# THEMIGRANT

A QUARTERLY JOURNAL DEVOTED TO TENNESSES BIRDS

Published by
THE TENNESSEE
ORNITHOLOGICAL
SOCIETY

MARCH, 1988 VOL. 59, NO. 1

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# THE MIGRANT

# A QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF ORNITHOLOGY FIRST PUBLISHED. JUNE 1930

### PUBLISHED BY

### THE TENNESSEE ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Founded at Nashville, Tenn., 7 October 1915 A non-profit, educational, scientific, and conservation organization.

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Published quarterly (March, June, September, and December). Printed by Hubert E. Hodge Printing, Inc., 1800-1802 Grand Avenue, Knoxville, Tennessee 37916, U.S.A. Postage paid and mailed at Norris, Tennessee 37828, U.S.A.

# THE MIGRANT

Published by the Tennessee Ornithological Society, to Record and Encourage the Study of Birds in Tennessee. Issued in March, June, September, and December.

VOL. 59

MARCH, 1988

NO. 1

# THE OFFICIAL LIST OF TENNESSEE BIRDS: ADDENDUM I

CHARLES P. NICHOLSON and STEPHEN J. STEDMAN

The Certification Committee of the Tennessee Ornithological Society met officially in Leiper's Fork on 7 February 1987 and in Pikeville on 20 June 1987, and unofficially in Memphis on 2 May 1987, to consider additions to and changes in the official list of Tennessee birds (Nicholson, *Migrant* 54:2-5, 1983). Attending these meetings were committee chairman (exofficio) Charles P. Nicholson, members Dianne P. Bean, Stephen J. Stedman, James T. Tanner, and alternates Martha G. Waldron, David F. Vogt and Richard L. Knight.

Documentation of species reported in Tennessee from January 1983 through December 1987 was considered by the committee. In addition, some earlier records for which the committee had received recent documentation were discussed.

Acceptance criteria remained the same as those presented with the 1983 list. A species was added to the confirmed list when the committee determined that (1) there was an extant, verified specimen, photograph, or sound recording of it, or that (2) there were 3 independent observations of the species, each with satisfactory documentation. In the absence of evidence meeting criteria (1) or (2), a species was placed on the provisional list if 1 or 2 satisfactorily documented sight records of it were available to the committee. Acceptance of a species on either the confirmed or provisional list required a 3-0 vote by committee members or substituting alternates.

The committee was occasionally stymied in its efforts to bring the list up to date. Foremost among the reasons for this problem was the lack of **any** documentation for some species which were reported as occurring in the state since 1982, either as first state records or as second or third (or later) records. As a result, several species are entirely absent from this list, and several species are still provisional which ought to be confirmed. A more conscientious effort to document sightings of rare species is, therefore, requested of all members of the state's ornithological community.

In 1983 the official list included 334 species as confirmed in the state and 14 species as provisional. As a result of action taken by the Certification Committee during 1987, the new totals for those categories are 345 and 17, respectively.

Nine species were added to the list of confirmed species:

Harlequin Duck (Histrionicus histrionicus) — Two specimens taken 8 January 1984 on Norris Lake (Migrant 55:49, 1984), and one taken 5 January 1985 in Cheatham County (Migrant 56:51, 1985) were examined by experienced observers who confirmed the identifications. One of the Norris Lake birds has been deposited in the U.S. National Museum. A full written account of these records has not yet been published.

Clapper Rail (Rallus longirostris) — Photographs taken of a bird seen in Elizabethton on 8 April 1986 and held in captivity 8-17 April 1986 (Migrant 57:87, 1986) were examined by Brooke Meanley, Richard Banks and others and confirmed to be of this species. A full written account of this record has not yet been published.

Pomarine Jaeger (Stercorarius pomarinus) — Written documentation from 3 independent observers of a jaeger seen in Henry County on 28 June and 15 August to 4 September 1987 (Migrant 58:137, 1987; 59:27, 1988) confirmed that this species was involved. A full written account of this record has not yet been published.

Parasitic Jaeger (S. parasiticus) — Reexamination of a photograph of a jaeger seen in Franklin County 16-23 September and 27 October 1978 (Amer. Birds 33:187, 1979; Migrant 58:89-90, 1987) confirmed that this species was involved, as light edging was present on the juvenile's primaries; additional written documentation from Richard L. Knight and Harry C. Yeatman assisted in confirming the record. Photographs of a jaeger in Henry County on 6-22 October 1985 (Migrant 57:23, 1986; 57:44-46, 1986) confirmed that it was also of this species.

**Long-tailed Jaeger** (S. longicaudus) — Photographs of a jaeger in Lake County on 2-4 September 1984 (Migrant 56:17, 1985; 56:64-66, 1985) confirmed that this species was involved.

Common Black-headed Gull (Larus ridibundus) — Photographs taken of a gull in Davidson County from 13-22 March 1987 (Migrant 58:94, 97, 1987) confirmed that this species was involved. A full written account of this record has not yet been published.

Rufous Hummingbird (Selasphorus rufus) — Photographs of a bird in Rutherford County on 6-8 September 1983 (Migrant 55:21, 1984; 57:98-99, 1986) confirmed that this species was involved; written documentation of a sight record in Carter County 27 September and 11-12 October 1985 was also accepted by the committee. Records in Shelby County on 9 November 1976 and 26-29 September 1983 (Migrant 57:98-99, 1986) are to be treated as Selasphorus spp.

Say's Phoebe (Sayornis saya) — Photographs of a phoebe seen in Davidson County on 29 September 1985 (Migrant 57:28, 1986) confirmed that this species was involved; a short written documentation of a phoebe putatively of this species in Davidson County 27 and 30 September 1984 (Migrant 57:28, 1986) was not accepted (vote: 0-3). A full written account of these sightings has not yet been published.

Variegated Flycatcher (Empidonomus varius) — A photograph of a flycatcher seen in Lake County in May 1983 (Birding 16(5): back cover, 1984) confirmed that this species was involved. A full written account of this sighting has not yet been published.

3

Two species were upgraded from the provisional to the confirmed list:

Great Black-backed Gull (Larus marinus) — Written documentation of gulls seen in Sumner County on 27 January 1985 (Migrant 56:52, 1985) and in Henry County on 2-8 March 1986 (Migrant 57:74, 1986) indicated that this species was involved. These bring to 3 the number of satisfactorily documented independent sight records of these species. Written documentation about a gull putatively of this species seen in Henry County on 15 December 1986 was rejected (vote: 0-3). Earlier sightings of this species for which written documentation is not available include a bird seen 20 February 1984 in Stewart County (Migrant 55:46, 1984), and a bird seen in Davidson County on 19 and 24 March 1984 (Migrant 55:70, 1984).

Clay-colored Sparrow (Spizella pallida) — A specimen of this species taken in Hardin County on 17 October 1969 (Migrant 40:84-85, 1969) was determined to be extant in the LSU Museum of Zoology (No. 77386). Written documentation of a sparrow putatively of this species in Hardin County on 14 January 1986 (Migrant 57:51, 1986) was not accepted (vote: 0-3), as the observer expressed uncertainty about the rump color of the bird.

Action was taken to accept an additional record for a species on the provisional list, though the acceptance of this record left the species with fewer than 3 satisfactorily documented sight records; thus, it remains on the provisional list:

Glossy Ibis (Plegadis falcinellus) — Written documentation of an ibis seen in Sumner County on 3 May 1985 (Migrant 56:75, 1985) indicated that this species was involved. Recent records for which documentation is unavailable involve birds seen in Shelby County on 11 May 1983 and 21 May 1984 (Migrant 54:59, 1983; 55:67, 1984).

Action was taken to add 5 species to the list of provisional species:

Northern Gannet (Sula bassanus) — Written documentation of a bird seen in Robertson County on 29 November 1987 (Migrant 59:29, 1988) indicated that this species was involved. A full written account of this sighting has not yet been published.

Ross' Goose (Chen rossii) — Written documentation of single geese seen in Stewart County on 20 November 1986 (Migrant 58:23, 1987) and on 23 December 1987 to 5 January 1988 indicated that this species was involved. A full written account of the first sighting is in press.

**Gyrfalcon** (Falco rusticolus) — Written documentation of a falcon seen in Jefferson County on 13 January 1978 (Migrant 56:14-15, 1985) indicated that this species was involved, although the committee noted that the white color phase is the least likely to irrupt south.

**Long-billed Curlew** (Numenius americanus) — Written documentation from 2 observers who independently sighted a curlew in Lake County on 1 September 1985 (Migrant 57:22, 1986; 57:47, 1986) indicated that this species was involved.

Ash-throated Flycatcher (Myiarchus cinerascens) — Written documentation of a flycatcher seen 22 December 1985 in Sullivan County (Migrant 57:20, 1986) indicated that this species was involved. A full written account of this sighting has not yet been published.

The committee voted not to add 2 species to the provisional list despite the fact that sightings of them have been published:

**Ruddy Shelduck** (*Tadorna ferruginea*) — Photographs and sight records (*Migrant* 55:44, 1984; 57:106, 1986) of shelducks were discussed, but the concensus of the committee members was that escaped birds were probably involved (vote: 0-3).

Ross' Gull (Rhodostethia rosea) — Written documentation of a gull seen in Lake County on 19-28 December 1985 and possibly in January 1986 (Amer. Birds 40:590, 803, 1986; Migrant 57:8, 10, 1986) was deemed to be inconclusive (vote: 0-3).

The committee voted to table discussion about 1 species currently on the provisional list:

**Western Tanager** (*Piranga ludovicianus*) — Written documentation of a tanager seen in Obion County on 19 and 21 June 1985 (*Migrant* 56:107, 1985) was unavailable.

Written documentation for sightings of several species as yet unpublished was also considered by the Certification Committee, but in no case was a favorable (3-0) vote taken.

P.O. Box 402, Norris, TN 37828 (CPN) and Dept. of English, Tenn. Tech. Univ. P.O. Box 5053, Cookeville, TN 38505 (SJS). Accepted 1 March 1988.

# **BOOK REVIEW**

ARKANSAS BIRDS, Their Distribution and Abundance. By Douglas A. James and Joseph C. Neal. 1986. Univ. of Arkansas Press, Fayetteville. 402 pp., maps, color and b&w photos, color plates, line drawings. \$34.

Arkansas Birds is the fifth compilation of the birds of this state, the most recent of which was the 1951 second edition of William Baerg's Birds of Arkansas. It is a very attractive, large format book, and the illustrations include color plates by David Plank and Sigrid James Burch. The book begins with a chapter covering the history of Arkansas ornithology. Another chapter, "Arkansas birds and the environment," discusses climate, physiographic regions, and avian populations and habitat relationships. Wintering and breeding bird densities are presented for various habitats censused throughout the state. Results of avian-habitat successional studies carried out by Shugart, Fran James and others are also summarized. The following chapter, a feature absent from many state bird

(continued on page 21)

list.

# THE 1987 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT DAMIEN J. SIMBECK

A total of 137 species was found on 24 Tennessee CBC's in 1987-88, with one additional species found during a count week. This additional species is new to Tennessee CBC records, though it cannot be added to the state CBC

Mild weather before the season again had its affect on most counts. The weather through the count period changed from one week to the next. The first week was fairly mild with scattered precipitation. The second weekend had heavy rains. The third week brought cooler temperatures, though the only count that did not get above the freezing point was one held on the very late date of 9 January. Wild food was reported as fair to poor on most counts, probably due to the dry summer of 1987.

Most notable this year were the second CBC records of Pectoral Sandpiper and Red-cockaded Woodpecker. Other unusual species were Red-throated Loon (4th record), Merlin (10th), Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (5th and 6th), Solitary Vireo (10th) and Orange-crowned Warbler (12th). Unusual species probably present due to the mild weather included Green-backed Heron, Osprey, Sandhill Crane (3 counts!), Spotted Sandpiper, House and Marsh Wrens, Gray Catbird, Palm Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, and Lincoln's Sparrow. Low numbers were found for most northern species, except Pine Siskin. This species was found on all but 2 counts, and in good numbers on most. Probably most notable for the period was the Ross' Goose, found at Cross Creeks NWR 3 days after the CBC there.

The Cookeville count appears in the summary for the first time. This survey was conducted in a circle different from that which was published several years ago. The Savannah count appears in the summary for the first time since 1973. The Reelfoot Lake count was not received prior to the publication deadline.

### INFORMATION ON THE COUNTS

MEMPHIS — 20 Dec; 0600-1630; cloudy; temp. 45-53° F; wind AM-NW 12 mph, PM-N 15 mph; 40 observers in 8-14 parties; 125 party hours (95 on foot, 30 by car); 205 party miles (75 on foot, 130 by car). Good details submitted for Rough-legged Hawk (dark morph - LC), Spotted Sandpiper (DB, DD, MW), Pectoral Sandpiper (JW), House Wren (DM), Solitary Vireo (DB, DD, MW), and Lincoln's Sparrow (JW). 92 species. Dianne and William Bean, Carolyn Bullock, Fred Carney, Tina Carpenter, Robert Casey, Ben and Lula Coffey (compilers — 672 N. Belvedere, Memphis 38107), Dollyann Daily, Fred Dickson, Helen Dinkelspiel, John Duckworth, Harold Elphingstone, Robert Endres, James Ferguson, Bill Fowler, Lynn and Murray Gardler, Van Harris, Mike Hughes, Ginger and Robert Ilardi, Lee Johnson, David Kesler, Jeanne Kirkpatrick, Jo Levy, Selma Lewis, Franklin McCamey, Dwight Miller, Gerald Papachristou, George Payne, David Phillips, Ernest Restivo, Virginia Reynolds, Arlo and Noreen Smith, Richard Taylor, Phil Waldon, Martha Waldron, Jeff Wilson.

