4	2	-
Louisiana Waterthrush	2	14	7	5	14	1	13	36	22	6	-
Kentucky Warbler	5	20	-	19	10	4	21	73	39	10	-
Mourning Warbler	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
Common Yellowthroat	131	83	12	38	29	10	112	287	128	88	17
Hooded Warbler	10	9	-	-	4	7	7	-47	25	-	-
Wilson's Warbler	5	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	5	-	-
Canada Warbler	5	-	3	-	3	8	5	31	29	10	1
Yellow-breasted Chat	1	24	2	3	9	-	11	37	4	14	12
Summer Tanager	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
Scarlet Tanager	68	84	16	27	29	19	49	109	65	35	6
Northern Cardinal	59	171	136	143	184	80	293	609	273	211	54
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	82	16	5	-	17	7	6	35	41	4	-
Blue Grosbeak	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	1	-	1	-
Indigo Bunting	123	189	51	59	82	4	94	318	121	95	38
Dickcissel	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-
Rufous-sided Towhee	152	151	14	24	39	42	74	220	76	31	9
Chipping Sparrow	162	184	51	19	5	7	108	168	95	52	4
Field Sparrow	63	50	13	35	47	-	65	90	12	16	13
Vesper Sparrow	2	1	-	1	1	-	21	-	-	-	-
Savannah Sparrow	15	4	-	1	-	-	7	-	7	-	-
Grasshopper Sparrow	3	15	1	19	2	-	88	23	2	1	2
Henslow's Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sharp-tailed Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Seaside Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Song Sparrow	128	96	60	113	80	35	208	222	84	46	13
Lincoln's Sparrow	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Swamp Sparrow	41	1	-	-	1	1	2	1	2	-	2
White-throated Sparrow	3	4	3	-	2	5	-	15	6	1	1



Table 1 (cont.) Statewide Bird Count, May 14, 1988

Pr.G.	Anne	Calv.	Chas.	St.M.	Kent	QuAn.	Caro.	Talb.	Dorc.	Wico.	Some.	Worc.	Total	Co's.
35	38	13	77	40	95	29	66	9	15	5	15	21	886	23
-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21	6
9	4	2	16	-	12	3	8	-	1	-	-	1	157	18
1	-	-	-	-	3	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	143	13
83	193	94	213	54	121	37	90	11	9	2	5	13	2353	24
1	1	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	65	13
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0
-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	58	4
1	-	-	1	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	44	12
-	2	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18	7
25	27	11	72	18	11	3	3	2	-	-	-	8	457	21
30	21	5	17	7	107	19	12	1	16	-	12	9	859	23
1	7	-	-	18	6	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	218	14
-	13	-	-	6	16	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	144	16
1	-	-	-	1	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	31	12
1	8	1	2	-	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	81	15
8	1	2	5	6	25	9	4	1	-	1	-	-	161	20
2	8	-	-	-	8	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	87	13
1	2	1	-	3	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	53	14
1	2	5	6	-	3	-	-	-	1	-	2	4	54	15
1	13	6	32	15	27	8	15	3	25	1	5	21	209	21
19	6	10	35	47	6	2	12	2	4	5	2	6	304	24
-	1	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	4
2	2	2	1	8	8	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	87	15
8	35	11	28	5	4	18	4	-	-	-	-	-	220	18
2	-	-	-	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	73	11
2	22	7	17	15	12	6	6	1	2	1	2	7	279	23
12	40	4	30	11	29	2	-	2	-	-	-	4	614	20
2	2	3	12	1	11	24	39	-	8	3	4	10	168	20
-	-	1	6	-	5	-	1	4	1	2	-	4	88	18
35	40	16	60	20	68	11	81	8	20	6	13	29	903	23
-	2	3	1	-	3	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	54	14
2	1	1	9	1	3	3	8	-	-	-	-	1	149	19
5	12	7	25	9	14	3	12	1	1	-	1	2	293	21
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3
35	80	15	71	76	155	61	70	5	50	3	10	9	1575	24
11	12	13	70	7	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	224	14
2	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17	8
2	7	-	-	1	4	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	111	15
16	13	10	45	23	48	9	25	4	12	4	2	3	331	23
-	1	12	4	8	-	-	18	4	18	2	2	4	75	12
31	56	15	34	13	35	14	36	6	3	2	4	6	762	24
98	213	64	97	139	453	178	168	14	20	11	3	15	3686	24
-	8	-	-	-	5	2	2	1	-	1	-	2	234	16
4	6	7	11	13	42	11	81	4	18	-	2	-	204	15
34	51	47	173	110	223	78	89	17	29	6	6	1	2038	24
-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	2
25	69	3	59	28	60	31	53	2	10	2	4	45	1223	24
53	43	24	56	101	114	46	97	6	10	10	10	11	1436	24
18	24	11	54	16	88	29	33	2	9	-	3	1	692	22
-	-	-	-	-	4	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	35	8
-	5	-	-	1	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	43	9
14	5	8	24	28	8	15	13	1	2	2	-	-	276	21
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1
-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	16	-	-	-	17	2
-	14	3	-	3	-	-	-	-	45	-	39	-	104	5
21	48	19	37	17	34	15	17	-	6	3	7	2	1311	23
-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3
-	3	5	-	-	9	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	69	12
1	-	6	1	-	8	7	5	-	-	-	-	-	68	15





1977 this was a regular species, but since then there has been a noticeable decline. Recently it was given the special status of "In Need of Conservation" by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. We can provide valuable information on this and other species if we are careful to keep a creditable tally.

Most observers realized immediately that the change to the second Saturday in May would be reflected in the counts of many species. Table 2 illustrates some of the changes. I have selected the species that changed the most when compared to the average of the ten previous State-wide Bird Counts (1978-1987). For each year the number of birds per 100-party hours was calculated; then the average of the ten values was computed. To determine the magnitude of the change, the number of birds per 100-party hours in 1988 was divided by the average for the ten previous years (e.g., the average number of Eastern Wood-Pewees [late migrants] was 10 times the average of the previous counts, while Water Pipits [early migrants] were about one one-hundredth the previous average). Also included in Table 2 are the highest and lowest values of birds per 100 party-hours for the period 1978-1987; note that all of the highs are "new high" and all but one of the lows "new low."

**Table 2. Species with the greatest changes from the preceding decade (reflecting the impact of the late date in 1988).**

	1988	Average 1978-87	Ratio 1988/Avg.	Highest 1978-87	Lowest 1978-87
<b>Species significantly up (all traditional late migrants)</b>					
Eastern Wood-Pewee	52.330	5.174	10.11	23.71	1.59
Canada Warbler	8.193	0.814	10.07	1.88	0.07
Bay-breasted Warbler	6.421	0.731	8.79	1.41	0.29
Acadian Flycatcher	45.539	5.252	8.67	22.85	0.68
Indigo Bunting	150.420	21.458	7.01	64.12	3.51
Common Nighthawk	4.576	0.711	6.44	1.52	0.24
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	27.014	4.407	6.13	11.85	0.22
Blackpoll Warbler	16.238	2.685	6.05	10.69	0.44
Magnolia Warbler	10.628	2.691	3.95	5.58	0.88
Cedar Waxwing	179.427	49.200	3.65	136.48	21.12
<b>Species significantly down (all departing winter residents)</b>					
Water Pipit	0.074	6.729	0.01	14.25	0.86
Purple Finch	0.812	53.158	0.02	129.65	1.82
Ruddy Duck	0.221	11.752	0.02	74.42	0.70
White-throated Sparrow	5.019	268.771	0.02	574.16	85.02
Lesser Scaup	0.148	6.886	0.02	16.95	0.94
Bonaparte's Gull	0.295	7.996	0.04	10.06	0.16
Myrtle Warbler	11.883	335.775	0.05	762.78	153.51
Rusty Blackbird	0.369	5.741	0.08	16.95	1.42
American Coot	0.148	1.975	0.08	7.49	0.32
Dark-eyed Junco	0.221	3.549	0.08	8.93	1.56
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	1.255	15.736	0.09	33.36	9.95

Table 3 lists those species for which the number of birds per 100 party-hours in 1988 was almost identical to the average for the years 1978-1987 (ratio of 1988/average was between 0.95 and 1.05). A more sophisticated statistical test probably would show that counts of many more species were not significantly different from the ten-year mean. Of the 201 species found all of the previous ten years, only Green-winged Teal was missed in 1988.