# THE 1987 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

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Red-bel, Woodpecker	174	- 11	59	36	73	3.5	20	48	20	23	10	17	4.7	56	59	30	30	55	13	21	13	۵	1.3	
Yel-bel, Saptucker	38	9	14	6	1.1	10	1.3	14	٥	12	4	1	14	25	4	5	20	17	12	3	3	2	1.3	4
Downy Woodpacker	130	٥	72	2.3	41	54	18	62	50	32	13	6	36	71	4.2	38	31	46	76	41	45	14	3.6	9
Mairy Woodpecker	15	4	13	10	23	6	4	13	2	,	2		۵	14	8	11	14	3	34	3	- 5	2	4	- 1
Red-coc. Woodpecker														-				***		-	3 *			
Northern Flicker	217	14	43	36	64	24	14	57	29	18	6	20	33	36	77	45	33	27	30	20	15	14	17	1
Priested Woodpecker	15	5	۶	75	10	12	7	13	1	-		3	17	39	23	28	28	15	45	13	13	7	17	- 1
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Morned Lark	5.58	37	1.5	519	4		35	7		73		40		142	***					15			-	
Blue Jay	422	37	223	151	361	44	20	180	50	93	44	243	244	134	185	90	179	224	42	101	123	34	92	28
American Crow	124	13	186	177	213	√7	240	491	170	80	90	1121	393	344	476	218	200	1396	219	827	301	403	715	220
Common Raven																~ ~			15				2	6
Carolina Chickadee	313	26	103	102	134	108	フフ	204	128	67	43	20	120	243	294	86	184	30 9	281		138	44	153	26
Tufted Titmouse	131	23	81	74	122	66	50	156	34	66	13	50	101	159	148	39	102	117	139	41	34	35	7.7	11
Red-br. Nulhatch	4	1		2	4	3			1					- 4		2	4		24		6		18	34
White-or. Nuthatch		7	24	59	26	7	1	30	- 2		6	7	46	40	55	6	51	25	72	13	27	13	32	4
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Golden-cr. Kinglet	82	23	33	38	35	7	5	29	8	1	۵		23	8.7	38	88	94	102	215	15	24	- 11	89	10
Ruby-cr. Kinglet	5 ძ	17	7	13	5	6	17	5	- 3		5		- 1	99	24	15	10	29	37	4		3	3	
Blgr. Gnatcalcher		1.5							-							1.5				-				
Exetern Bluebird	10	45	65	101	115	36	117	69	1.1	12	52	54	87	148	100	102	115	95	37	43	91	17	25	17
Mprmit Thrush	13	- 1	13	5	11	15	15		3		ı		. 7	3.2	13	13	13	5	7	- 1	2	2	10	3
American Robin	375	222	149	179	152	20	676	108	1481	15	98	2	280	67	151	159	234	74	49	1.1	.17	1	71	10
Gray Catbird									7.7									1 .	7.7					1.4
No. Mockingbing	197	14	28	45	107	31	46	101	61	43	28	74	46	80	123	57	42	117	1 1	34	39	41	39	8
Brown Thrasher	42	2	4	5	5	3	1	**	5	1	1	9	В	16	19	- 5	4	8		300	4			
Water Pipit	3			1				1	1				30	16	1	6	***	2						
Cedar Waxwing	99	34	319	65	279		17	22	1	13	21	20	150	145	582	713	391	193	76	101	210	52	114	20
Loggerhead Shrike	27	8	۰	50	13	10	14	14	2	4		12		3	-4	8	3	5	5.5		3	3	2	
European Starling	60D4	1190	227	1900	1078	642	402	3027	6640	50H	5940	783	2248	752	2818	735	577	1647	646	1311	1971	732	950	63
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Common Yellowthroat						1.0																		
Northern Cardinal	اهه	79	255	430	550	107	204	400	214	188	52	62	353	243	342	170	140	299	145	141	193	50	163	27
Rufous-sided Towner	66	9	84	43	61	21	23	53	32	28	17	28	43	82	83	13	37	47	23	10	11	3	25	22
Am. Tree Sparrow			1						- 7 -			20		02			3/		23	70				
Chipping Sparrow	2									-	-	/ 22		- 11	40	4								
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Fox Spacrow	133	4	7	4	3	1.1	8	3	4	4	2		- 4	(4	15	10	6			,				
Song Sparrow	405	86	323	143	86	60	79	95	97	87	24	24	234	0.2	670	233	208	275	136	79	127	38	169	76
Lincoln's Sparrow	1 .			2.		***			No.														20.00	
Swamp Sparrow	146	35	349	e	56	82	34	1.2	12			3	29	162	154	21	10	18	2	7		~-	2	3
White-thr. Sparrow	1030	78	248	183	222	120	29	282	163	71	26	29	145	498	322	130	309	392	158	138	104	37	282	90
White-cr. Sparrow	38		4	40	5	59	1.9	5	1.2	24	е	١B	10	2	***	2	16	25		12	19	26	2	
Dark-eyed Junco	349	122	295	284	449	128	125	263	67	159	38	36	128	250	209	124	103	91	197	28	93	63	410	120
Red-throated Loon							-						-			-	2.2						1.0	
Common Loon		1			~~	~~			38		I.	1.2		3	20		1		- 4		5	4	2	
Pied-billed Grebe	10	50	11	1	1			2	30	1	2	31	2	372	286	66	4	25			17	4	11	- 1
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SAVANNAH — 22 Dec; 0430-1715; AM - mostly cloudy, PM - mostly sunny; temp. 41-57° F; wind WNW 0-15 mph; 3 observers in 2 parties; 19.5 party hours (5.5 on foot, 14 by car) plus 2 owling; 205 party miles (5 on foot, 200 by car) plus 24 owling. The eagles were adults. Good details submitted for Blue-gray Gnatcatcher and Leconte's Sparrow (both by DS). 75 species, 3256 individuals. Damien Simbeck (compiler — 117 Second Ave. N., Loretto 38469), Barbara and Stephen Stedman.

9

CROSS CREEKS NWR — 20 Dec; 0335-1715; cloudy; temp. 46-58° F; wind AM - SW 15 mph, PM - NW 10 mph; 11 observers in 7 parties plus 2 at feeders; 67 party hours (30.5 on foot, 35.5 by car, 1 by boat) plus 7 owling and 4 at feeders; 392.5 party miles (27.5 on foot, 361 by car, 4 by boat) plus 57 owling. 6 of the Snow Geese were of the blue form. 5 of the eagles were adults. Good details submitted for Sandhill Crane (DB), Pine Warbler (JD/JR) and Palm Warbler (present since 14 Dec - JD). Seep count week - Ross' Goose (excellent details - JR), Ruddy Duck, Wild Turkey. 93 species, 66,563 individuals. Donald Blunk, Robert Brown, Camille Crenshaw, Jerry Drewry, Annie Heilman, John Robinson (compiler — P.O. Box 215, Dover 37058), Chris Sloan, Barbara and Stephen Stedman, Ellen Walker, David Vogt. Names of feeder watchers not submitted.

BUFFALO RIVER — 2 Jan; 0130-0500, 0630-1720; partly cloudy; temp. 21-41° F; wind NNW 0-10 mph; 9 observers in 5 parties plus 1 at feeders; 44.25 party hours (17.5 on foot, 27.75 by car) plus 4 owling and 4 at feeders; 244 party miles (15.1 on foot, 228.9 by car) plus 53.4 owling. 1 of the juncos was of the "Oregon" race. Good details submitted for Rough-legged Hawk (EC, DaS), Merlin (DaS), Peregrine Falcon (MB, DaS), Com. Barn-Owls (EC, DaS), Orange - cr. Warbler (excellent details - EC), Leconte's Sparrows (present since 7 Nov - EC, DaS), Lincoln's Sparrow (EC, DaS) and "Oregon" Junco (MA, EC, DaS). Also seen 19 gull spp. Seen count week - Snow Goose (both forms), Green-winged Teal, Gadwall, American Wigeon, Lesser Scaup, and Rusty Blackbird. 83 species, 8098 individuals. Michael Beuerlein, Ed Crouch, David Ihrie, Chester and Dorothy McConnell, Ned Piper, Damien and Don Simbeck (compilers — 117 Second Ave. N., Loretto 38469), Morris Williams, Wylie Willis.

CLARKSVILLE — 2 Jan; 0500-1715; AM-clear, PM-partly cloudy; temp. 18-40° F; wind N 0-5 mph; 16 observers in 6 parties plus 11 at feeders; 51.25 party hours (25.25 on foot, 26 by car) plus 2 owling and 60 at feeders; 332 party miles (21.5 on foot, 310.5 by car) plus 2 owling. The eagle was an adult. 74 species, 7064 individuals. Joel Adams, Barbee Allen, Donald Blunk, Mike Filson, Debbie Gillis, Jerald and Juanita Harris, Annie Heilman (compiler — 429 Rivermont Dr., Clarksville 37043), Bill Hudson, Nancy Hughes, Thurston Lee, Debbie Main, Linda Mattes, Bill and Gloria Milliken, Edwin Peck, Haskell Phillips, Loise Podell, John Robinson, Sheila Smith, David Snyder, Mary Stephens, Edward Sullivan, Margaret VanKooijk, Ellen Walker, Barbara and Richard Wilbur.

COLUMBIA — 26 Dec; 0630-1700; cloudy with light rain; temp. 45-50° F; wind NW 0-10 mph; 12 observers in 7 parties plus 2 at feeders; 44.5 party hours (16.5 on foot, 26 by car, 2 by boat) plus 2 owling and 8 at feeders; 372 party miles (18 on foot, 346 by car, 8 by boat) plus 25 owling. The Snow Geese were of the blue form. Good details submitted for Common Merganser (AP), House Wren (BH), Marsh Wrens (BH, AL, WJ), and Common Yellowthroat

(WJ). Seen count week - Rough-legged Hawk, American Woodcock, and Cedar Waxwing. 88 species, 7936 individuals. Kenneth Anderson, Richard Figari, Daniel Gray, Brad Hammond, William Jernigan, Allyn Lay, Anne and Bedford Lochridge, George (compiler — 999 Sunnyside Drive, Columbia 38401), Cleo and Mark Mayfield, Jane Oakes, Allen and Dianne Pressnell.

DUCK RIVER RESERVOIR — 2 Jan; 0300-1700; partly cloudy; temp. 20-39° F; wind W 0-10 mph; 9 observers in 6 parties; 47 party hours (33 on foot, 14 by car) plus 5 owling; 246 party miles (16 on foot, 230 by car) plus 15 owling. 67 species, 10,853 individuals. Kenneth Anderson, Richard Figari, William Jernigan, Allyn Lay, Ann and Bedford Lochridge, George Mayfield, Allen (compiler — Rt. 6 Box 274G, Columbia 38401) and Dianne Pressnell.

NASHVILLE — 26 Dec; 0630-1630; cloudy with rain and heavy flooding; temp. 38-44° F; wind calm; 24 observers in 8 parties plus 5 at feeders; 59 party hours (10 on foot, 49 by car) plus 2.5 owling and 12 at feeders; 321 party miles (16.5 on foot, 304.5 by car) plus 3 owling. 73 species, 7899 individuals. Robert Brayden, Jean Cobb, Elizabeth Collins, Kinian Cosner, Annella Creech, Camille Crenshaw, Chris and Rowan DeBold, Milbrey Dugger, Clifton Dunn, Clara Fentress, Bill and Lucy Finch, Katherine Goodpasture, Paul Hamel, Barbara Harris, Robert Hatcher, Louise Jackson, Portia Macmillan, Jane Maynard, Richard Newton, Margorie and Oscar Patrick, Virginia Price, John Robinson, Christopher Sloan, Ann Tarbell (non-participating compiler — 6033 Sherwood Dr., Nashville 37215), David Vogt, Kenneth Walkup, Miriam Weinstein.

HICKORY-PRIEST — 3 Jan; 0500-1715; partly cloudy; temp. 34-43° F; wind N 0-10 mph; 16 observers in 6 parties; 50 party hours (16 on foot, 34 by car) plus 2 owling; 178 party miles (14 on foot, 164 by car) plus 35 owling. Good details submitted for American Tree Sparrow (KC). 84 species. Frances Abernathy, Linda Anderson, Kinian Cosner, Jerry (compiler — 4444 Dowdy Dr., Antioch 37013) and Susan Drewry, Beth and Hillis Evans, Katherine Goodpasture, Louise Jackson, Hazel and Lee Kramer, Dick and Grace Newton, James Phillips, David Vogt, Betty Worden.

MURFREESBORO — 9 Jan; began 0830; AM - mostly cloudy, PM - clear; 8" snow cover; temp. 22-30° F; wind 5 mph; 16 observers in 8 parties plus 3 at feeders; 31 party hours (1 on foot, 30 by car) plus 22 at feeders; 253 party miles (1 on foot, 252 by car). Good details submitted for Rough-legged Hawks (RM, MT/RH, WH/AH, BH). Seen count week - Mallard and Water Pipit. 61 species, 104,569 individuals. Lou and Bill Erwin, C.E. Greever, Edith Hayes, Anne (compiler — 1018 Lawndale, Murfreesboro 37129) and Bob Hettish, Wilma and Richard Hunter, John Patten, Pat and Vic McCauley, Ruth McMillan, Ruth and Eugene Odom, Carol Plager, Albert Spence, Melissa Tucker, Ferrell Wilson, Terry Witt.

LEBANON — 19 Dec; 0630-1745; AM - mostly cloudy, PM - cloudy; light rain; temp. 38-50° F; wind SE 0-12 mph; 7 observers in 4 parties plus 3 at feeders; 22 party hours (3 on foot, 19 by car) plus 1 owling and 3 at feeders; 98 party miles (2 on foot, 96 by car) plus 3 owling. The Snow Goose was of the white form. Fair details submitted for Rough-legged Hawk (TG, RP). 69 species, 8289 individuals. Earline and Vernon Berry, Linda Bowman, Tim

Gorman, Ruth McMillan (compiler — Rt. 2 Box 141, Lascassas 37085), Kay and Larry Norris, Ray Pope, Ramona See, Melissa Tucker.

11

HIGHLAND RIM — 26 Dec; ended 1800; cloudy with intermittant light rain; temp. 45-55° F; wind calm; 18 observers in 7 parties plus 4 at feeders; 29 party hours (3 on foot, 26 by car) plus .5 owling and 2.5 at feeders; 307 party miles (3 on foot, 304 by car). The Snow Goose was of the white form. The eagle was an adult. Good details submitted for Double-crested Cormorant (JI). A scoter was deleted, no details. 64 species, 5663 individuals. [Starting time was reported as 1800 on 25 Dec - DJS.] Carol Barr, John and Lois Brunner, W.W. Dyer, K.O. and Nancy Gilliam, Marguerite Hernandez, Jerry Ingles, Ruth Luckado, Frances and Phillip (compiler — Rt. 2 Box 173B, Hillsboro 37342) Medley, Ronald LaRue, Cloe and Howell Peeples, N.D. Smith, Juliet Sisk, Wanda Winnett, Evelyn Wilson, Grady and Willa York, Mary Zimmerman.

COOKEVILLE — 17 Dec; 0300-1700; AM - mostly cloudy, PM - clear; AM snow flurries; temp. 20-36° F; wind NE 5-10 mph; 19 observers in 7-8 parties plus 8 at feeders; 67 party hours (27 on foot, 38 by car, 2 by boat) plus 6 owling; 265 party miles (17 on foot, 246 by car, 2 by boat) plus 19.6 owling. Good details submitted for Sandhill Cranes (RS/JR, SS). Also seen - 1 Accipiter sp., 2 wren spp., 16 sparrow spp., and 24 Carpodacus spp. 75 species, 15,375 individuals. Virginia Brown, Lida Cannella, Katherine and Sam Coward, Dot and Paul Crawford, Lillian Crawford, Kathleen Gardner, Dave and Robbie Hassler, Michael Hawkins, Maxey Irwin, Nancy Jarrell, Amy Johnson, Graham Kash, Mildred Lassiter, Charlotte Mannle, Nora Miller, Margaret Prescott, John Robinson, Richard Simmers (compiler — Rt. 6 Box 170, Cookeville 38501), Barbara and Stephen Stedman, John Stites, Vivian Stricklin, Joe Wahl, Carrel Warren.

NICKAJACK LAKE — 2 Jan; 0530-1830; AM - partly cloudy, PM - clear; temp. 28-45° F; wind AM - NE 10 mph, PM - E 6 mph; 22 observers in 9 parties; 86.25 party hours (62 on foot, 24.25 by car) plus 6.5 owling; 416 party miles (35.5 on foot, 380.5 by car) plus 44 owling. The Snow Goose was of the blue form. 4 of the eagles were adults. Good details submitted for Ruffed Grouse (BB, JL, PR). 91 species, 20,431 individuals. Benton Basham, Katherine Boyles, Christopher Haney, John Henderson, Daniel and Kathy Jacobson, Albert Jenkins, Starr Klein, Jonnie Sue Lyons, Barbara and Michael McMahan, Johnny Parks (compiler — 1160 E 17th St., Chattanooga 37404), Charles Robertson, Peter Robinson, Robin Rudd, Lemuel Srolovic, Amy and Cindy Stone, Jowayne Stone, Carl, Chris and Corby Swafford.

CHATTANOOGA — 19 Dec; 0530-1800; partly cloudy; temp. 36-59° F; wind S 0-24 mph; 30 observers in 12 parties plus 4 at feeders; 105 party hours (58 on foot, 47 by car) plus 4.5 owling and 22 at feeders; 418 party miles (52 on foot, 366 by car) plus 32 miles owling. Good details submitted for Marsh Wren. 92 species, 24,898 individuals. Carl Adams, Edith Bromley, Louise Cash, Bob and Sally Clark, Bob Crawford, Angela Davis, Ken and Lil Dubke, Edgar Grundset, Linda Harris, Paul Harris, Daniel Jacobson, Lenny Kafka, Starr Klein, Sandy Kurtz, Gilda Lyon, Jonnie Sue Lyons, Barbara and Mike McMahan, Tom Patton, Peter Robinson, Robin Rudd, Cindy Stone, Joe Stone, Bernie Tompkins, John Whitaker, Dan Williams, Dick Wodzenski.

HIAWSSEE — 1 Jan; 0600-1800; cloudy with moderate to light rain; temp. 36-52° F; wind NW 5 mph; 16 observers in 8 parties; 69 party hours (40 on foot, 29 by car) plus 3 owling; 373 party miles (41 on foot, 332 by car) plus 6 owling. The Snow Geese were of the blue form. The Golden Eagle (DB, LD) and 1 of the Bald Eagles were adults. Good details submitted for Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (BT, DW). Common Merganser (2) and Spotted Sandpiper (4) were deleted; no details. 94 species, 7533 individuals. Mark Armstrong, Del Blum, Angela Davis, Ken and Lil Dubke, Audrey and Ron Hoff, Tom Howe, Brian Locke, Robin Rudd (compiler — 7611 Davidson Rd., Chattanooga 37421), Boyd Sharp, Bernie Tompkins, Craig and Susan Watson, Dick Wodenski. Other names not submitted to compiler.

NORRIS — 19 Dec; 0545-2200; cloudy; temp. 35-49° F; wind calm; 13 observers in 6 parties plus 2 at feeders; 38.5 party hours (27.5 on foot, 11 by car) plus 3.75 owling and 3 at feeders; 266.5 party miles (21 on foot, 245.5 by car) plus 33 owling. Good details submitted for Green-backed Heron (BS). 71 species, 5220 individuals. Kim Atkins, John Byrd, Richard Clark, Marcia Davis, Barry Fleming, Grace Foster, Linda Fowler, Fred Holtzclaw, David Hankins, Audrey Hoff, George McKinney, Charles Nicholson (compiler — Box 402, Norris 37828), Boyd Sharp. Names of feeder-watchers not submitted.

KNOXVILLE — 20 Dec; 0600-1750; partly cloudy; temp. 45-66° F; wind SW 5-15 mph; 32 observers in 14 parties; 106 party hours (52 on foot, 54 by car) plus 4 owling and 1 at feeders; 582 party miles (44 on foot, 538 by car) plus 15 owling. The eagle was an adult. Excellent details submitted for House Wren (TH), poor details submitted for Gray Catbird. 84 species, 16,942 individuals. Jane Beintema, Betty and James Campbell, Richard Clark, Andrew Core, Marcia Davis, Julia Faulk, Barbara and James Finney, Loise Fuller, Ellie Gilmore, Paul Hartigan, Audrey Hoff, Tom Howe, Joseph Howell, Susan Hoyle, Hal Hubbs, Tony Koella, Bettie and James Mason, Robert Mistak, Charles Nicholson, Holly Overton, J.B. Owen, Paul Pardue, Robert Poling, Don Powers, Mark Reeves, Daniel Robbins, Martha Rudolph, Boyd Sharp, James Tanner (compiler — 417 Switzerland Dr., Knoxville 37920).

GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK — 3 Jan; 0545-1715; cloudy with light rain; temp. 25-40° F; wind var. 0-5 mph; 24 observers in 12 parties; 99.5 party hours (57.5 on foot, 42 by car) plus .5 owling; 343.5 party miles (62 on foot, 281.5 by car) plus 5 owling. The chickadees were a mixture of Black-capped and Carolina. 58 species, 4943 individuals. Mark Armstrong, Jane Beintema, Betty and James Campbell, Howard Chitwood, Donald DeFoe (non-participating compiler — Great Smoky Mountains NP, Gatlinburg 37738), Julie Faulk, Barry Fleming, Louise Fuller, Ellie Gilmore, Paul Hartigan, J.C. Howell, Susan Hoyle, Lisa Huff, Burt Jones, Tony Koella, Bob Mistak, Holly Overton, Paul Pardue, Truett Patterson, Mark Reeves, Rebecca Roller, Martha Rudolph, Boyd Sharp, James Tanner.

GREENEVILLE — 28 Dec; 0630-1730; AM - mostly cloudy, PM - cloudy; rain; temp. 48-54° F; wind AM - NE 0-5 mph, PM calm; 17 observers in 9 parties plus 2 at feeders; 44.75 party hours (24 on foot, 20.75 by car) plus 26.5 at feeders; 276 party miles (17 on foot, 256 by car). The Snow Geese were of the white form. Good details submitted for Pine Warblers (BB, DN). 68

species. Gary Barriger, Ben and Phine (compiler - 1750 Gott Dr. Greeneville 37743) Britton, Sue Crosby, King and Margaret Gaut, Juanita Heckert, Don and Jim Holt, Richard and Willie Ruth Nevius, Daniel Nieves, Doug Ratledge, Jo Anne Routledge, Helen and Royal Spees, George and Jean Weaver, Virginia Williams.

KINGSPORT — 2 Jan: 0500-0630, 0700-1700; AM - cloudy, PM - partly cloudy: temp. 20-32° F; wind AM - SW 0-5 mph, PM - light, var.; 17 observers in 5 parties plus 2 at feeders; 37.2 party hours (14 on foot, 23.2 by car) plus 2 owling and 7 at feeders; 202.4 party miles (12.7 on foot, 189.7 by car) plus 14 owling, Good details submitted for Osprey (LH). Excellent details submitted for Red-cockaded Woodpecker (LH), Wood Thrush (1) deleted, details not convincing. 72 species. Frank Altom, Danny Blakely, Allen Cook, Sandra Driskell, Fritz Gerhardt, Jim and David Gillard, Bob Hale, Charles Hasbrouck, Lygia Hawkins, Wynn Herbert, Bruce Johnson, Rick Knight, Peter Morison, Betty Ottenfeld, Bob Quillen, E.E. Scott, Arthur Smith (compiler), Frank Williams.

BRISTOL — 2 Jan; 0800-1718; AM - cloudy, PM - clear; temp. 26-39° F; wind var. 0-10 mph; 10 observers in 5 parties; 33 party hours (12 on foot, 21 by car) plus 1.5 owling; 343.5 party miles (9.5 on foot, 334 by car) plus 22 owling; 68 species, 3429 individuals. Mr. & Mrs. James Boyd, Wallace Coffey, Bert, Ken and Loraine Hale, Joe Jackson, Richard Lewis (compiler Rt. 3 Box 590, Bristol 37620), Don Litteral, Randal Smith.

ELIZABETHTON — 19 Dec; 0430-1730; AM - cloudy, PM - partly cloudy; temp. 28-55° F; wind AM - calm, PM - SW 0-5 mph; 17 observers in 5 parties; 52 party hours (31.5 on foot, 20.5 by car) plus 2.5 owling; 278.5 party miles (13.5 on foot, 265 by car) plus 9 owling. Excellent details submitted for Red-throated Loon (FA, RP, TL), 72 species, 6676 individuals. Fred Alsop, Bill and Samantha Bridgeforth, Jim Brooks, Brian Cross, Glen Eller (compiler — Rt. 9 Box 1340, Elizabethton 37643), Harry Farthing, Sally Goodin, Rick Knight, Tom Laughlin, Richard and Vickie Lewis, Rick Phillips, Ed Schell, Glenn Swofford, Gary Wallace, Frank Ward.

ROAN MOUNTAIN — 20 Dec; 0645-1645; AM - partly cloudy and foggy, PM - clear; temp. 44-63° F; wind SW 10-20 mph with gust to 30 mph; 9 observers in 2 parties; 16.5 party hours (13.5 on foot, 3 by car) plus 1 owling; 82 party miles (8 on foot, 74 by car) plus 1.5 owling. Excellent details submitted for Blue-winged Teal (FA, BC, TJ, TL, GS) and Gray Catbird (FA, BC, TJ, GS). 55 species, 3020 individuals. Fred Alsop, Jim Brooks, Brian Cross, Glen Eller (non-participating compiler), Tim and Marie Jones, Rick Knight, Tom Laughlin, Glenn Swofford, Frank Ward.

Corrigendum: Migrant 58:4, 1987: the total of Red-winged Blackbirds for Memphis should be 111M, not 111.

117 Second Ave. N., Loretto, TN 38469

# THE WINTER ROADSIDE RAPTOR SURVEY IN TENNESSEE: 1986-1987 RESULTS

### STEPHEN J. STEDMAN

Abstract — The first state-wide Winter Roadside Raptor Survey (WRRS) in Tennessee took place during the winter of 1986-87. Eleven raptors were recorded on the surveys in addition to the Loggerhead Shrike. The number of each species/100 km of road surveyed in the state and in each region of the state (West, Middle, and East) was obtained, as was the number of birds/100 km in December, January, and February. Data for common species — Black Vulture, Turkey Vulture, Red-tailed Hawk, American Kestrel, and Loggerhead Shrike — were sufficient to compare numbers of birds/100 km between Middle and East Tennessee and from month to month. Insufficient data were collected to compare reliably the less common raptors — Bald Eagle, Northern Harrier, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Cooper's Hawk, Rough-legged Hawk, and Merlin — from region to region or from month to month.

Roadside surveys of raptors have been conducted and reported for more than 50 years in North America. Their primary purpose has been to provide an index of the abundance of wintering raptors (Nice 1934, Leopold 1942, Craighead and Craighead 1956), though recent efforts have been made to use them in order to estimate the total population of birds of prey (Wolffinden and Murphy 1977, Andersen *et al.* 1985) and to analyze habitat and perch preferences (Koplin 1973, Preston 1980).

During the current study, surveys were conducted with the objective of obtaining baseline abundance data in such a manner as to ensure accurate comparison with data collected in future winters. Surveys took place in 36 of the Tennessee's 95 counties (2 in West Tennessee; 22 in Middle Tennessee; and 12 in East Tennessee). Eighty surveys were contributed to the overall effort; 72 surveys were accepted for use (of the 8 which were unusable, 4 were not used because the route surveyed was less than the required 100 km in length, and 4 were not used because necessary data were missing). Eighteen counties were surveyed a single time; 5 counties twice; 11 counties 3 times; 1 county 5 times; and 1 county 6 times. Twenty surveys took place in December, 1986; 20 in January, 1987; and 32 in February, 1987. The surveys covered 8432 km (241 in West Tennessee; 5581 in Middle Tennessee; and 2610 in East Tennessee). Sixty-nine cooperators participated in the surveys (5 in West Tennessee; 43 in Middle Tennessee; and 25 in East Tennessee); 4 cooperators worked in 2 regions.