Table 3. Species with counts unchanged from 1978-87 mean.

Great Egret	Belted Kingfisher	European Starling
Snow Goose	Red-headed Woodpecker	Cape May Warbler
Canada Goose	Northern Flicker	Worm-eating Warbler
Wood Duck	Horned Lark	Common Yellowthroat
Turkey Vulture	Bank Swallow	Northern Waterthrush
Osprey	American Crow	Northern Cardinal
Red-shouldered Hawk	Fish Crow	Rufous-sided Towhee
American Kestrel	Tufted Titmouse	Chipping Sparrow
Black Rail	White-breasted Nuthatch	Field Sparrow
Rock Dove	American Robin	Seaside Sparrow
		Brown-headed Cowbird

Lynn Davidson, Michael and Paul O'Brien, and Paul Pisano made a remarkable run from the highlands of Garrett County to Ocean City and back to Elliott Island in Dorchester County before calling it a day. Their composite list of 189 species, though not a record, was quite an achievement. Although exciting to the observers, these multi-county marathons are not compatible with the objectives of consistent May Count coverage. The best birding areas, from which such a team "skims the cream" in a few minutes, deserve the more intensive coverage that local observers can provide. We have not yet found a way to work out duplication of bird counts and apportion party-hours and party-miles in situations where two parties count some of the same individual birds. Imagine what the same all-day effort would have yielded if it had been concentrated in uncovered portions of Worcester County.

The next State-wide Bird Count is scheduled for May 8, 1989. We have never had more than 478 observers and have never achieved adequate coverage in every county. Start planning now.

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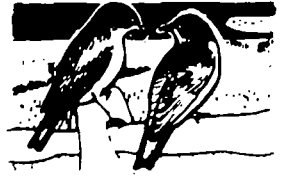
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## THE SEASON

### Winter Season, December 1, 1987-February 29, 1988

ROBERT F. RINGLER

It was another dry season this winter, and the usual assortment of lingering birds that should be farther south remained through the Christmas Bird Counts. When severe cold set in during January, gull numbers skyrocketed and the rarer species appeared at Washington and Conowingo in good numbers. American Goldfinches and Pine Siskins also arrived in large quantities at that time; however, most of the northern irruptives did not appear in substantial numbers. Many reporters remarked on the increases in Eastern Bluebirds and in woodpeckers, particularly Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers.

On the Potomac River the hydrilla story continues. Vast numbers of waterfowl took advantage of the mild December weather and the lush surroundings of Piscataway Creek and other waterways, and lingered in flocks far beyond their usual dates. The advance of the hydrilla and its affect on waterfowl deserves to be documented thoroughly.

*Observers:* Rick Blom, Larry Bonham, Ed Boyd, Mike Bryan, Danny Bystrak, Martha Chestem, Eileen & John Clegg, David Czaplak, Lynn Davidson, Sam Droege, Sam Dyke, Ethel Engle, Jane Farrell, Roberta Fletcher (compiler for Caroline County), Harold Fogleman, Greg Gough, Jim & Patricia Gruber, Alex Hammer, Richard Hollis, David Holmes, Kye Jenkins, George Jett, Bob Keedy, Ray Kiddy, Dennis Kirkwood, Wayne Klockner, Alicia Knotts, Paul Nistico, John, Michael & Paul O'Brien, Kyle Rambo, Jan Reese, Wilbur Rittenhouse, Bob Schutsky, Napier Shelton, L. T. Short, Steve Simon, Teresa Simons, Connie Skipper, Bob & Jo Solem, Jim Stasz, Chris Swarth, Charles Swift, Sallie Thayer, Mary Twigg, David Walbeck, Robert Warfield, Mark Weatherholt, Ed Weigel, Steve Westre, Hal Wierenga, Jim Wilkinson, Erika Wilson.

*Abbreviations:* CBC - Christmas Bird Count, DC - District of Columbia, PNAS - Patuxent Naval Air Station, PWRC - Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, SP - State Park, WMA - Wildlife Management Area, a "+" after an observer's name indicates there were other observers.

Locations (followed in parentheses by the county in which they are located): Alpha Ridge (Howard), Assateague (Worcester), Big Millpond (Worcester), Blackwalnut Point (Talbot), Braddock Heights (Frederick), Bradenbaugh (Harford), Brandon Shores (Anne Arundel), Bray Hill (Garrett), Broad Creek (Prince Georges), Centennial Park (Howard), Conowingo (Harford), Cove Point (Calvert), Crocheron (Dorchester), Deal Island WMA (Somerset), Deep Creek Lake (Garrett), Eastern Neck (Kent), Elliott (Dorchester), Fairlee Creek (Kent), Flag Ponds (Calvert), Fort McHenry (Baltimore city), Germantown (Montgomery), God's Grace



Point (Calvert), Green Ridge (Allegany), Hart - Miller (Baltimore), Hughes Hollow (Montgomery), Janes Island (Somerset), Jug Bay (Anne Arundel), Lake Kittamaquidi (Howard), Lilypons (Frederick), Loch Raven (Baltimore), Love Point (Queen Annes), Madonna (Harford), Masonville (Baltimore city), New Design Road (Frederick), North Beach (Calvert), North Branch (Allegany), Oakland (Garrett), Oldtown (Allegany), Patuxent Naval Air Station (St. Marys), Patuxent Wildlife Research Center (Prince Georges), Piney Run (Carroll), Pinto Marsh (Allegany), Piscataway (Prince Georges), Point Lookout (St. Marys), Poplar Island (Talbot), Remington Farms (Kent), Rising Sun (Cecil), Rocky Gap (Allegany), St. Inigoes (St. Marys), Sandgates (St. Marys), Seneca (Montgomery), Spring Gap (Allegany), Swan Point (Kent), Sycamore Landing (Montgomery), Tanyard (Caroline), Thurmont (Frederick), Tilghman Island (Talbot), Tolchester (Kent), Triadelphia Reservoir (Howard for all sightings unless noted), Trout Run sewage treatment plant (Garrett) formerly called Mountain Lake sewage lagoons, Tuckahoe State Park (Caroline unless noted), Wilde Lake (Howard), Williston (Caroline), Youghiogheny River (Garrett).