Methods — Surveys were conducted during 1 calendar day between 1 December 1986 and 28 February 1987. Surveys began by 1100 (EST or CST) and lasted at least 2 hours, though they could run as long as 10 hours. Each survey was run within the boundaries of 1 county and was at least 100 km (62 miles) in length with as little backtracking as possible and with any backtracked km not counted in the total distance; surveys averaged 117.1 km. Cooperators used motor vehicles to survey roadsides. Unpaved roads, secondary roads, and lightly trafficked primary roads were the favored

corridors of each route; heavily trafficked roads and interstate highways were avoided. Cooperators drove at speeds of 30-50 km/hr, and generally stopped when a raptor or shrike was observed or when promising raptor habitat was approached.

Cooperators were asked to record the time and their vehicle's odometer reading when the survey began and ended. They also recorded the exact route they covered, by tracing it onto a county map as they ran the route. Raptors and shrikes were counted along this route, and the location of some species (kestrels, shrikes, and rare raptors) was recorded on the map. In addition to counting all raptors and shrikes, cooperators were asked to age and sex raptors whenever possible and to keep separate totals for each age/sex group. Data were recorded on a specially prepared field and summary sheet, to which the route map was attached; these were then sent to the project coordinator for analysis. Cooperators were asked to keep copies of the summary sheets and route maps. The latter will be used in future years to run identical WRRS routes.

Results — Most results of the data analysis were achieved by including data from each of the 72 routes in the calculations; however, data from 10 routes, each of which was run 3 times over an identical route, were analyzed separately; these results were compared to those resulting from the overall analysis (Table 1). A slightly different picture of month by month changes in raptor populations results from the data analyzed for the 10 surveys run over identical routes than for the data analyzed from all routes. This disparity probably resulted from the low number of surveys which were run over identical routes during the 3-month WRRS period, but the difference could have been due to better route selection for raptor habitat and/or better observers on these routes. Data from all routes analyzed together were deemed to be more accurate than those from the 10-survey method of analysis.

Consequently, the results of the data analysis were achieved by lumping all data from the 72 surveys together; however, counties which were surveyed 2-6 times were suspected to be overrepresented in the findings. Therefore, a check on the validity of the lumped data was performed. Data for a common species — Red-tailed Hawk — were analyzed both by (1) averaging all raw data and (2) by averaging the data of counties with 2 or more surveys and including only the average figure in the calculations. Although the abundance figures (Table 2) obtained by using the second of these methods were slightly lower than those obtained using the first method, the differences were not significant (T=0.1182, p=0.9061).

Finally, data obtained on 48 WRRS in Middle Tennessee during the 1986-87 season were compared to data obtained on 18 WRRS in the same region during the 1985-86 season (Stedman 1986) in order to obtain a preliminary indication as to whether or not the WRRS might show value as a tool in analyzing trends in raptor populations over long periods of time. Results (Table 3) of this comparison show that 4 species were seen in about the same abundance during the 2 winters and 6 species were seen in differing abundance during the 2 winters; these differences can mainly be attributed to the much lower number of routes run in the first of these 2 winters, as well as to the fact that few of the surveys run during the 2 winters were over identical routes.

Table 1. Month-by-month Raptor Numbers (Birds/100 km) Using Two Methods of Analysis.

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Species	Dec	Jan	Feb	Dec	Jan	Feb
Black Vulture	19.7	6.6	15.5	10.8	4.7	7.9
Turkey Vulture	2.2	0.7	13.7	4.2	2.4	9.1
Northern Harrier	0.7	0	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.2
Red-tailed Hawk	9.0	6.5	7.6	7.7	6.9	6.6
American Kestrel	17.3	15.4	16.1	12.4	11.1	10.9
Loggerhead Shrike	9.6	5.3	7.2	6.2	4.2	3.5

Table 2. Red-tailed Hawk Data in Tennessee Using Two Methods of Analysis.

	Data using raw data from all surveys	Data using one average figure/county
Number of Counts	72	36
Total km Surveyed	8432	4378
Total Red-tailed Hawks	591	291
Red-tailed Hawks/100 km in Tennessee	7.01	6.65
Red-tailed Hawks/100 km in West Tennessee	11.6	11.6
Red-tailed Hawks/100 km in Middle Tennessee	7.99	7.65
Red-tailed Hawks/100 km in East Tennessee	4.48	4.07

Table 3. Raptors/100 km in Middle Tennessee, 1985-86 (18 surveys) vs. 1986-87 (48 surveys).

SPECIES	1985-86	1986-87
Black Vulture	12.8	9.1
Turkey Vulture	9.6	4.8
Bald Eagle	0.48	0.14
Northern Harrier	0.69	0.34
Sharp-shinned Hawk	0.09	0.11
Cooper's Hawk	0.31	0.11
Red-shouldered Hawk	0.57	0.38
Red-tailed Hawk	6.3	8.0
Rough-legged Hawk	0.04	0.04
Merlin	0	0.02
American Kestrel	11.4	12.2
Loggerhead Shrike	3.4	5.4

The findings of the study are hereinafter discussed from a statewide perspective and then at greater length from the perspective of the regions of the state and the months of the survey.

Statewide Results: A major purpose of the WRRS is to provide baseline data against which results from future years can be compared; therefore, the statewide results of the study (i.e., raptors/100 km in Tennessee; Table 4) have little meaning in themselves at this point; their importance can only be demonstrated after the passage of time, perhaps as few as 5 years, so far as trends in the numbers of raptor populations are concerned. More immediately, statewide data will probably detect irruptions of certain boreal species, such as Rough-legged Hawk, and perhaps provide a more accurate method of judging the relative magnitude of these irruptions than is currently available.

Regional Results: Only 2 WRRS routes were run in West Tennessee, a figure too low to generate meaningful results for comparative purposes. Therefore, the presentation of data (Table 4) from that region of the state is more for the sake of consistency than for any other reason.

The results (Table 4) obtained from 48 WRRS routes in Middle Tennessee and 22 in East Tennessee allow for cautious comparison of raptor popula-

Table 4. Results of the 1986-87 Winter Roadside Raptor Survey in Tennessee.

						SPE	CIES	6				
	BV	TV	BE	NH	SS	СН	RS	RT	RL	ME	AK	LS
Number of Sur-												
veys on which Re-	0124	724277				720						12/22/57
corded (of 72)	46	49	8	19	14	9	15	71	2	1	70	62
% of Surveys on												
which Recorded	64	68	11	26	19	12	21	99	3	1	97	86
Total Birds Re-												
corded in State	669	480	11	26	19	9	31	591	2	1	959	375
Birds/100 km												
in Tennessee	7.93	5.69	0.13	0.31	0.23	0.11	0.37	7.01	0.02	0.01	11.37	4.45
Birds/100 km												
in West Tenn.												
(2 surveys)	18.70	10.81	0	0.42	0.83	0.42	0	11.6	0	0	9.14	4.57
Birds/100 km												
in Middle Tenn.												
(48 surveys)	9.14	4.80	0.14	0.34	0.11	0.11	0.38	7.99	0.04	0.02	12.20	5.39
Birds/100 km												
in East Tenn.												
(22 surveys)	4.37	7.13	0.11	0.23	0.42	0.08	0.38	4.48	0	0	9.81	2.41
Birds/100 km												
in December	10.8	4.2	0.08	0.47	0.13	0.13	0.21	7.71	0.08	0	12.38	6.19
Birds/100 km												
in January	4.7	2.4	0.17	0.30	0.17	0.09	0.77	6.93	0	0	11.13	4.24
Birds/100 km												
in February	7.9	9.1	0.13	0.21	0.32	0.11	0.21	6.61	0	0.03	10.92	3.48

tions in those 2 regions of the state. The results of comparing the more common raptors are considered to be more reliable than the results of comparing the less common raptors. It was expected that Black Vultures would be more common in Middle Tennessee than in the east, but it was not expected that Turkey Vultures would be about 50% more abundant in East Tennessee than in the middle region of the state, a percentage which will be watched closely in future years. Data are too few to comment with assurance about the Bald Eagle results generated by the surveys, though it was somewhat unexpected that this species was as abundant as it was in East Tennessee; this result may have been an artifact of sampling, as several routes in East Tennessee appear to have been purposely laid out in good eagle habitat, though the same can be said of some routes in Middle Tennessee. Northern Harriers were somewhat more abundant in Middle Tennessee than in the east, but the number of birds encountered was too small to offer conclusive results. Even smaller numbers of accipiters were recorded; the Sharp-shinned Hawk was recorded in notably greater abundance in East Tennessee than in Middle Tennessee, while Cooper's Hawks were counted about equally in these 2 divisions of the state. Red-shouldered Hawks were detected in identical abundance in the 2 regions, but Red-tailed Hawks were about 40% more abundant in Middle Tennessee than in the east. Also, among 485 Red-tailed Hawks which were aged, 84.7% were adults and 15.3% were immatures, a slightly higher percentage of adults than was obtained in Middle Tennessee alone during the winter of 1985-86 (Stedman 1986). The only Rough-legged Hawks and Merlin were recorded in Middle Tennessee. American Kestrels were about 20% more common in Middle Tennessee than in the east. Of 788 kestrels which were sexed, 57% were males and 43% were females; identical results were obtained in Middle Tennessee only during the winter of 1985-86 (Stedman op. cit.). Loggerhead Shrikes were more than twice as abundant in Middle Tennessee as in the east.

Monthly Results: It was hypothesized that the WRRS would detect the winter mortality of some species of raptors and that diminishing numbers of birds/100 km would be recorded over the course of the season. This hypothesis assumes that the statewide raptor population is reasonably stable from December through February with migration into and out of the state roughly balancing one another during the period, that detectability of raptors is constant during the period (i.e., not variable due to the onset of courtship behavior, etc.), and that variables created by differing weather, observers, etc., do not unduly bias the results; obviously not all these assumptions can be proved to hold true, but their influence over the results was probably minor. The data collected for 3 common species apparently support the proposed hypothesis, especially if they are correlated with the widely held theory that small birds live shorter lives on average than large ones (Pettingill 1970). The smallest of these 3 common species, the Loggerhead Shrike, displayed the expected pattern of winter mortality most noticeably (Table 4), while 2 larger species, American Kestrels and Red-tailed Hawks, showed moderate and slight abundance declines, respectively, over the course of the winter. Northern Harriers declined dramatically from December through February, though it must be noted again that small numbers are involved. The data for both vultures failed to follow the expected winter pattern of declining numbers; each was recorded in lowest numbers in January with a considerable increase reflected in the February data, perhaps indicative of these species' early migration. Red-shouldered Hawks reversed the pattern of the vultures, being much more common in January than in December or February; this result may be an artifact of sampling, since several counties with considerable riverbottom habitat (e.g., Stewart) were censused in January but not in the other 2 months. Bald Eagle and Cooper's Hawk data showed no especial pattern in this regard, but Sharp-shinned Hawk data reflected increasing numbers of birds as the winter wore on, a somewhat perplexing trend perhaps more due to the low numbers recorded of this species than to any other reason.

Discussion — Clearly a major objective of future WRRS seasons should be to survey West Tennessee more thoroughly than occurred during this first season. Until at least 10 of the 21 counties included in that region are represented in the survey, it will be difficult to compare the abundance figures obtained in Middle and East Tennessee with data obtained for similar parameters in West Tennessee. The low number of routes run there also biases the statewide figure (birds/100 km) for each raptor species. West Tennessee clearly remains terra incognita so far as our understanding of raptor populations is concerned. On the more positive side, the statewide coverage achieved in 1986-87 was sufficient to produce the data needed to compare population changes of common raptors from month to month.

The level of coverage achieved in 1986-87 was also probably sufficient to compare the abundance of the common raptors and the Loggerhead Shrike in the middle and eastern divisions of the state. For the less common species, however, current levels of coverage are clearly inadequate to generate the data needed to compare abundance from region to region, from month to month, and probably from year to year. Were a larger number of surveys to be conducted, better understanding of these raptors would probably result. Exactly how much greater the coverage would need to be in order to obtain useful data about the accipters, for example, is not clear. It may be that such coverage is not realistically possible, given the current numbers of observers in the state and their level of interest in cooperative research regarding raptors; other means of obtaining these data may need to be sought.

The results of the first year of the WRRS indicate that continuation of this project, if possible with coverage of a greater number of the state's counties, especially in West Tennessee, is productive and feasible. It was particularly worthwhile in terms of the information generated about the more common birds of prey in Tennessee. With expanded coverage, the WRRS may provide useful data about the less common species.

Acknowledgments — I am especially grateful to Paul J. Tsai, Statistical Analyst, Computer Center, Tennessee Technological University, for assistance in conducting the statistical analysis cited above. To Charles P. Nicholson and an anonymous reviewer I extend thanks for pointing out inconsistencies and errors in an early version of this article. I am, finally, extremely grateful to all those who conducted a WRRS during the winter of 1986-87. Contributors are listed below by the region in which they worked, with those who worked 5 or more surveys noted by an asterisk (\*).

West Tennessee: Carolyn Bullock; Helen Dinkelspiel; Sue Ferguson; James Waldron; Martha Waldron.

Middle Tennessee: Kenneth Anderson; Frank Bills; Donald Blunk; Gayle Boone; Sharon Bostick; Peggy Clifford; Dot Crawford; Paul Crawford; Joe Duncan; Patricia Fathera; Paul Hamel; David Hassler; Robbie Hassler; Annie Heilman; Frank Hernandez; Marguerite Hernandez; Mildred Lassiter; Bedford Lochridge; Melville McMillan; Ruth McMillan (\*); Aimon Niklasson; Arvid Niklasson; Kay Norris; Elizabeth O'Connor (\*); Phyllis Parks; James Peters; Caryl Ploger; Allen Pressnell; Dianne Pressnell; John Robinson; Damien Simbeck; Richard Simmers; Christopher Sloan; Mert Sloan; Margie Smith; Barbara Stedman; Stephen Stedman; John Stokes; Melissa Tucker; David Vogt; Joseph Wahl; Ellen Walker; Terry Witt.

East Tennessee: Laurie Armstrong; Mark Armstrong; Phine Britton; Brian Cross; Drew Cowherd; Kenton Dickerson; Penni Dickerson; Glen Eller; Barry Fleming; David Hassler; Robbie Hassler; Audrey Hoff; Ronald Hoff; Richard Knight; Mildred Lassiter; Linda Mascuch; Paul Mascuch; Daniel Nieves; Terry Nieves; David Patton (\*); Dottie Patton; Thomas Patton (\*); JoAnne Routledge; Larry Routledge; Richard Simmers.

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- Department of English, Tennessee Technological University, P.O. Box 5053, Cookeville, TN 38505. Accepted 12 December 1987.

### APPENDIX

COUNTIES WITH WINTER ROADSIDE RAPTOR SURVEYS, 1986-87

WEST TENNESSEE: Fayette and Hardeman.

MIDDLE TENNESSEE: Bedford, Cannon, Coffee, Davidson, Franklin, Hickman, Houston, Humphreys, Jackson, Lawrence, Marshall, Montgo-

mery, Overton, Pickett, Putnam, Rutherford, Smith, Stewart, Sumner, Trousdale, Williamson and Wilson.

EAST TENNESSEE: Bledsoe, Cocke, Cumberland, Fentress, Greene, Knox, Loudon, McMinn, Marion, Sequatchie, Union and Washington.

(continued from page 4)

books, is entitled "Arkansas birds in prehistory." It describes bird remains and bird effigies excavated from archaeological sites throughout the state. The last introductory chapter is a brief one on bird finding.

The bulk of the book is the 366 species accounts. These open with a short paragraph giving the bird's relative abundance, seasonal and geographic occurence, and habitat preferences. Following this are details of the species' spring migration, breeding season, fall migration and winter status. Much of the detail in these sections is drawn from the "bird file" maintained by the Arkansas Audubon Society since its founding in 1955. At the end of 1985, this file had approximately 40,000 records. Earlier observations, such as those of Ben Coffey, whose Arkansas records go back to 1929, were incorporated where available. The existence of this book shows the value of such a well-curated central repository of bird records. The species accounts also include results from organized studies such as Christmas Bird Counts and the Breeding Bird Survey. The ranges of many species of less than statewide distribution are mapped, as are banding recoveries of species banded in large numbers. Although the "bird file" includes records from throughout the state, no systematic statewide survey work was done. This has resulted in otherwise unexplained gaps in the distribution maps of several species, such as that of the Rufous-sided Towhee (p. 329).

There is much of interest to Tennesseans in this book. The Western Meadowlark is described as an "uncommon but regular migrant and winter resident in small numbers" (p. 353) throughout the state, but the latest spring record is 21 May, and there are no summer records. The Greater Roadrunner has spread from the first report in southwest Arkansas in 1936 to essentially statewide, except that it does not occur in the Mississippi River bottoms. This habitat barrier has apparently prevented its spread eastward into Tennessee. Burrowing Owls have been reported from the counties bordering Tennessee, but, again, not in Tennessee. Song Sparrows have not nested in the state in over 50 years.

My criticisms of this book are few and minor. The artwork by Plank is very good; I am less enthusiastic about Burch's work. I wish the authors had presented some criticism or qualification of some unusual, older records, such as the reported nesting of Savannah Sparrows at Fayetteville. The binding seems weak, although this is no fault of the authors. Nevertheless, I highly recommend this compilation of the birds of our neighboring state. — CHARLES P. NICHOLSON.

# MINUTES OF THE 1987 FALL MEETING AND SYMPOSIUM

The Tennessee Ornithological Society held its 1987 Fall Meeting and Symposium at Lawrenceburg, Tennessee, on 13-15 November. Events included a Friday evening reception and program, a Board of Directors meeting and symposium on Saturday, and field trips on Saturday and Sunday.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

President Stephen J. Stedman called the meeting to order at 4:57 P.M. on 14 November in the Lawrence County High School auditorium. It was determined that a quorum was present. Copies of the minutes of the 1-3 May 1987 meeting of the Board of Directors held in Memphis were distributed and approved as printed.

### REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

The VICE PRESIDENT for East Tennessee had no report, and the VICE PRESIDENT for West Tennessee was absent and had no report. VICE PRESIDENT for Middle Tennessee John Ellis reported that preparations are underway for next spring's TOS meeting in Nashville on 29 April - 1 May 1988. He recommended that lodging be sought in the Franklin area due to traffic problems in Brentwood at dusk. Current plans are to hold the TOS Board of Directors meeting and the Saturday banquet at the Tennessee Baptist Convention Center. He then announced that additional details would be forthcoming.

The DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE for Middle Tennessee had no report. The DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE for East Tennessee had no report but asked that members at large in Middle and West Tennessee send information on rare bird sightings to members in East Tennessee. DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE for West Tennessee Donna Ward submitted a report and told of eagle and Osprey nesting attempts at the Duck River Unit of the Tennessee National Wildlife Refuge in 1987.

SECRETARY John Robinson reported that he had received good cooperation from all of the Chapter Presidents, and he stated that forms on which Chapters could update his list of officers and directors would be mailed out shortly.

TREASURER George R. Payne, Jr., reported that from 1 May to 12 November 1987 the Society had Income of \$2,395.22, estimated Liabilities of \$4,550.00 and Capital Reserve of \$37,758.37. A Membership Report showing 901 memberships was also submitted.

CURATOR James Tanner was absent, and his report was read by the Secretary. It was reported that \$391.00 was received from sale of back copies of *The Migrant*.

EDITOR Charles Nicholson reported that the June 1987 issue of *The Migrant* is just back from the printer and will be mailed in the next week. He also reported on the status of the September and December 1987 issues. He requested that future manuscripts be sent to Fred Alsop who will be assuming editorship with the June 1988 issue. President Stedman then urged that

manuscripts be sent to the editor in a timely manner to ensure that the publication and mailing of The Migrant meet scheduled deadlines.

### REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

President Stedman announced the new members of the NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Chairperson Ronald Hoff (East Tennessee), Damien Simbeck (Middle Tennessee) and James Ferguson (West Tennessee). He asked that suggestions for President-elect be sent to these members and stated that a person to fill that position must be elected at the May 1988 meeting.

FINANCE Committee Chairperson Richard Taylor reported that the value of the MIT fund increased 48% over the last year up until 19 October 1987, when this increase was reduced to about 24%. However, he stated that the Society is still ahead compared to figures from one year ago and that the fund had done better than most funds have in recent weeks.

### REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES/TASKS

CONSERVATION/EDUCATION Chairperson Ken Dubke made a motion that the TOS cooperate with TWRA in a Common Barn-Owl nesting project. The motion was seconded and passed. He then reported on the progress made on this project to date, including the printing of 5,000 flyers by TWRA which he suggested be distributed locally by the TOS Chapters and members. Paul Hamel then requested that information resulting from the barn-owl project be directed to the appropriate regional coordinators of the Atlas project.

Next, Jeff Wilson distributed a flyer summarizing House Bill 417, Shelby Farms Forest Natural Area, and urged all members to write and ask their representatives to support this bill to stop the proposed extension of Kirby Parkway through the Shelby Farms Forest area.

CERTIFICATION Chairperson Charles Nicholson reported on the activities of the Certification Committee and said that an article is being prepared which will serve as an addendum to the official state list. He urged that details on rare/unusual sightings should continue to be submitted. Martha Waldron then made a motion to change Section II of the TOS Committee Resolution as presented in Volume 4, No. 1, of The Tennessee Warbler and accepted at the Board of Directors meeting in May 1982 to read as follows: "In the absence of evidence fitting one of the above categories, provisional species will be those for which there are one or two sight records accepted by the Committee." This motion was seconded and passed.

BREEDING BIRD ATLAS Chairperson Paul Hamel reported on the activities of the Atlas Committee and thanked all regional coordinators for their work throughout the year. He announced that he is stepping down as Atlas Coordinator and that Charles Nicholson would be taking his place. He also stated that Bob Hatcher would be taking over fund-raising aspects of the project. He then made a motion that remaining funds from this past vear be carried over to next year with an additional \$250.00 to be allocated in 1988. The motion was seconded and passed. The need to reach additional potential atlas workers in 1988 was stressed, after which President Stedman called for applause for Paul Hamel's work with the project.

President Stedman called for a volunteer to chair the PATCHES AND DECALS COMMITTEE, but none was forthcoming.

The Tennessee Warbler EDITOR was absent and there was no report.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE Chairperson Audrey Hoff made a motion to allocate \$400.00 to contact potential members by mail using 500 contact letters (\$51.00), 500 TOS logo-type envelopes (\$37.00), 500 mail-back envelopes (\$36.00), 2000 TOS flyers (\$236.00) and postage (\$40.00). The motion was seconded and discussion followed. The question was then called, and the motion passed as originally presented by Audrey Hoff. She then requested that any ideas on the Membership Drive be relayed to her.

PUBLICITY Chairperson Lil Dubke thanked all those who attended the Membership Seminar earlier in the day and stated that the seminar resulted in the receipt of 100 suggestions from the 22+ members who were in attendance. She and Ed Crouch then gave examples of how publicity of TOS activities can result in an increase of a Chapter's membership or of a community's awareness of the TOS.

### OLD BUSINESS

George R. Mayfield, Jr., reported that he had recently talked with Bill Perdue of the Monsanto Company and said that #9 Pond had been drained and that Least Bitterns had been observed there last May and June. He said another pond, Girl Scout Pond, had been drained. Plans are continuing to save Rail Pond and Ponds #11, 12 and 8. No decision on the fate of the #15 Pond had yet been made; a meeting to discuss this issue is scheduled in Columbia next month.

### NEW BUSINESS

Ken Dubke advised that in view of the Atlas project and the Membership Drive, the Society needs to look ahead to a possible dues increase. He then made a motion that in 1989 the TOS increase all dues \$4.00 in all categories of membership except Life memberships. The motion was seconded, and the question was called but was immediately withdrawn. A lengthy discussion then followed. David Chaffin then made a motion to table Ken Dubke's original motion until the May meeting so that all chapters could be given time to discuss it. The motion was seconded and a discussion followed. Ken Dubke then urged the Society not to wait until 1989 before deciding on this issue. The question was called and David Chaffin's motion was then passed. David Vogt then motioned that information regarding the need for a raise of dues be made available to the directors and presidents of all Chapters prior to May. Paul Hamel made a friendly amendment that this information be made available prior to 1 February 1988. Donna Smith then made a friendly amendment that this information include costs/member for newsletter and other publications. The question was called and David Vogt's motion as amended was passed. President Stedman then asked that George Payne and Richard Taylor prepare the specified information and mail it to the 13 Chapters and members-at-large by 1 February 1988. George Payne suggested that the Committee examine this issue to determine the optimum amount for a dues increase.

Next, David Chaffin stated that he and several other members of the Chattanooga Chapter had come up with a proposal for a Rare Bird Alert system for the state of Tennessee and solicited comments regarding whether this is a service which the TOS should provide. A discussion took place after which Jim Ferguson motioned that a committee be formed to

discuss the RBA and bring back a list of alternatives to be discussed at the next meeting. The motion was seconded and passed, and President Stedman appointed a Rare Bird Alert Special Committee consisting of David Chaffin (Chairperson), Benton Basham, John Robinson, Lil Dubke, Dollyann Daily and Rick Knight.

Barbara Stedman then reported that John Sherman, Director of the Tennessee Environmental Council (TEC), had invited the TOS to rejoin the Council, and she made a motion for the TOS to rejoin the TEC at a membership cost of \$50.00 and to appoint someone to represent the TOS at the TEC's meetings. The motion was seconded and passed, and President Stedman appointed Ken Dubke as the TOS representative to TEC.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS/APPOINTMENTS

Paul Hamel announced next year's Breeding Bird Forays will be conducted in Hancock and Hawkins Counties (Region 9) and in McNairy and Chester Counties (Region 2). The forays will be coordinated by the appropriate Regional Coordinator. Dates and other information concerning the forays will be forthcoming.

An attempt to appoint a chairperson for Patches and Decals failed, following which the meeting adjourned. However, immediately after adjournment, Susan Watson volunteered to serve as Chairperson of that committee. The appointment of David Snyder as Director of Fall Symposia for 1988 and 1989 was announced. It was also announced later in the evening that the new Member of the Certification Committee will be Martha G. Waldron (1987-1990) and the new Alternate will be Dianne Bean (1987-1990).

JOHN C. ROBINSON, SECRETARY.

### SYMPOSIUM PROCEEDINGS

The paper sessions of the 1987 Fall Symposium were arranged by Stephen J. Stedman. Abstracts of the papers presented at the Symposium are offered below.

SOME ROAN MOUNTAIN BREEDING BIRDS, by Fred J. Alsop III, Department of Biological Sciences, East Tennessee State University. Field work was conducted over a 50-day period (23 May - 14 July 1987) on Roan Mountain in Upper East Tennessee for the purpose of locating the nests of breeding birds and to document them with photographs. Nests of Goldenwinged Warblers, Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, Least Flycatchers, and Golden-crowned Kinglets were photographed, and some data on nidification were recorded. The kinglet nests are believed to be the second and third verified for the species in Tennessee and the first to be photographed.

BIRD MIGRATION AND CONSERVATION BIOLOGY, by Sidney A Gauthreaux, Department of Biological Sciences, Clemson University. No abstract submitted.

1987 ATLAS FORAYS TO BLEDSOE AND HENRY COUNTIES: COM-MON THREADS, by Paul B. Hamel, Tennessee Department of Conservation. Two Breeding Bird Forays were held in 1987, in an attempt to involve more members of the Society in this exciting and worthwhile pursuit. As in recent years, the Forays were conducted using the methodology of the Breeding Bird Atlas project. On Memorial Day weekend, 23-26 May, 27 birders worked in parts of 27 atlas blocks in 25 quadrangles centered in Henry County. A total of 108 species was observed, of which 66 were recorded as positive breeders. On Father's Day weekend, 19-21 June, 18 participants worked in 24 blocks on 11 quads centered in Bledsoe County. They recorded 60 of 91 species as positive breeders. Comparison of these results with those of the forays conducted in 1985 and 1986 indicates an improvement in the skills of atlasers. Thanks go to all of the observers, and to Chuck Nicholson and Bob Ford for assistance preparing the manuscript.