*Loons, Grebes, Cormorants.* Stasz found 1 Red-throated Loon at Cove Point on Dec. 6; 3 seen at Ocean City on Jan. 24 (Davidson, M. O'Brien) were not unexpected, but very rare inland was 1 on Triadelphia Reservoir on Dec. 12-26 (Swift +). Jim Gruber counted 43 Common Loons in Chesapeake Bay from Swan Point to Love Point on Dec. 4. Common Loons become uncommon after the Christmas Counts; the only reports this winter were 1 at PNAS on Jan. 6 (Rambo), 1 at Cove Point on Jan. 18 (Stasz), and 2 at Assateague on Feb. 20-21 (Warfield). The high winter count of Pied-billed Grebes was 22 at Loch Raven on Jan. 11 (Simon); 1 at Cumberland on Jan. 28 (Twigg) was rare for western Maryland and 1 at Upper Marlboro on Feb. 29 (Stasz) was likely an early spring migrant. The 3 Horned Grebes on Deep Creek Lake on Dec. 23 (Skipper) were late for Garrett County; the first migrant of the spring was 1 at Piney Run on Feb. 27 (Ringler). At Ocean City 1 immature Great Cormorant was seen on Jan. 11 (M. O'Brien) and 2 were there on Jan. 24 (Davidson, M. O'Brien); a possible new wintering location was God's Grace Point on the Patuxent where Stasz and Boyd saw 2 on Jan. 18. A late Double-crested Cormorant was at Wilde Lake on Dec. 6 (Cleggs +). Jim Gruber saw 6 at Tolchester on Dec. 8; at Love Point Light he saw 9 on Feb. 2 and 1 on Feb. 16. Others were at Point Lookout on Dec. 13 (Hammer +) and 1 immature at Brandon Shores on Dec. 27 where it was recorded for the Baltimore Harbor CBC (Ringler).

*Hérons, Ibis.* The only reports of American Bittern were single birds at Cove Point on Dec. 6 (Stasz), Assateague on Dec. 29 (Ringler), and Deal Island WMA on Dec. 30 (J. & M. O'Brien). There were 125 Great Blue Herons in the roost at Conowingo on Dec. 7 (Ringler). A Great Blue on Little Conococheague Creek in Washington County on Jan. 31 (Ringler) was probably wandering from the Potomac River. The only Great Egrets were 7 on the Southern Dorchester County CBC on Dec. 31 and the only Snowy Egret was 1 on the Ocean City CBC on Dec. 29. The only Tricolored Herons were 12 at Deal Island WMA on Dec. 30 (J. & M. O'Brien). Also at Deal that day were 97 Black-crowned Night-Herons and 2 Glossy Ibis. The Black-crown roost at Conowingo had 40 birds on Dec. 7 and Jan. 2 (Ringler +) and there were 30 in DC on Columbia Island on Jan. 1 (Czaplak). Three Glossy Ibis were at Elliott on Dec. 31 (D. J. Cristol +).

*Swans, Geese.* Late migrating Tundra Swans were 93 flying over the C & O Canal near Spring Gap on Dec. 6 (Kiddy) and 4 on Deep Creek Lake on Dec. 23 (Skipper). A flock of swans on the Potomac below Blue Plains numbered 115 on

Jan. 16-17 (Czaplak). Flocks of Tundra Swans that may have indicated massing for spring migration were 176 at Flag Ponds on Feb. 15 (Stasz), 5000 near Chestertown on Feb. 20 (Grubers), 20 near Rising Sun on Feb. 20 (Fogleman), 1500 at St. Michaels on Feb. 26 (Reese) and 250 at Piscataway on Feb. 27 (Jesse Fulton). Two Mute Swans at Hart - Miller on Dec. 27 (Stasz +) were unusual there and up to 7 Mutes wintered at Williston (J. Wright). Kirkwood saw an adult Greater White-fronted Goose near Madonna on Dec. 18 and there was an unconfirmed report of an immature shot by a hunter near Suicide Bridge in Dorchester County on Jan. 23 (fide Glenn Therres). Omitted from the fall report was this rare Garrett County sighting from Fran Pope: 6 Snow Geese on Broadford Reservoir on Nov. 6 with 1 immature white and 2 adult and 3 immature blues. Also unusual inland were 4 Snow Geese near Madonna on Dec. 9-26 and 2 there on Feb. 6-17 (Kirkwood) and 1 near Boonsboro in Washington County on Feb. 26 (Keedy). Flocks estimated to total 2000 Snow Geese were seen between Parsonsburg and Willards in Wicomico County on Dec. 16 (Warfield) and near Snow Hill on Feb. 14 (Ringler +). The only report of Brant after the Christmas Count was of 150 flying south at Ocean City on Jan. 11 (M. O'Brien). Warfield noted the following flocks of Canada Geese that may have been late fall migrants: 41 flying over Germantown in a snow storm on Dec. 28, 71 flying down the Potomac on Dec. 31 and 68 flying southeast over Germantown on Jan. 18. Among wintering flocks of Canadas were 700 near Mt. Airy on Dec. 5 (Warfield), 5000 at Loch Raven on Dec. 24 (Simon), 1500 at Rockville on Jan. 10 (M. & P. O'Brien), 255 in DC on Jan. 21 (Czaplak), 1367 at St. Inigoes on Jan. 22 (Wilson), and 800 at Piscataway on Feb. 20 (Weigel, Shelton), all of which is evidence that more and more geese are wintering inland. In addition to these, 9 Canadas wintered in Garrett County at a spring-fed pond near Oakland (Thayer). Early spring migrant Canadas were 7 at North Branch on Feb. 20 (Kiddy) and 6000 flying north over Kent County on Feb. 23 (Grubers).

*Dabbling Ducks.* A few Wood Ducks made it through the winter as usual, and spring migrants started returning in late February. The reports were: 1 at Bradenbaugh on Dec. 5 (Kirkwood), 37 wild birds at the National Zoo on Dec. 13 (Czaplak), 3 on Big Millpond on Dec. 28 (M. O'Brien), 1 on Triadelphia Reservoir on Jan. 1 (Solem, Farrell), 1 drake at Oakwood on the South River on Jan. 3 (Ringler), 1 drake at Hughes Hollow on Jan. 7 (M. O'Brien, Gough) 3 at St. Michaels on Feb. 26 (Reese), 1 on the Potomac near Shepherdstown on Feb. 27 (Keedy), 12 at Williston on Feb. 28 (Short) and 3 on the Youghiogheny River on Feb. 29 (Thayer).

The hydrilla on Piscataway Creek and Broad Creek held some waterfowl much longer into the season than usual. On Dec. 6 there were 300 Green-winged Teal, 7 Blue-winged Teal, 100 Gadwalls and 1250 Ring-necked Ducks (Ringler +). On Jan. 3 there were 23 Blue-winged Teal and a drake Eurasian Wigeon (Swarth, Jett), both extraordinary at that time. The Eurasian Wigeon was seen on the other side of the Potomac after the creek froze (at least from Jan. 17). Czaplak reported seeing the bird on Feb. 7 in Maryland waters at the mouth of Little Hunting Creek north of Mount Vernon. Blue-winged Teal do not normally winter this far north, but the hydrilla held 6 on Feb. 20 (Weigel, Shelton). On Feb. 19 there were 30 American Wigeon (Wilson) and, on Feb. 20 about 500 Canvasbacks (Weigel, Shelton). Obviously waterfowl are taking great advantage of this introduced plant. Other wintering or early spring migrant Green-winged Teal were 35 at Cove Point on Dec. 6 (Stasz), 2 at Thurmont on Dec. 31 (J. & M. O'Brien), 1 at Wilde Lake on Jan. 30-31 (Swift +), 1 at Gaithersburg on Feb. 7 (P. O'Brien), 6 at Blackwater Refuge on Feb. 13 (Wilson), 5 at Rock Hall on Feb. 26 (Grubers), and 2 at Piney Run on Feb. 27 (Ringler). A Green-winged Teal of the European race *Anas c. crecca* was found on