TENNESSEE'S WILDLIFE OBSERVATION AREA PROGRAM, by Robert M. Hatcher, Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency. The public generally has inadequate knowledge about (1) good places to observe quality wildlife populations, and (2) habitat requirements for such populations; wildlife observation areas are designed to help resolve both problems. Of 39 sites designated in Tennessee between 1981 and 1987, two-thirds are in cooperation with other state agencies and some federal agencies. Cooperative plans for each area are site-specific, but the owner-cooperator is normally the lead agency for enhancing wildlife observation opportunities and interpretive programs. Good opportunities are provided for improving enjoyment and public support of all wildlife resources at a minimal cost.

A major goal of Tennessee's Nongame Wildlife Program is to provide the public with maximum opportunities for enjoyment of wildlife. Another goal is to better educate the public about habitat requirements of wildlife. Wildlife observation areas (WOA's) are designed to accomplish both these objectives. "Hot spots" for quality wildlife observation are identified for public use, while the ecological values that make such quality populations possible are interpreted.

Surveys conducted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service indicate substantial interest in watching and photographing wildlife, with over 2.8 million Tennesseeans (62%) participating in such activities in 1980.

PRELIMINARY 1987 TENNESSEE BREEDING BIRD ATLAS RESULTS, by Charles P. Nicholson, Tennessee Valley Authority. During the 1987 field season, the second of the atlas project, approximately 7000 new breeding records were collected, and 2000 records from 1986 were updated to higher breeding status. The total number of breeding records is about 22,500, 24% of which are in the positive category. About 700 blocks have received some atlas work, and 50 or more species have been recorded in 210 blocks. Sixty or more species have been recorded in 130 blocks. Four species were added to the atlas species list in 1987, bringing it up to 163 species. Fourteen species were added to the atlas list of positive breeders during 1987. The Turkey Vulture has not yet been recorded as a positive breeder. During the first 2 years of the project, Tennessee atlasers worked 6500 hours during parts of 3000 days. Maps were displayed showing the number of species per block, the percentage of positive records in blocks with at least 50 species, the breeding status of the Red-eyed Vireo and Indigo Bunting, and mini-route results for the Indigo Bunting.

BACHMAN'S SPARROW: FINDING A RARE BIRD IN TENNESSEE, by Damien J. Simbeck, Buffalo River Chapter, TOS. Bachman's Sparrow is a secretive, ground-dwelling sparrow of the southeastern United States. It is currently listed as endangered in Tennessee by TWRA. Bachman's Sparrows inhabit fields with low tree and shrub density and dense, but patchy, ground cover. In Tennessee, they can best be found in clear-cut pine planta-

tions. The males sing most frequently at dawn and dusk, and will usually respond to a tape. Bachman's should be looked for throughout the state from March through October. This species is probably not as rare in Tennessee as it is currently thought to be.

ATLASING AND THE INDIVIDUAL OBSERVER, by Barbara H. Stedman, Nashville Chapter, TOS. The experiences from the 1987 Atlas season of one observer were summarized with emphasis on the human factor in atlasing. Blocks covered included those in six of the nine atlas regions in Tennessee. Thirteen blocks were completely worked, and Miscellaneous Observations Forms were submitted for many additional blocks. Eight of the 13 completed blocks were worked with other observers, including 2 on Atlas Forays. Several of the completed blocks had been started in 1986. The cumulative species total for all areas worked was 127, of which 95 were recorded as positive breeders, 15 as probable breeders, and 17 as possible breeders. Four blocks were covered by backpacking in Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

The individual observer is not only the eyes and ears but also the heart of the Tennessee Breeding Bird Atlas Project. Each TOS member is needed in the project over the next 3 years, which will determine the project's success.

THE RED-COCKADED WOODPECKER AND ITS MANAGEMENT IN THE CHEROKEE NATIONAL FOREST, by J. Craig Watson, Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency. Three Red-cockaded Woodpeckers (Picoides borealis) were observed on the Indian Creek Peninsula of Parksville Lake, Cherokee National Forest, Polk County, on 3 August 1986. Subsequent field surveys located an active colony of these woodpeckers with 3 active cavity trees in the Indian Creek area, as well as 21 inactive cavity trees. The Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency and the U.S. Forest Service have implemented a habitat management plan in the active colony area and have successfully adopted an innovative technique of placing stainless steel "restrictors" over the entrance holes of active cavities to reduce competition from other cavity nesting species. Future surveys and habitat management will continue in the Cherokee National Forest.

## ROUND TABLE NOTES

FIRST RECORD OF SNOWY OWL IN STEWART COUNTY, TENNES-SEE — While crossing the bridge over the Cumberland River at Dover, Stewart County, Tennessee, at 0726 on 5 January 1987, I saw a large, pale-white bird flying over a large cornfield within the Barkley Wildlife Management Area (WMA) just northwest of the bridge. The deep, slow and deliberate wing beats of the bird at first suggested a large larid, but as I drew closer the bird's flight and body shape became more reminiscent of a raptor, causing me to speculate that it might be an albino hawk. The bird and I crossed paths as I neared the end of the bridge, however, and it was at this time that I noticed the distinctive, cigar-shaped body typical of an owl.

Suspicious that I had just observed a Snowy Owl (Nyctea scandiaca), I immediately recrossed the bridge and found the bird at 0728 perched atop the new westbound lane of the bridge which was currently under construction. From a distance of about 9 m I noted the field marks which follow. The base color of the bird's entire plumage was white. On this base color, dark, horizontal barring/spotting was evident in the tail, the back, the grown (not including the forehead which was all white) and the underparts (not including the throat area). The dark, horizontal barring on the underparts, which reminded me somewhat of an adult male Peregrine Falcon's (Falco peregrinus) underparts, was conspicuously heavy and would therefore imply that this individual was an immature bird. Dark spotting was also present on the wings.

The bill was short, hooked and dark. The iris color was bright yellow. The facial disk, upper chest and throat areas were predominantly white. No "ear tufts" were present. The feathering on the legs, which extended down to the talons, was also predominantly white. When perched, the owl sat at a forward angle (not vertical as in most hawks) with its stomach resting on its toes. The bird took to the air at 0730 and began circling over the river, heading in a general southeastward direction.

Many Nashville area observers attempted to find the Snowy Owl during the next 2 days without success. However, on 20 January, I was contacted by a refuge volunteer who informed me that a waterfowl hunter had observed a "large, white bird" between 2 hunting blinds within the Barkley WMA over a period of 2 weeks ending 18 January. I alerted several Nashville birders and shortly after sunrise on 24 January Jerry Drewry, Maxey Irwin and Kinian Cosner relocated the owl. The bird disappeared shortly thereafter, causing dismay to the growing number of birders who were arriving in response to the report of the owl's rediscovery. Donald Blunk, a local birder who is completely familiar with the terrain of the Barkley WMA, arrived early that afternoon and within an hour was able to locate the owl at its roosting site: a large brush pile in the middle of one of the management area's larger impoundments.

The owl spent the great majority of its time at this roost or hunting over the surrounding impoundments and corn fields. It was frequently active during daylight hours and was seen almost daily from 24 January to 6 February by well over 125 birders, sportsmen and outdoor enthusiasts. I know of no sightings after 6 February. Mark Gudlin, a wildlife biologist with the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, and I took a boat to the owl's

roost on 13 February and collected 3 sets of American Coot (Fulica americana) wings and 2 owl pellets the dimensions of which are as follows: 56x34x26 mm and 80x32x26 mm. David Vogt collected an additional 4 pellets on 24 January. The 13 February pellets were analyzed by Dr. David H. Snyder, Professor of Biology at Austin Peay State University. These 2 pellets were judged to represent the remains of a Pied-billed Grebe (Podylimbus podiceps).

Pellets found on 24 January were analyzed by Paul W. Parmalee, Professor and Director of the McClung Museum at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville. Remains of an American Coot were divided between 3 of the pellets; skeletal remains of a prairie vole (Microtus ochrogaster) were divided between 2 of the pellets; and a section of furculum from a duck the size and proportion of a Mallard (Anas platyrhynchos) was found in one of the pellets. These findings are supported by Wallace Todd's observation in late January of the Snowy Owl catching and consuming an American Coot.

The Snowy Owl is a very infrequent visitor to Tennessee with only 8 substantiated sightings through January 1961 (Bierly, M.L. 1980. Bird Finding in Tennessee. M.L. Bierly, Nashville). The sighting described by this note represents the ninth state record and the first Snowy Owl seen in the state in 26 years. The species has previously been recorded at Reelfoot Lake, Nashville, Johnson City, near Paris (2 sightings), near Paris Landing at Kentucky Lake, along the White/Cumberland County line and in Sullivan County. There are no previous records for Stewart County. It should be noted that Powell (Amer. Birds 41(2):285) summarized the 1986-87 winter season in Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan as "the best Snowy Owl winter in at least 5 years." I am indebted to David H. Snyder, Paul W. Parmalee, Mark Gudlin and David F. Vogt for the assistance and contributions which they so graciously provided.

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CATTLE EGRETS NEST IN SUMNER COUNTY — Nests of Cattle Egrets (Bubulcus ibis) in Tennessee have been infrequently reported, particularly east of the Mississippi River floodplain. Thus, the nesting of this species in a colony of Black-crowned Night-Herons (Nycticorax nycticorax) in Sumner County during 1987 warrants description.

On 3 July 1987 at 1455 (CDT) I watched with Barbara H. Stedman, Dot T. Crawford, and J. Paul Crawford as a Cattle Egret flew into a Black-crowned Night-Heron colony located on a small island in Old Hickory Lake 250 m offshore from the coal loading docks of the Gallatin Steam Plant; J.P. Crawford saw another Cattle Egret enter the rookery shortly thereafter. Both birds returned to view 2 minutes later; one flew off to the north, while the other perched in view and preened for 2-3 minutes before also flying northward. Since this bird displayed the buffy patches on back and breast characteristic of breeding adults, we surmised that these birds were nesting in the colony and decided to return with a boat to search the island for a nest.

On 6 July 1987 at 1345 J.P. Crawford and I searched the dense, deciduous trees on the island for a Cattle Egret nest. We saw an adult Cattle Egret (Figure 1) perched in the area where an adult had perched on 3 July 1987. A

few minutes later we discoverd a nest containing 2 young egrets (Figure 2) 20-25 cm in length. This nest was less than 8 m from the perch used by the adult Cattle Egret and was built at a height of 5-6 m. The young were entirely covered with white down and feathers, their mandibles were gray with a pale yellow tip, and their irises were very pale yellow, all characteristics conforming to descriptions of nestling Cattle Egrets (Palmer 1962), as well as to published photographs of them (Heminway 1987). While we observed, 2 adult Cattle Egrets moved restlessly about in the vicinity of the nest and young but never came closer than 3 m to the nest.

Although this rookery was under observation during most of June and July, 1987, no white herons/egrets except Cattle Egrets were noted in its vicinity. Thus, all the evidence suggests that the nest and young which we observed were those of B. ibis. As such, this observation constitutes the first breeding record of Cattle Egret in Sumner County and in the Nashville Area (Parmer 1985). It is also the first nest in the Highland Rim and Basin Region of Tennessee for which specific data have been published, though the species may have nested in or near that region at the Tennessee National Wildlife Refuge in the 1960's or early 1970's (Pitts 1973). Other nesting records of this species east of the Mississippi River floodplain include 4 nests at a Black-crowned Night-Heron colony on Cherokee Lake, Grainger County, in 1975 (Pitts 1977) and a nest with 2 young in the same colony 1-2 July 1976 (Williams 1977). While there are no other reported nests of this species in Tennessee more that 40 km east of the Mississippi River, Kentucky's first Cattle Egret nest was located just to the north of Tennessee on an island in Kentucky Lake, Trigg County, during the summer of 1981 (Peterjohn 1981). Like the Sumner County and Grainger County nests, it was situated in a Black-crowned Night-Heron colony.

I thank Charles P. Nicholson for drawing my attention to several sources cited in this note; I also thank J. Paul Crawford for providing black-and-white prints of the adult Cattle Egret, its nest, and its young.

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- STEPHEN J. STEDMAN, Department of English, Tennessee Technological University, P.O. Box 5053, Cookeville, TN 38505. Accepted 10 January 1988.

# THE SEASON



FALL MIGRATION: 1 AUGUST — 30 NOVEMBER 1987

Precipitation was below average throughout the state, with a rainfall deficit for the 4 month period of from about 4 inches in the east to near 7 inches in middle Tennessee. Temperatures were generally mild. Unlike recent fall seasons, regular cold fronts, with associated waves of migrants, were noted in the Eastern Ridge and Valley Region. Although these frontal systems undoubtedly passed across the whole state, the west Tennessee compiler noted that migration waves were barely noticeable.

There were, however, many notable rarities reported from across the state. A sampling of these includes the following, in taxonomic order: Anhinga at Chattanooga, first east Tennessee record; Northern Gannet in Robertson County, first state record; Marbled Godwit at Paris Landing; Pomarine Jaeger at Paris Landing; and a Vermilion Flycatcher at Austin Springs, second east Tennessee Record. Many other unusual, but less rare, species were also reported.

A few Red-breasted Nuthatches were reported from outside of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Pine Siskins invaded the state in October and were widespread by the end of the period. Most of the reports of Evening Grosbeaks were of birds passing through Middle Tennessee. — Charles P. Nicholson.

Abbreviations used in the following reports include the following: ad-adult; b-banded; EOP - end of period; ers - earliest report of season; imm-immature; lrs - latest report of season; max - maximum one day count in one county; m.ob. - many observers.

WESTERN COASTAL PLAIN REGION — The weather this season was very dry with mild to warm temperatures. Migration waves were barely noticeable. Field work did not show passerines in any great numbers. Shorebird numbers were triple those of 1986 for most species. The number of field trips for shorebirds were the same in both years, although this year's field work was conducted twice weekly. The Tennessee River near Paris Landing State Park hosted scoters, a godwit, phalaropes and a jaeger.

Grebe — Merlin: Horned Grebe: 21 Nov (46) PLS (JCR); 30 Nov (80+) PLS, BRF (DWB). American White Pelican: 8 Oct - 4 Nov (75) Horseshoe Lake, Arkansas (MTOS). Least Bittern: 21 Aug (1) Reelfoot Lake, Obion Co. (SJS, BHS, JCR). Great Blue Heron: 22 Aug (262) Lake and Obion Cos. (JCR). Great Egret: 29 Aug (112) I13 (JCR). Snowy Egret: 7 Aug (29) (JCR), 29 Aug (22) (JCR, DWB), 31 Aug (65) (WGC), all at I13. Greater White-fronted Goose: 30 Nov (1) BRF (DWB). Green-winged Teal: 29 Oct (239) BRF (JCR); 17 Nov (250+) Big Eagle area, HNC (DWB). Ring-necked Duck: 20 Sep (1) BRF

(JCR); 30 Nov (1100) BRF (DWB). Greater Scaup: 30 Nov (1 male) PLS (DWB), BLACK SCOTER: 21-26 Oct (2) PLS (JCR, DWB, CGD), Surf Scoter: 22-29 Oct (1-7) PLS (JCR, DWB, CGD). Ruddy Duck: 26 Sep (2 males) Robco Lake, SBC (Ben B. Coffey, Jr., Lula C. Coffey). Mississippi Kite: 22 Aug (197+) I13 (BHS). Sharp-shinned Hawk: 25 Oct (2) Shelby Forest State Park, SBC (MTOS): 22 Nov (1) east SBC (CHB, MGW), Merlin: 20, 29 Sep (1) ESL (CHB, DPB, VBR, MGW); 11, 24 Oct (1) PEF (DPB, Bob and Ginger Ilardi, VBR, MGW); 1 Nov (1) north SBC (Robert T. Casev).

Crane - Tern: SANDHILL CRANE: 21 Sep (6) MEM (David Pattar). Semipalmated Ployer: 21-22 Nov (1) BRF (JCR), latest west TN date. Piping Plover: 21-28 Aug (1-2) I13 (SJS, JCR, BHS, WGC): 24 Aug (1) PAP (SJS, JCR, BHS); 26 Aug (1) PAP (AHH); 3 Sep (1) Miss. River (JRW, MGW); 12 Sep (1) PAP (WAS). Black-bellied Plover: 30 Nov (1) Big Eagle area, HNC (DWB). Lesser Yellowlegs: 11-31 Aug (54-22), 20-29 Sep (75-153) ESL (CHB, DPB, VBR, MGW). MARBLED GODWIT: 15-17 Aug (1) PLS (DRJ. JCR. CGD, AHH, Nita R. Heilman, DWB), Ruddy Turnstone: 11 Aug (5) ESL (CHB, DPB, VBR, MGW); 18 Aug, 20 Sep (1) PLS (JCR); 29 Aug (1) PAP (JCR); 13 Sep (1) I13 (WGC). Sanderling: 18 Aug (3), 13 Sep (4) PLS (JCR); 22 Aug (1) I13 (JCR, SJS); 26 Aug (1), 7 Sep (6), 12 Sep (1) PAP (AHH, JCR, WAS). Western Sandpiper: 21, 22 Aug (9, 50) I13 (JCR, CGD); 3-29 Sep (up to 25) ESL (Mac & Susan McWhirter, MGW, VBR, James E. Waldron, CHB, DPB, DAD). Baird's Sandpiper: 23, 29 Aug (1, 8) I13 (JCR, SJS): 24 Aug (2) PAP (JCR, SJS); 29 Aug, 7 Sep (1-2) PLS (JCR, SJS); 31 Aug, 12 Sep (1) ESL (VBR. MGW, MTOS). Dunlin: 29 Oct (24), 8 Nov (1) ESL (VBR, MGW); 29 Oct (63) Miss. River (JRW); 29 Oct (34) BSU (JCR); 7 Nov (4) BRF (JCR); 30 Nov (1) BRF (DWB). Buff-breasted Sandpiper: 7/22 Aug (1) I13 (JCR/BHS): 22, 29 Sep (1) ESL (CHB, DAD, MGW); 17 Oct (1) ESL (DAD, JRW). Shortbilled Dowitcher: 21, 22 Aug (5, 4) I13 (CGD, JCR, SJS); 23 Aug (2) ESL (CHB, DAD, VBR, MGW); 7 Sep (4) BSU (JCR); 29 Sep (7) ESL (CHB, MGW). Common Snipe: 17, 24, 29 Oct (60, 50, 44), 8 Nov (38) ESL (CHB, DAD, VBR, JRW, MGW), RED-NECKED PHALAROPE: 23 Aug (1) I13 (JCR), RED PHALAROPE: 25 Oct (1) PLS (DWB), POMARINE JAEGER: 15 Aug-4 Sep (1) PLS (JCR, CGD, MLB et al.). Laughing Gull: 21-23 Aug (1) I13 (SJS, JCR, BHS). Franklin's Gull: 11, 29 Oct (1) PLS (JCR). Caspian Tern: 10 Aug - 23 Sep (2-9) LKC, HNC, SBC (WGC, JCR, SJS, BHS, CHB). Common Tern: 29 Aug (1) PAP (JCR, CGD, DWB); 12 Oct (2) PAP (JCR). Forster's Tern: 7 Nov (6) BRF (JCR).

Dove — Siskin: COMMON GROUND-DOVE: 17-22 Oct (1) ESL (JRW, DAD). Black-billed Cuckoo: 21/23 Aug (1) I13 (BHS); 6 Sep (2) ESL (Richard & Elzie Heintz); 13 Sep (1) ESL (MTOS). Fish Crow: 22 Sep (35) Audubon Park, SBC (Rob Peeples); 4 Oct (27) Overton Park, MEM (MTOS). Olivesided Flycatcher: 24 Aug (1) BSU (SJS, JCR). VERMILION FLY-CATCHER: 20 Sep (1) I13 (JRW, DAD). WESTERN KINGBIRD: 15-18 Sep (1) MEM (JRW et al.). Yellow-rumped Warbler: 27 Sep (1) PEF (Marylou Kramer, VBR, MGW). BLACK-HEADED-GROSBEAK: 6 Sep (1) north LKC (DAD). Blue Grosbeak: 12 Oct (1) BRF (JCR), late, Sharp-tailed Sparrow: 4 Oct (3) BRF (JCR, DWB), Lapland Longspur; 30 Nov (26) BRF (DWB), first for season. YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD: 24 Oct (1) ESL (Buddy Beaver, MAS); Brewer's Blackbird: 22 Nov (2m, 3f) PEF (CHB, MGW). Pine Siskin: 4 Oct (1) BRF (JCR), ers.

Locations: BRF — Britton Ford, Tenn. Nat. Wildl. Refuge, Henry Co.; BSU — Big Sandy Unit, Tenn. Nat. Wildl. Refuge, Henry Co.; ESL — Ensley Sewage Lagoons, Shelby Co.; HNC — Henry Co.; I13 — Island I3, Lake Co.; LKC — Lake Co.; MEM — Memphis; PAP — Pace Point, Henry Co.; PEF — Shelby Co. Penal Farm; PLS — Paris Landing State Park, Henry Co.; SBC — Shelby Co.

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HIGHLAND RIM AND BASIN REGION — Below normal precipitation fell on the region. Nashville rainfall during August totaled 0.73 in. (2.67 in. deficient), while 1.95 fell in September (1.76 deficient), 0.21 in October (2.37 deficient and 4th driest ever), and 3.40 in November (0.12 deficient). Slightly more rain (8.36 in.) was measured over the four-month period in Stewart County. Temperatures varied considerably, especially in October and November, but generally fall was mild.

One extraordinary rarity occurred in the region, when a Northern Gannet was sighted just south of the Kentucky border in Robertson County by a skilled observer from Ohio. More expected rarities included a Red-throated Loon and Eared Grebes in the Nashville Area, a Eurasian Wigeon in Stewart County, a Black Scoter and a Northern Goshawk in Lawrence County, a well-seen and very cooperative Yellow Rail in Stewart County, and Sharp-tailed Sparrows in Humphreys and Stewart Counties.

By the end of the season boreal finches were widespread in small to moderate numbers, suggesting that a good winter for them was imminent. Red-breasted Nuthatches were reported locally in small numbers, but no Rough-legged Hawks had been reported by season's end.

With the publication of a series of articles on the field identification of Empidonax flycatchers by Whitney and Kaufmann (Birding 17:151-158, 1985; 17:277-287, 1985; 18:153-159, 1986; 18:315-327, 1986), sight records of migrant empids identified to species have increased; this season 3 reports of Yellow-bellied Flycatcher and 1 of Least Flycatcher were included among the data submitted. All of this season's reports were unsatisfactory, indicating that regional observers may be experiencing 1 or more of several problems: they have not read these articles; they have not read them with due care; they misinterpreted what they read; and they have not documented their findings thoroughly. Two of these reports came in without any details indicating how the identification was made; these were easy to reject. Of the remaining reports, 1 involved 3 singing (not calling) Yellow-bellied Flycatchers in early August at 1 site; it is difficult for me to believe that confusion with Eastern Wood-Pewees was not involved. The last report also involved a Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, though a nonvocal one. Half a dozen field marks of this bird were included with the report, but the documentation was inconsistent (some field marks of little value - tail-flicking - were included, while others not diagnostic of Yellow-bellied — yellow wash on underparts — were cited) and incomplete (comparison with field marks of other empids was entirely lacking - i.e., how was the "orange" lower mandible of the bird determined not to be the pinkish-yellow color of an Acadian's lower mandible?); this record, too, finally had to be rejected. Observers who expect future sight records of these species to be accepted will want to submit a TOS Certification Committee Rare Bird Reporting Form (or equivalent) giving full details about their birds. Except for birds so

documented, the only fall empid reports which will be published must be those which have traditionally been published — i.e., banded birds or those heard singing/calling by observers known to have considerable aural experience with these species and those which sound like them.

In the following report species for which a TOS Certification Committee Rare Bird Reporting Form was submitted are so indicated by an "RBRF" in the significance section of the record. Copies of this form are available from the compiler. Several records of rare species — including Say's Phoebe and Black-headed Grosbeak — are not included below because inadequate documentation for them was received. I thank John C. Robinson for a thoughtful review of a draft of this manuscript.

Loon — Grebe: RED-THROATED LOON: 8 Nov (1) OHL, SUC (fide SJS), first NA record. Common Loon: 31 Aug (1) OHL, SUC (SJS), ers; 28 Nov (67) PPL — county not specified (CGD), max. Pied-billed Grebe: 3 Aug (1) OHL, SUC (DTC, JPC), ers. Horned Grebe: 7 Oct (1) RDL (NTOS, Jan C. Alexander, Mary A. Zimmerman), ers. EARED GREBE: 4-9 Sep (1) RDL (John Froeschauer, CAS, JCR, DWB), 4th and earliest fall NA record (RBRF); 12, 16, 19 Oct (1) RDL (fide SJS), 5th NA record.

NORTHERN GANNET: 29 Nov (1 imm) just south of Kentucky border on I-65 in RBC (Michael J. Braun), first RBC, NA, regional, and state record; excellent details were submitted by a professional biologist, located at the University of Cincinnati, who is well acquainted with sulids (RBRF); details should be published.

Cormorant — Ibis: Double-crested Cormorant: 13 Aug (1) CCNWR (JCR), ers; 27 Sep (148) DRU (JCR), max. Great Egret: 18 Oct (78) DRU (JCR), max; 22 Nov (11) DRU (JCR, CGD), Irs. Snowy Egret: 1-15 Aug (up to 3) CCNWR (JCR, DWB), completes a Summer 87 record; 16/24 Aug (2/1) DRU (JCR/SJS, BHS); only reports. Little Blue Heron: 24 Sep (30) DRU (SJS, BHS), max; 5 Sep (8) CCNWR (JCR), Irs. Tricolored Heron: 1-4 Aug (1 imm) CCNWR (JCR, DWB), completes a Summer 87 record (RBRF). Cattle Egret: 13, 18, 22 Aug (2 imm) OHL, SUC (DTC, JPC), completes a Summer 87 breeding record; 3 Oct (1) DRU (BHS, DWB, JCR, SJS), Irs and only other report. Green-backed Heron: 25 Oct (1) PUC (SJS), Irs. White Ibis: 2-12 Aug (1 imm) CCNWR (DWB, JCR), completes a Summer 87 record (RBRF); 24 Aug (1 imm) DRU (SJS, BHS); only reports.

Goose — Merganser: Snow Goose: 14 Oct (3) CCNWR (JCR), ers; 24 Oct (3) N of Gainesboro on Cumberland R., JAC (JCR); 27-28 Nov (13) CCNWR (JCR), max. Green-winged Teal: 13 Aug (1) Green's Pond, SUC (SJS, BHS, DTC, JPC), ers and ties NA early fall date. American Black Duck: 9 Aug (1) CCNWR (JCR), ers. Northern Pintail: 9 Sep (3) CCNWR (BHS), ers. Gadwall: 6 Aug (1) Lake Elaine, Bedford Co. (MDH, RWL), ers. American Wigeon: 20 Sep (1) CCNWR (DWB), ers. EURASIAN WIGEON: 21-25 Nov (1 male) CCNWR (JCR, m.ob.), at least 8 previous state records, most at CCNWR (RBRF). Northern Shoveler: 20 Aug (1) CCNWR (SJS, JCR), ers. Canvasback: 28 Oct (6) FRR (CAS), ers; 23 Nov (49) FRR (Elizabeth C. O'Conner), max. Redhead: 31 Oct (4) PUC (SJS), max; only 5 other reports. Ring-necked Duck: 2 Oct (1) DUC (JCR), ers; 25 Nov (1150) CCNWR (JCR), max. Oldsquaw: 15 Nov - EOP (2) LHL (JCR, DJS, m.ob.), only report. BLACK SCOTER: 15 Nov (1) LHL (DJS, Susan Watson), about 15th state record (RBRF). Surf Scoter: 15 Nov (2) LHL (JCR, DJS, Ned Piper, m.ob.),

only report. White-winged Scoter: 20 Nov (4) WDR (James R. Peters), only report. Common Goldeneye: 11 Nov (3) PUC (SJS), ers. Bufflehead: 7 Nov (3) PUC (SJS), ers. Hooded Merganser: 23 Nov (108) PUC (SJS), max. Common Merganser: 1 Nov (3) WDR (MDH, RWL), only report. Red-breasted Merganser: 15 Nov (26/30) LHL/WDR (JCR, DJS/SJS, LHD, KHD), ers/max.