the Ocean City CBC on Dec. 29 near Berlin (Woody Martin). High counts of American Black Ducks for the season were 150 at Conowingo on Jan. 9 (M. & P. O'Brien), 200 in DC on Jan. 16 (Czaplak) and 370 at Piney Run on Feb. 20 (Ringler). High counts of Mallards were 400 at Conowingo on Jan. 9 (M. & P. O'Brien), 300 at Rockville on Jan. 12 (M. O'Brien), 800 in DC on Jan. 16 (Czaplak), 175 at Cumberland on Jan. 17 (Simons), 600 at Loch Raven on Jan. 17 (Simon), and 295 at Piney Run on Feb. 20 (P. O'Brien). The 219 Northern Pintails at Cove Point on Dec. 6 (Stasz) were exceptional there, and probable early spring migrants were 2 at Blackwater on Feb. 13 (Wilson), 9 at Piney Run on Feb. 20 (Ringler), and 1 at Remington Farms on Feb. 28 (Grubers). Reports of Northern Shovelers were of 3 at Berlin on Jan. 11 (M. O'Brien), 6 at Pinto Marsh on Feb. 27 (Simons), and 8 at Remington Farms on Feb. 28 (Grubers). Other reports of Gadwalls were 28 at Cove Point on Dec. 6 (Stasz), 29 on Big Millpond on Dec. 28 (M. O'Brien), 46 at Flag Ponds on Jan. 2 (Stasz), and 4 at North Branch from Jan. 31 through Feb. 29 (Simons +). Other American Wigeons were 20 on Deep Creek Lake on Dec. 11 (Skipper), 11 on Wilde Lake on Jan. 30 (Swift), 2 at Rock Hall on Feb. 19 (J. Gruber), and 2 at North Branch on Feb. 25 (Simons).

*Diving Ducks.* Concentrations of Canvasbacks were 350 at Cambridge on Dec. 12 (Reese), 1500 at Sandy Point on Jan. 16 (M. & P. O'Brien), 500 in DC on Jan. 16 (Czaplak), 607 at Cove Point on Feb. 7 (Stasz), 570 at Cambridge on Feb. 15 (Czaplak), 410 at Masonville on Feb. 18 (Walbeck), 700 at Tolchester on Feb. 25 (Grubers), and 2100 on the Potomac at the US 301 Bridge on Feb. 29 (Farrell). Many of the late February reports are of birds staging for spring migration. Other early migrants were 1 at North Branch on Feb. 20 (Simons) and 10 on Lake Kittamaquidi on Feb. 28 (Solems, Farrell). In recent years Redheads have been very few in number, but a flock of 23 flew past Janes Island on Dec. 30 (Ringler). Others were 1 at Upper Marlboro on Dec. 31 (Stasz), 1 at Flag Ponds on Jan. 2 (Stasz), 2 at Gaithersburg on Jan. 21 and Jan. 27 (M. O'Brien), 6 at Cove Point on Feb. 7 (Stasz), 2 at Masonville on Feb. 18 (Walbeck), 4 at Piscataway on Feb. 20 (Weigel, Shelton), and 1 at Piney Run on Feb. 20 (P. O'Brien). Reports of Ring-necked Ducks were 340 on Loch Raven on Dec. 24 (Simon), 31 at Gaithersburg on Jan. 21 (M. O'Brien), 6 at Madonna on Feb. 6 (Kirkwood), 50 at Piscataway on Feb. 20 (Weigel, Shelton), 60 at Piney Run on Feb. 27 (Ringler), and 5 at Upper Marlboro on Feb. 29 (Stasz). Greater Scaup numbered 75 at Ocean City on Jan. 16 (M. & P. O'Brien), 495 at Cove Point on Feb. 7 with 405 Lesser Scaup (Stasz), and 600 at Tolchester on Feb. 25 with 300 Lessers (Grubers). Other counts of Lessers were 100 in DC on Jan. 16 (Czaplak), 250 at Masonville on Feb. 18 (Walbeck), and 1500 on the Potomac at the US 301 Bridge on Feb. 29 (Farrell). Jim Gruber estimated the flock of scaup off Swan Point on Feb. 24 at 6000 with most of them Greater. The flock of Common Eiders at Ocean City built up from 11 on Dec. 13 (Davidson, Wierenga) to 16 on Dec. 30 (O'Briens), 19 on Jan. 11 (M. O'Brien), and a peak of 23 on Feb. 14 (Ringler +) before dwindling to 10 on Feb. 15-27 (Bonham +). With them was 1 female King Eider at least through Feb. 14 (Ringler +). A drake Harlequin Duck was at Ocean City on Jan. 24 (M. O'Brien, Davidson) and Jan. 31 (P. O'Brien).

An extraordinary flock of 135 Oldsquaws was on Triadelphia Reservoir on Dec. 5 (Solem, Farrell), the largest flock seen inland in the state. Other flocks numbered 300 off Blackwalnut Point on Dec. 6 (Reese), 700 at North Beach on Dec. 6 (Stasz), and 500 at Cove Point on Jan. 2 (Stasz). The 2 Oldsquaws in DC on Jan. 7 (Czaplak) were rare mid-winter visitors there. Also at Cove Point, Stasz saw 200 Surf Scoters and 4000 unidentified scoters on Jan. 2, and 25 Black Scoters and 75 White-winged Scoters on Jan. 18. On Jan. 24 at Ocean City there were 1 Black and 25 Surf

Scoters (Davidson, M. O'Brien). In DC Czaplak saw 4 White-wings on Jan. 5 and 5 on Feb. 20 for a rare occurrence. On Feb. 24 Jim Gruber reported 200 White-wings off Swan Point. Wintering flocks of Common Goldeneyes were 250 at Sandy Point on Jan. 9 (Davidson), 250 at Cove Point on Jan. 18 (Stasz), 15 at Cumberland on Jan. 24 (Simons), and 50 at Sandgates on Jan. 27 (Wilson). Off Swan Point spring flocks began to form on Feb. 17 with 650 goldeneyes increasing to 1000 on Feb. 24 (J. Gruber). Also in Kent County there were 400 in Fairlee Creek on Feb. 25 (Grubers). The last ducks seen on Deep Creek Lake before it froze were 12 Buffleheads on Dec. 27 (Thayer). Wintering flocks included 50 at Conowingo on Jan. 9 (M. & P. O'Brien), 50 in DC on Jan. 16 (Czaplak) and 300 at Cove Point on Jan. 18 (Stasz). Hooded Mergansers of note were 2 on Deep Creek Lake on Dec. 23 (Skipper), 20 at Deal Island WMA on Dec. 30 (J. & M. O'Brien), 4 at Cove Point on Jan. 2 (Stasz), 68 on Loch Raven on Jan. 11 (Simon), a pair on the Youghiogheny River on Feb. 8-18 (Thayer) and 23 spring migrants at Piney Run on Feb. 20 (Ringler). Michael and Paul O'Brien estimated 1000 Common Mergansers at Conowingo on Jan. 9; signs of spring migration elsewhere were 50 at Piscataway on Feb. 20 (Weigel, Shelton), 4 on the Monocacy River near Detour on Feb. 23 (Walbeck), 24 in Worton Creek and 29 in Fairlee Creek on Feb. 25 (Grubers), 19 on Loch Raven on Feb. 26 (Simon), and 90 on Triadelphia Reservoir on Feb. 27 (Chestem). A late Ruddy Duck was on Deep Creek Lake on Dec. 23 (Skipper); wintering flocks numbered 14,000 on the Patuxent River from the Thomas Johnson Bridge to Cedar Point on Jan. 20 (Rambo, Bryan), 370 at Masonville on Feb. 18 (Walbeck), and 500 on the Potomac at the US 301 Bridge on Feb. 29 (Farrell).

*Diurnal Raptors.* Warfield observed about 100 Turkey Vultures apparently migrating along Parr's Ridge at Germantown on Dec. 1. A Turkey Vulture on Green Ridge on Feb. 20 (Simons) was an early spring migrant there. Wierenga saw an Osprey at Assateague on Dec. 29 for the Ocean City CBC. Inland Bald Eagles were an immature seen at Triadelphia on Dec. 5 (Solem, Farrell) and Jan. 4 (Chestem), an immature near Cresaptown in Allegany County on Dec. 19 (Ringler +), and an adult at Loch Raven on Jan. 3-29 (Jenkins, Simon). On the Potomac there were 8 Bald Eagles sitting together on the hydrilla on Dec. 6 (Ringler +) and 3 in DC on Jan. 16 (Czaplak). On the Susquehanna, Schutsky estimated an average of 30 Bald Eagles (8 adults and 22 immatures) between Conowingo and I-95. By early February the number was reduced to 7 adults and 8 immatures. Local birds were nest-building by Feb. 3 and incubating by Feb. 27. Charlie Vaughn found 20 Bald Eagles near Pocomoke City on Dec. 5. Roger Anderson reported that the pair of Bald Eagles on Conn Island in Montgomery County had begun nesting again in February. There were two reports of Northern Goshawks, an immature at Susquehanna SP on Jan. 16 (Wilkinson) and an adult at Silver Run in Carroll County on Feb. 6 (Blom). Reese observed a pair of Red-tailed Hawks in courtship flight at St. Michaels on Feb. 22. Reports of Rough-legged Hawks were a dark-phase adult in DC on Dec. 2 (Czaplak), 3 (2 light-phase and 1 dark-phase) at Deal Island WMA on Dec. 30 (J. & M. O'Brien), 1 light-phase photographed by Roy Brown on Irons Mountain, Allegany County on Jan. 10, 1 light-phase at Brighton Dam, Triadelphia Reservoir on Jan. 11 (Chestem, Helen Zeichner), and in southern Dorchester County a light-phase at Elliott and a dark-phase at Bestpitch on Feb. 15 (Ringler +). An immature Golden Eagle was found dead in the Lothian-Owensville area of Anne Arundel County on Jan. 31 (fide Glenn Therres). The only Merlins reported outside CBCs were 1 in DC, Jan. 10-31 (Czaplak), a female on the Thomas Johnson Bridge with a dead European Starling on Feb. 1 (Rambo), and 1 in East Potomac Park on Feb. 6 (Barry Cooper). An adult Peregrine Falcon remained at Ocean City through Feb. 14 (Ringler +).



Fig. 1. Rough-legged Hawk over Irons Mountain, Allegany County, Md. on Jan. 10, 1988. Photo by Roy Brown.

*Pheasants, Turkeys, Rails and Coots.* Unusual in Dorchester County was a flock of 5 Ring-necked Pheasants plus another bird heard there on Dec. 31 (Wilson, Ringler, Maggie Hawk). Rare in Allegany County were 2 pheasants at North Branch on Feb. 2 (Twigg). Reports of Wild Turkeys in Allegany County were 26 at Rocky Gap on Dec. 3 (Twigg), 17 along US 40 east of Cumberland on Jan. 1 (Kiddy) and a single flock of 70 below Green Ridge on Jan. 30 (Weatherholt, Simons, Ringler). In Garrett County there were 30 Wild Turkeys at Carey Run Sanctuary on Feb. 14 (Walbeck) and 35 near Bittering on Feb. 21 (Skipper). A Clapper Rail was seen on Assateague on Dec. 29 (Ringler). American Coots in the hydrilla of Prince Georges County numbered about 500 on Broad Creek on Dec. 6 (Ringler +) and 200 off Fort Washington Marina on Feb. 19 (Wilson). On Deep Creek Lake the coot flock was 58 on Dec. 11 but only 6 remained on Dec. 23 (Skipper). There were 350 coots on Loch Raven on Feb. 23 (Simon).

*Shorebirds.* Among the shorebirds wintering at Ocean City were 25 Black-bellied Plovers on Feb. 14 (Ringler +), 40 Ruddy Turnstones on Jan. 24 (M. O'Brien, Davidson), and 30 Purple Sandpipers at the 41st Street groin on Jan. 31 (P. O'Brien). Wintering Killdeer included 55 at Lime Kiln Pond in Howard County on Dec. 12 (Solem, Farrell), 36 in southern Frederick County on Dec. 27 (Warfield) and 1 at Trout Run in Garrett County on Jan. 28 and Feb. 3 (Skipper). Reports of Lesser Yellowlegs were a late fall migrant at North Branch on Dec. 5-8 (Simons +), 3 flying over West Ocean City on Dec. 17 (Warfield), and 1 at Deal Island WMA on Feb. 15 (Ringler +). Lessers were also found on CBCs at Baltimore Harbor, Crisfield, and Southern Dorchester County. Stasz's counts of Sanderlings at Flag Ponds were 66 on Dec. 6, 26 on Jan. 2, and 4 on Feb. 15. Davidson found the only Western Sandpiper of the season on Assateague on Dec. 28. Paul Spitzer saw 4 Purple Sandpipers feeding with Dunlins on Poplar Island on Dec. 26, a late date for the latter as well as a rare occurrence of Purple Sandpiper in the bay. Reports of wintering Common Snipe included 2 near Braddock Heights on Jan. 10 (Bystrak, Klockner), 1 at Tanyard on Jan. 10 (Engle), 2 at Lilypons on Jan. 23 (Wilkinson) and Feb. 6 (Weigel), and 2 in Howard County on Jan. 24 (Solems). Reese found 1 American Woodcock at Toddville in Dorchester County on Jan. 11 and heard 1 in courtship flight at St. Michaels on Feb. 26; Simons found 6 at North Branch on Feb. 27 as migration had obviously begun.

*Gulls, Terns, Alcids.* A late concentration of Laughing Gulls was 2000 at Jug Bay on Dec. 6 (Ringler); very late migrants were 2 in DC on Dec. 21 (Czaplak), 4 at Upper Marlboro on Dec. 31 and 1 there on Jan. 5 (Stasz). An immature Common

**Black-headed Gull** was seen in Ocean City from Feb. 14 through the end of the period (Czaplak +). Inland **Bonaparte's Gulls** were 3 at Deep Creek Lake on Dec. 1 (Skipper), 3 on Triadelphia Reservoir on Dec. 6 (Chestem), 1 at McHenry on Deep Creek Lake on Dec. 27 (Thayer), and 1 adult at Upper Marlboro on Jan. 5 (Stasz). About 400 Bonaparte's were at Conowingo on Dec. 7 (Blom, Ringler) and the high count at Ocean City was 100 on Feb. 21 (Warfield).

Late migrating **Ring-billed Gulls** on Jan. 1 numbered 5 at Rocky Gap (Kiddy) and 83 flying southeast over Germantown (Warfield). In Cumberland the Ring-bill tally was 40 on Jan. 31 (Simons) and 58 on Feb. 27 (Kiddy), probably all spring migrants. Schutsky estimated 20,000 Ring-bills at Conowingo on Jan. 6 and Jan. 20, but only 10 were there on Feb. 8 (Blom) as many had already started to migrate. With them were 50,000 **Herring Gulls** on the former date. In DC there were 2700 Ring-bills on Jan. 31 with 6800 Herring Gulls (Czaplak); 1200 Ring-bills were at Easton on Feb. 12 and 1500 at St. Michaels on Feb. 26 (Reese), and 1850 at Alpha Ridge on Feb. 15 with 250 Herring Gulls (Holmes +). First-winter Thayer's Gulls were reported at Upper Marlboro on Jan. 4 (Stasz) and at Conowingo on Jan. 23 (Wierenga, Davidson, Bonham). A first-winter and a second-winter **Iceland Gull** were found at Salisbury on Dec. 30 (O'Briens) and again on Jan. 16 (M. & P. O'Brien). At Conowingo the first Iceland Gull was an immature on Jan. 6 (Schutsky), the peak was 6 birds (3 first-winter and 3 second-winter) on Jan. 20 (Schutsky), and the last bird was seen on Feb. 8 (Blom). In DC at least 3 different immature Icelands were seen from Jan. 11 through Feb. 11, and on Jan. 31 an adult of the Kumlien's race was also there (Czaplak +). **Lesser Black-backed Gulls** again were the most common of the rarer species, with an adult at North Beach on Dec. 4 and Jan. 3 (Stasz), an adult at Upper Marlboro on Jan. 4 (Stasz), an adult at Sandy Point on Dec. 27 (Hilton), an adult at Fort McHenry from Dec. 27 through Jan. 23 (Ringler +), and a third-winter bird at Ocean City on Jan. 24 (M. O'Brien, Davidson). At Conowingo there was a third-winter bird on Dec. 7 (Blom, Ringler), 3 adults on Jan. 6 (Schutsky), 3 on Jan. 12 (Blom), 3 third- or fourth-winter birds on Jan. 23 (Wierenga, Davidson), and 2 adults and a third-winter bird on Jan. 27 (Schutsky) and Jan. 28 (M. O'Brien). Four birds were still present on Feb. 8 (Blom). At Salisbury there were single first-winter and fourth-winter Lessers on Dec. 30 (O'Briens) and a second-winter bird on Jan. 16 (M. & P. O'Brien); the returning adult was seen near Berlin on Jan. 30 (Paul DuMont). In DC Czaplak noted 2 adult, 1 second-winter, and 2 first-winter Lessers on various dates throughout the season. The only **Glaucous Gulls** of the season were at least 6 different immatures in DC from the first on Jan. 10 through the last on Feb. 20, with a high of 3 on Jan. 31 (Czaplak). A first-winter bird was at Conowingo, Jan. 23 (Wierenga, Davidson) through Feb. 8 (Blom). **Great Black-backed Gulls** numbered 1000 at Conowingo on Feb. 8 (Blom) and 1000 in the Washington Channel on Jan. 23 (M. O'Brien, Gough) while 1 was far inland at Germantown on Feb. 26 (Warfield). Gull numbers diminished in January as spring migration got underway.

The last **Royal Tern** of the season was at North Beach on Dec. 13 (Stasz). The only mid-winter **Forster's Tern** was at Ocean City on Jan. 24 (M. O'Brien, Davidson). Wierenga captured a stranded **Dovekie** in the middle of Assateague Island on the Dec. 29 Ocean City CBC and later released it on the bay side of the island.

*Doves, Owls, Woodpeckers.* The only large flocks of **Mourning Doves** reported were 250 at Mt. Olive, Worcester County on Jan. 9, about 200 at Wango, Wicomico County on Jan. 30, and 1500 at Snow Hill on Jan. 31 (Dyke). A **Common Barn-Owl** was seen at Deal Island WMA on Jan. 16 (M. & P. O'Brien). The only **Short-eared Owls** reported were 2 at Deal Island WMA on Dec. 30 (J. & M. O'Brien) and 1 at

PNAS on Jan. 13 (Bryan). Single Northern Saw-whet Owls were near the DC/Takoma Park line from Dec. 5 through Jan. 3 (Czaplak +), at Tuckahoe SP from Dec. 19 through at least Jan. 4 (Sue Ricciardi, Rittenhouse +), at the Bureau of Mines in Prince Georges County on Jan. 2 (Gough), at Hughes Hollow from Jan. 27 through the end of the period (M. O'Brien +), at PNAS on Feb. 1 (Rambo, Bryan), and at the National Arboretum from Feb. 24 through the end of the period (Gough). Klockner and Wierenga found 3 Saw-whets on Assateague on Dec. 29 for the Ocean City CBC. Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers were more numerous than they have been in recent winters. A flock of 20 Northern Flickers was at Pinto Marsh on Jan. 31 (Simons).

*Phoebes, Larks, Crows.* Eastern Phoebes were widespread and some evidently made it through the winter; single birds were at Seneca on Dec. 6 (Warfield), at Charles Branch Park in Prince Georges County on Dec. 6 (Ringler), at Pinto Marsh on Dec. 19 (Ringler +), at Lilypons and at Hughes Hollow (2 birds) on Jan. 7 (M. O'Brien, Gough), at North Branch on Jan. 9 and Feb. 7 (Kiddy), on the C & O Canal near Oldtown on Jan. 30 (Kiddy), at Denton on Feb. 18 (Fletcher) and Feb. 27 (Knotts) and on the C & O Canal near Spring Gap on Feb. 20 (Kiddy). The biggest flocks of Horned Larks reported were 100 at Bradenbaugh on Dec. 30 (Fogleman), 200 near Braddock Heights on Jan. 10 (Bystrak, Klockner), 100 at Lilypons on Jan. 15-23 (Wilkinson), and 21 at Pinto Marsh on Jan. 24 (Simons). Reese estimated 3500 Fish Crows at Crocheron on Dec. 12 and a migrant flock of 14 Fish Crows was at Piney Run on Feb. 27 (Ringler).

*Chickadees, Nuthatches, Wrens.* No Black-capped Chickadees were reported out of range this winter. A White-breasted Nuthatch at St. Ingoes on Jan. 22 (Wilson) was rare for St. Marys County. Reese counted 7 Brown-headed Nuthatches at Tilghman Island on Dec. 13. The Susquehanna River was a good place to find Winter Wrens as 5 were seen at Conowingo on Jan. 9 (M. & P. O'Brien) and Jan. 24 (Fogleman). Michael O'Brien also participated in most of the other good wren sightings, finding a Sedge Wren and 2 Marsh Wrens at Georges Island Landing in Worcester County on Dec. 28, and a Marsh Wren at Lilypons on Dec. 25 (with J. & P. O'Brien), Jan. 4 (with P. O'Brien), and Jan. 7 (with Gough). A Marsh Wren on Swan Creek on Jan. 2 (Kirkwood +) was the first winter record for Harford County.

*Kinglets, Thrushes, Mimids.* Wilson saw 10 Golden-crowned Kinglets at Laurel Grove in St. Marys County on Jan. 27. A Blue-gray Gnatcatcher appeared at Piscataway on Dec. 30 (Swarth), continuing the records from November. A high count of 90 Eastern Bluebirds was at Schooley Mill Park in Howard County on Dec. 5 (George Chase). Wintering flocks of American Robins included 700 at Big Millpond on Dec. 28 (M. O'Brien) and 150 at Hughes Hollow on Jan. 7 (M. O'Brien, Gough). In western Maryland a robin near Oakland on Feb. 3 (Skipper) cannot be explained, but 36 at North Branch on Feb. 19 (Simons), 1 at Bray Hill on Feb. 23 (Skipper) and 70 at Pinto Marsh on Feb. 27 (Simons) were more likely spring migrants. January reports of Gray Catbirds were 13 on the Rock Run CBC on the 2nd, most of them along the Susquehanna River, 2 at Hughes Hollow on the 7th (M. O'Brien, Gough) and 1 there on the 27th (M. O'Brien), 1 at Jessup on the 9th (Swarth), 1 near Hughes Hollow on the 15th (Wilkinson), 1 at Susquehanna SP on the 16th (Wilkinson), and 1 at Conowingo on the 24th (Fogleman). Single wintering Brown Thrashers were at Denton on Jan. 10 (Westre), St. Michaels on Jan. 10 (Reese), Susquehanna SP on Jan. 16 (Wilkinson), near La Plata on Jan. 17 and near Davidsonville on Feb. 19 (both Droege) and at Piney Run on Feb. 27 (Ringler, Dave Harvey).

*Pipits, Waxwings, Shrikes.* Outside of 5 CBCs the only Water Pipits were 1 at Bradenbaugh on Dec. 30 (Fogleman), 1 at the Eastern Landfill in Baltimore County on Jan. 19 (Wilkinson), and 2 at Flag Ponds on Feb. 15 (Stasz). Michael O'Brien and Gough estimated 300 Cedar Waxwings at Hughes Hollow on Jan. 7. An immature Northern Shrike was trapped and banded at PWRC on Jan. 3 and remained in the area through Feb. 6-7 when it was trapped again and removed from the area because of its depredations on birds at the banding station. It was released at McKee-Beshers WMA in Montgomery County (Kathy Klimkiewicz +). The only Loggerhead Shrikes of the season were 1 near Oldtown on Jan. 2 (Simons) and 1 at Lilypons, Jan. 2 through Feb. 6 (many observers).

*Warblers.* Some outstanding records on the CBCs were an Orange-crowned Warbler at Hart - Miller on Dec. 27 (Stasz), a Cape May Warbler in Warrior Mountain WMA, Allegany County on Dec. 19 (Ringler, Simons, Weatherholt), 5 counts with Pine Warblers including 35 on the Salisbury CBC, a Prairie Warbler near Rehobeth, Somerset County on the Crisfield CBC on Dec. 30 (Charles Vaughn +), 12 Palm Warblers on the Crisfield CBC, and 5 counts with Common Yellowthroats. Other Pine Warblers were 1 at Point Lookout on Dec. 13 (Hammer +), 1 in DC from Dec. 24 through Jan. 10 (Czaplak +), 38 at Big Millpond on Dec. 28 (M. O'Brien), 1 at feeders near Patapsco, Carroll County, Jan. 4 through Feb. 10 (Michelle Hudgins, Jean Worthley +), 1 at St. Inigoes on Jan. 22 (Wilson), 1 at St. Michaels on Jan. 23 and 1 singing there on Feb. 28 (Reese), 1 at Sycamore Landing on Feb. 27 (Bonham), and 1 at Cumberland on Feb. 28 (Twigg). The latter three might be early spring migrants. The only other yellowthroats reported were 2 at Lilypons on Dec. 25 (O'Briens). A Yellow-breasted Chat was at Sandy Point on Dec. 24 (Dennis Forsythe, Donna Clark).

*Dickcissel, Sparrows, Longspurs, Buntings.* Herb Cutler found 2 Dickcissels at a feeder in West Ocean City on Dec. 29-30. The high count of American Tree Sparrows was 27 at Pinto Marsh on Dec. 5 (Simons); in southern Maryland where they are rare, 3 were at Cove Point on Dec. 6 (Stasz) and 1 at PNAS on Jan. 11 (Rambo). Other interesting sparrow reports were 7 Chipping Sparrows at Denton on Jan. 14 (Westre), 4 Savannah Sparrows at St. Inigoes on Jan. 22 (Wilson) and 4 Sharp-tailed Sparrows on Assateague on Dec. 29 (Ringler). Wintering or early migrant Fox Sparrows were 1 at Denton, Jan. 9 through Feb. 6 (Fletcher), 8 at Eastern Neck on Jan. 12 (Grubers), 4 at Piney Run on Feb. 6 (Ringler, Walbeck), 2 on Green Ridge on Feb. 20 (Simons), and 1 at PNAS on Feb. 24 (Rambo, Bryan). Lingerling Lincoln's Sparrows were singles at North Branch on Dec. 27 (Simons) and Mason Landing in Worcester County on Dec. 29 (M. O'Brien). High counts of White-crowned Sparrows included 12 at Blackwalnut Point on Dec. 6 (Reese) and 37 at Remington Farms on Feb. 6 (Grubers). Along New Design Road in southern Frederick County, 1 Lapland Longspur was seen on Jan. 2 (M. & P. O'Brien), 3 on Jan. 15 (Wilkinson) and 2 on Jan. 18 (M. & P. O'Brien). The only Snow Buntings were 1 at Bradenbaugh on Dec. 29-30 (Kirkwood +) and 2 near Braddock Heights on Jan. 10 (Bystrak, Klockner).

*Blackbirds and Orioles.* A Red-winged Blackbird in Garrett County at Bray Hill on Jan. 26 (Skipper) was the only one worthy of comment, though many large flocks were seen through other parts of the state. An immature male Yellow-headed Blackbird photographed at Chase in eastern Baltimore County on Jan. 9 by Ken & Paula Jent was seen at least through Feb. 15 (Hank Kaestner). Another Yellow-headed, an adult male, was in Prince Georges County at Bladensburg on Jan. 10 (Mike Donovan) and another adult male was near Rising Sun on Feb. 20



(Fogleman). Rusty Blackbirds were scarce again this winter. Reese estimated 10,000 Common Grackles flying over Madonna at dusk on Jan. 3, and 1000 at Easton on Feb. 21 as spring migration had begun. Reports of Northern Orioles were a female at Blackwalnut Point on Dec. 6 (Reese), a female at Conowingo on Dec. 23-26 (Fogleman), 1 at Germantown on Dec. 24 (Warfield), and 1 at Loch Raven on Jan. 10 (Jenkins).

*Finches.* Purple Finches were generally scarce with few large flocks. Among these were 60 at Germantown on Dec. 19 and 54 there on Feb. 3 (Warfield), and 20 at Hughes Hollow on Jan. 7 (M. O'Brien, Gough). Pine Siskins were widespread, but common only in western Maryland, and there only after late January when there was a sudden increase in numbers. Teresa Simons had 75 at her feeder near Cumberland on Jan. 31, Ray Kiddy had a high of 80 at his Cumberland feeder on Feb. 26, and Connie Skipper had 70 at her Bray Hill feeder on Feb. 27. High counts of American Goldfinches were 150 at Blackwalnut Point on Dec. 6 (Reese), 200 near Wetipquin, Wicomico County on Dec. 27 (Dyke), and 75 at Pinto Marsh on Jan. 31 (Simons). Evening Grosbeaks were even more scattered than the siskins, with interesting reports being 15 at Centennial Park on Dec. 5 (Wilkinson), 15 at Town Creek in Allegany County on Jan. 2 (Simons), 38 near Eldersburg in Carroll County on Jan. 17 (Ringler), and 65 at Bray Hill on Feb. 15 (Skipper).

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## SHOREBIRDS AND HERONS FLOCK TO TOWER GARDENS

SUE RICCIARDI

In the March 1976 issue of *Maryland Birdlife*, Hal Wierenga documented a "shorebird spectacular" at Sandy Point State Park. A channel dredging project created habitat that during the 1975 fall migration attracted 31 species of shorebirds. Regrettably, once the spoil impoundments dried up, the shorebird bonanza ended. At the time Wierenga remarked how nice it would be if some permanent impoundments could be maintained, noting that all but one of the shorebird species had been recorded previously in the park.

Alas, the impoundments were not maintained, but a similar shorebird invasion has recurred in 1985 and 1986 at a location on Kent Island in Queen Anne's County, only 10 miles from Sandy Point. It occurred in habitat that also appears to be temporary.

Once connected to Chesapeake Bay, North West Creek is now a lake of about 85 acres situated near the southern tip of Kent Island. Bordered on the north by the community of Tower Gardens, the lake is only occasionally infused with brackish water, following severe storms that breach the bayside dunes.

As a result of drought conditions in 1985 and 1986, the water level fell to such an extent that extensive mudflats were exposed and much of the lake was extremely shallow. While atlasing in the area in July of 1985, Atlas Coordinator Rick Blom discovered shorebirds, herons and egrets at the location. To the delight of observers, that fall and the following one yielded some excellent birding. Take, for example,

over 400 Lesser Yellowlegs on August 17, 1985, 50 Pectoral Sandpipers, 150 Least Sandpipers, and 50 Short-billed Dowitchers on August 31, 40 Stilt Sandpipers on September 6, 200 Semipalmated Sandpipers on September 8, 75 Great Blue Herons on July 20, 1986, 115 Snowy Egrets on September 5, and 55 Dunlins on November 5. Then there were the six to ten Wilson's Phalaropes that stayed from late August through early September of 1985 and 5 Hudsonian Godwits, first sighted on September 5, 1986, that lingered in equal or smaller numbers until at least November 2. In all, 26 species of shorebirds and 9 herons, egrets, and ibis were observed from July 12 through September 22, 1985 and from July 13 through November 9, 1986, with a high of 14 species of shorebirds on September 21, 1986.

Records from the two fall seasons are summarized in Table 1. They were compiled from 29 days of observations. The author was present on 21 of those days, and Rick Blom and Bob Ringler were two of the more frequent observers. Other observers included Hal Wierenga, Wayne Klockner, Michael and Paul O'Brien, Greg Gough, Alex and Helene Hammer, Chris Beaton, Dotty Mumford, Jim Stasz, Carol McCullough, and Jim Wilkinson.

Table 1. Summary of heron and shorebird counts at Tower Gardens.

Species	Range of Sightings	High Counts
Great Blue Heron <i>Ardea herodias</i>	Present year-round	75 on 7/20/86, 65 on 7/26, 9/5, 9/21/86
Great Egret <i>Casmerodius albus</i>	7/12-8/25/85, 7/13-11/9/86	12 on 9/27/86
Snowy Egret <i>Egretta thula</i>	7/12-9/22/85, 7/13-10/26/86	115 on 9/5/86
Little Blue Heron <i>Egretta caerulea</i>	8/3-8/25/85, 7/13-9/27/86	5 on 8/31/86
Tricolored Heron <i>Egretta tricolor</i>	7/13-7/26/86	1 on 7/31, 7/20, 7/26/86
Cattle Egret <i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	7/26-9/20/86	1 on 7/26, 9/5, 9/20/86
Green-backed Heron <i>Butorides striatus</i>		1 on 8/31/85, 1 on 9/7/86
Black-crowned Night-Heron <i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>		1 on 8/31/85, 1 on 9/22/85
Glossy Ibis <i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>		4 on 7/26/86
Black-bellied Plover <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	9/7-9/22/85, 10/3-10/12/86	2 on 9/22/85, 2 on 10/3/86
Lesser Golden-Plover <i>Pluvialis dominica</i>	9/21-9/27/86	2 on 9/22/85, 2 on 9/21/86
Semipalmated Plover <i>Charadrius semipalmatus</i>	8/14-9/22/85, 8/31-10/26/86	35 on 8/14/85
Killdeer <i>Charadrius vociferus</i>	Present year-round	75 on 8/14/85, 75 on 10/3/86
Greater Yellowlegs <i>Tringa melanoleuca</i>	8/17, 9/22/85, 9/5-11/9/86	50 on 10/3/86
Lesser Yellowlegs <i>Tringa flavipes</i>	7/12-9/22/85, 7/13-11/9/86	410 on 8/17/85, 300 on 8/25/85
Solitary Sandpiper <i>Tringa solitaria</i>	8/17-8/31/85, 7/13-9/27/86	3 on 9/27/86
Willet <i>Catoptrophorus semipalmatus</i>		1 on 8/27/86

Table 1 (cont.) Summary of heron and shorebird counts at Tower Gardens.

Spotted Sandpiper <i>Actitis macularia</i>	7/12-9/8/85, 7/20-9/20/86	12 on 8/14/85
Hudsonian Godwit <i>Limosa haemastica</i>	9/5-11/2/86	5 on 9/5, 9/7, 9/21/86
Ruddy Turnstone <i>Arenaria interpres</i>		1 on 10/12/86, 1 on 10/26/86
Red Knot <i>Calidris canutus</i>	9/6/85, 9/20-11/2/86	3 on 10/26/86
Sanderling <i>Calidris alba</i>	8/14-9/22/85	11 on 8/17/85
Semipalmated Sandpiper <i>Calidris pusilla</i>	8/3-9/22/85, 7/20-10/26/86	200 on 9/8/85
Western Sandpiper <i>Calidris mauri</i>	8/3-9/22/85, 7/20-10/12/86	60 on 8/17/85
Least Sandpiper <i>Calidris minutilla</i>	7/12-9/22/85, 7/20-10/18/86	150 on 8/31/85
White-rumped Sandpiper <i>Calidris fuscicollis</i>	9/7-10/18/86	5 on 10/18/86
Pectoral Sandpiper <i>Calidris melanotos</i>	8/3-9/22/85, 7/26-11/9/86	50 on 8/31/85
Dunlin <i>Calidris alpina</i>	10/5-11/9/86	55 on 11/9/86
Stilt Sandpiper <i>Calidris himantopus</i>	8/3-9/22/85, 7/26-10/26/86	40 on 9/6/85
Ruff <i>Philomachus pugnax</i>		1 on 9/2/85
Short-billed Dowitcher <i>Limnodromus griseus</i>	8/14-9/22/85, 7/20-9/21/86	50 on 8/31/85
Common Snipe <i>Gallinago gallinago</i>		1 on 9/21/86
American Woodcock <i>Scolopax minor</i>		1 on 7/13/86
Wilson's Phalarope <i>Phalaropus tricolor</i>	8/14-9/8/85	10 on 8/31/85
Red-necked Phalarope <i>Phalaropus lobatus</i>		1 on 8/28/85

Once the water levels return to normal, the number and variety of shorebirds, herons, and egrets will likely decline. (Henry Armistead in *American Birds* 40:93, Spring 1986, states that "most of the eastern shore of Maryland is usually rather mediocre for shorebirds.") Of course, time will tell. But, the creation of appropriate habitat in the Annapolis - Kent Island area should result in consistently good shorebird concentrations during migration. This theory is supported further by data from Hart - Miller Island in the Baltimore Channel (Bob Ringler, *pers. comm.*) Apparently, all you have to do is provide shorebirds an inch of good habitat. They'll find it, and use it, by the hundreds.

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## HELP US GET MARYLAND BIRDLIFE BACK ON SCHEDULE

Like many other state bird publications, *Maryland Birdlife* has been behind schedule for a long time. Your editors are trying hard to get back on schedule, but this can be done only with your help. It takes several weeks for Bob Ringler to enter all the bird observations on his computer and prepare polished summaries; and Jim Stasz goes through the same procedures with the results of the State-wide Bird Count in May. These reports are then edited, mailed to the printer, type-set, proofed twice, pasted in final format, mailed back to the printer, corrected, given a final proofing, okayed by phone (if corrections are minimal), printed, shipped to MOS, stuffed, addressed, and finally mailed to you. Each of these steps takes time; sometimes the longest delays are in the final mailing process.

Each of you can help by submitting bird observations by (or before!) the close of each seasonal reporting period, and by seeing that annual reports of chapter presidents and committee chairmen are submitted no later than the date of the annual convention. All articles and reports sent to the editor for publication should be typed, double-spaced throughout, if possible. The printer will not accept single-space typing; after editing it is only marginally legible, so we cannot permit exceptions. The editor is willing to continue to type a few short annual reports for officers who lack typewriters, so there is no excuse for failing to submit reports. Members who would like to join a stuffing party in Baltimore are encouraged to contact President Ringler. — Ed.

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