Vulture — Harrier: Black Vulture: 6 Nov (500+) GSP (DTC, JPC), max. Turkey Vulture: 15 Nov (300+) Franklin Co. (Howell J. Peebles), max. Northern Harrier: 24 Aug (1) DRU (JCR), ers; 8 other reports.

Accipiters: Sharp-shinned Hawk: 40 reports (3 Aug - EOP) with most coming from SWC and PUC, where a season-long hawk watch was conducted; 12 Sep (6) Ft. Campbell, SWC (DWB), max. Cooper's Hawk: 31 reports; 30 Sep (4) PUC (BHS), max. NORTHERN GOSHAWK: 6 Oct (1 ad.) LWC (DJS), only report (RBRF). The hawk watch in PUC was conducted on 33 days between 29 Aug and 19 Nov; about 65 hours of observation were accumulated, perhaps the first time in the history of the region that a hawk lookout was so intensively covered. Preliminary results indicate that the Accipiter migration at the lookout was about 50% as intensive as that occurring at similarly covered lookouts in East Tennessee; the Buteo migration was about 10% as intensive.

Hawk — Falcon: Broad-winged Hawk: 23 Sep (37) PUC (BHS), max. Red-tailed Hawk: 21 Nov (11) CCNWR (JCR), max; dark phase (i.e., western subspecies) birds reported as follows: 18 Oct (1) DRU (DFV, JCR); 10 Nov (1) 3 km NW Dover, SWC (DWB); 13 Nov (1) Stauffer Ponds, MUC (SJS); 21 Nov (1) CCNWR (JCR), at same site where a similarly plumaged bird was present previous 2 winters. Merlin: 24 Sep (1) PUC (BHS); 26 Sep (1) WLC (Margaret Partee, Barry Spears, fide RVM); 3 Oct (1) DRU (SJS, BHS, JCR, DWB); 4 Oct (1) SHB (CGD); only reports. Peregrine Falcon: 26 Sep (1) RDL (JCR); 27 Sep (1) PUC (SJS); 3-4 Oct (3) SHB (C. Kinian Cosner, Lee F. Kramer); only reports.

Turkey — Crane: Wild Turkey: reported only from PUC (RWS), SWC (DWB, DFV, JCR), and WMC (KAG, ATT, Portia McMillan). YELLOW RAIL: 4-17 Oct (1 well seen) CCNWR (JCR, C. Rowan DeBold, Christine N. DeBold, m.ob.), first SWC record (RBRF). Virginia Rail: 3 Oct (1) DRU (JCR, DWB, SJS); 24 Oct (3) GSP (JCR); only reports. Sora: 5 reports (13 Sep - 24 Oct). Sandhill Crane: 18 Oct - 22 Nov (1) DRU (JCR, m.ob.), ers; 22 Oct (65) LOV (Margaret L. Zimmerman, JDH); 5 Nov (120) LOV (JDH, RCH); 5 Nov (40) JAC (Michael Hawkins); 10 Nov (80) RUC (TJW); 19 Nov (27) PUC (BHS); only reports; the fewer than normal number of birds/reports of this species suggests that their migration this year was probably later than normal; consequently, more that the usual number of December birds/reports can be expected (see Winter 87-88 report).

Shorebirds: Lesser Golden-Plover: 28 Aug (1) CCNWR (DWB), ers; 19 Sep (1) CCNWR (JCR); only reports. Black-bellied Plover: 20 Sep (1) CCNWR (DWB), only report. Semipalmated Plover: 24 Jul (5) CCNWR (JCR), ers. PIPING PLOVER: 3-15 Aug (1) CCNWR (JCR, DWB, AHH, Nita R. Heilman), only report. American Avocet: 9 Jul (1) CCNWR (DWB, JCR), only report (RBRF). Greater Yellowlegs: 3 Jul (2) GSP (DTC, JPC, SJS), ers; 3 Nov (1) CCNWR (JCR), lrs. Lesser Yellowlegs: 19 Jun (2) CCSP (JCR), ers; 2 Sep (31) SUC (DTC, JPC, RVM, m.ob.), max; 1 Nov (1) CCSP (JCR), lrs. Solitary Sandpiper: 9 Jul (2) CCNWR (JCR), ers; 23 Oct (1) PUC (BHS), lrs.

Willet: 9 Jul (1) CCNWR (JCR, DWB); 19 Jul (1) CCNWR (JCR); only reports. Spotted Sandpiper: 14 Oct (1) CCNWR (JCR), lrs. Upland Sandpiper: 5 reports (1 Aug - 15 Sep). Sanderling: 4 reports (22 Jul - 1 Aug). Semipalmated Sandpiper: 12 Jul (1) CCNWR (JCR), ers; 18 Nov (11) GSP (DTC, JPC), lrs (good details) and new NA late fall date. Western Sandpiper: 5 reports, all at CCNWR (13 Jul - 15 Aug). Least Sandpiper: 10 Jul (1) CCNWR (JCR), ers; 21 Nov (12) CCSP (JCR), lrs. Baird's Sandpiper: 29 Aug (2) GSP (DTC, JPC); 13 Sep (1) CCNWR (JCR); 25 Sep (1) GSP (DTC, JPC); only reports. Pectoral Sandpiper: 12 Jul (2) GSP (DTC, JPC), ers; 9 Aug (164) CCNWR (JCR), max; 24 Oct (11) GSP (JCR), Irs. Dunlin: 24 Oct (78) GSP (JCR), ers and max. Stilt Sandpiper: 3 Jul (4) GSP (SJS, DTC, JPC), ers; 3 Aug (1) PUC (SJS); 15 Sep. (6) CCNWR (JCR), Irs. Buff-breasted Sandpiper: 9 Aug (1) CCNWR (JCR); 28 Aug (1) CCNWR (DWB); only reports. Short-billed Dowitcher: good details on only 3 reports from CCNWR (5 Jul - 15 Aug). Long-billed Dowitcher: 8 Oct (1) CCNWR (JCR), only report (good details). Common Snipe: 10 Aug (1) PUC (SJS, BHS), ers; 12 Aug (1) CCNWR (JCR); 16 Aug (1) DRU (JCR). Wilson's Phalarope: 29 Jul (1) CCNWR (JCR), only report.

Gull — Tern: FRANKLIN'S GULL: 3 Oct (1 first winter) DRU (JCR, DWB, SJS, BHS), only report. Bonaparte's Gull: notable concentrations 15-19 Nov in FKC (SJS, BHS, LHD, KHD), SWC (JCR), and SUC (DTC, JPC). Ring-billed Gull: 22 Sep (2) SWC (JCR), ers. Caspian Tern: 9 Jul (1) CCNWR (DWB), ers. Forster's Tern: 21 Jul (1) PPL, RUC (Anne L. Hettish, Robert Hettish), ers. Black Tern: 30 Jun (8) CCNWR (JCR), ers.

Cuckoo — Creeper: Black-billed Cuckoo: 13 Sep (1) SWC (DWB); 4 Oct (1) PWP (DFV); only reports. Short-eared Owl: 22 Nov (1) DRU (CGD, JCR), only report. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: 17 Oct (1) CLA (AHH), lrs. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: 26 Sep (1) CLA (AHH), ers. Olive-sided Flycatcher: 16 Sep (1) LBL (DWB); 19 Sep (2) LBL (JCR); only reports. Eastern Wood-Pewee: 17 Oct (1) CRH (fide SJS, m.ob.), Irs. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: 27 Aug (1 b) EWP (DFV, SDB), good details; 4 Oct (1 b) GOR (GRM), no details, "Traill's" Flycatcher: 23 Aug (1 b) MC (DFV), only report; this bird was banded on the territory of a Willow Flycatcher. Eastern Kingbird: 27 Aug (90 in 1 flock following a storm) CCNWR (JCR), max. Horned Lark: 27 Nov (35) CCNWR (JCR, David Chaffin), max. Northern Rough-winged Swallow: 25 Oct (1) CCNWR (JCR), Irs. Cliff Swallow: 20 Sep (2) PUC (SJS), lrs. Barn Swallow: 29 Oct (1) CCNWR (JCR), lrs. Blue Jay: 30 Sep (153 flying SW) PUC (BHS), max. Red-breasted Nuthatch: 3 Oct (2) Cedars of Lebanon S. P., WLC (RVM, Melissa A. Tucker), ers; 17 Oct (7) CRH (fide SJS), max. Brown Creeper: 26 Sep (1) CLA (AHH), ers.

Bewich's Wren: 2 Aug - 18 Sep (1-3) 2 km N I-40 on Rt. 109, WLC (Earline C. Berry, Vernon G. Berry); 9 Aug (1) Hurricane Creek, SWC (JCR); 1 Sep (2) MTC (DWB); 8 Sep (1) Taylor's Chapel, SWC (DWB); 18 Sep (1) Dover, SWC (JCR); 6 Oct - EOP (1-2) Tennessee Ridge, Houston Co. (Donette Sellers); 22 Sep (1) Ovaca Lake, Coffee Co. (MDH, Frank Hernandez); an encouraging number of reports, following an excellent Summer 87 season for this species.

Wren — Vireo: House Wren: 6 Nov (1) CLA (AHH), lrs. Winter Wren: 1 Oct (2) BAH (RWS), ers. Sedge Wren: 16 Aug/27 Sep (5/9) DRU (JCR/JCR, CGD), ers/max. Marsh Wren: 27 Sep (9) DRU (JCR, CGD), ers and max. Golden-crowned Kinglet: 2 Oct (2) DUC (JCR), ers. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: 26 Sep (1) RDL (JCR), ers. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: 20 Sep (3) Fort Donelson

Park, SWC (JCR), Irs. Veery: 7 Sep (2) RDL (JCR, DWB), ers. Swainson's Thrush: 24 Aug (1) CLA (AHH), ers. Hermit Thrush: 5 Oct (1) CLA (AHH), ers; 31 Oct (8) LOV (RCH, FJA), max. Gray Catbird: 20 Oct (1) CLA (AHH), Irs. Water Pipit: 13 Nov (50) Monsanto Ponds, MUC (JPC, DTC, BHS, SJS), max. Loggerhead Shrike: 28 Nov (19) LWC (DJS, Stephen Satterfield, Rebecca Satterfield), max. White-eyed Vireo: 19 Sep (22) LBL (JCR), max. Warbling Vireo: 20 Sep (1) SWC (JCR), Irs. Philadelphia Vireo: 10 reports (9 Sep - 10 Oct), including 5 banded at GOR (GRM).

Warblers: Golden-winged Warbler: 8 reports (30 Aug -26 Sep) from DVC, PUC, SWC, Orange-crowned Warbler: 7 Sep (1) RDL (JCR, DWB), ers and new NA early fall date. Northern Parula: 3 Oct (1) NEWJ (SJS, DWB, JCR, BHS), Irs. Yellow Warbler: 27 Sep (2) NEWJ (JCR), Irs. Chestnut-sided Warbler: 24 Aug (1/1) EWP/DRU(DFV/SJS, BHS), ers. Cape May Warbler: 27 Oct (1 tower casualty) WSMV tower, NASH (DFV, KAG), Irs and new NA late fall date; bird picked up on morning of 29 Oct, but it "appeared that it might have fallen on the night or morning of Oct 27/28" (DFV); thus, the earliest possible date is used above. Black-throated Blue Warbler: 13 Sep (1 female) SWC (DWB); 2 Oct (1) DVC (Margaret L. Mann); 4 Oct (1) SHB (CGD, William Cowart); only reports. Yellow-rumped Warbler: 28 Aug (1) LBL (DWB), ers; very early. Blackburnian Warbler: 24 Aug (1 b) EWP (DFV, SDB), ers. Palm Warbler: 11 Sep (1) LBL (DWB), ers. Bay-breasted Warbler: 23 Oct (1) CLA (AHH), lrs. Northern Waterthrush: 27 Aug (1) EWP (SDB, DFV), ers. Connecticut Warbler: 3 Oct (1) NEWJ (JCR, DWB, SJS), only report with good details. Mourning Warbler: 29 Aug (1 b) MC (DFV); 25 Sep (1) Anne Hettish Marsh, RUC (TJW); only reports (good details). Common Yellowthroat: 24 Oct (1) New Johnsonville Steam Plant, Humphreys Co. (AHH, m.ob.), Irs. Wilson's Warbler: 9 Sep (2) CCNWR (JCR), ers. Yellowbreasted Chat: 27 Sep (1) NEWJ (JCR), lrs.

Tanager — Oriole: Scarlet Tanager: 13 Oct (1) LBL (DWB), lrs. Rosebreasted Grosbeak: 1 Sep (1) CLA (AHH), ers. BACHMAN'S SPARROW: 9 Aug (1 singing) Old Hwy. 76 clearcut, SWC (JCR, DJS), completes a Summer 87 record. Chipping Sparrow: 17 Nov (1) MTC (AHH), Irs. Savannah Sparrow: 27 Sep (11) DRU (JCR), ers. Le Conte's Sparrow: 16-17 Oct (2) CCNWR (JCR, DWB); 7 Nov - EOP (5) Center, LWC (DJS, m.ob, at TOS meeting); only reports. SHARP-TAILED SPARROW: 27 Sep (2) DRU (JCR. CGD), RBRF; 29 Sep - 5 Oct (1) CCNWR (JCR, DWB), RBRF; 16-17 Oct (1) CCNWR (JCR, DWB); only reports. Fox Sparrow: 25 Oct (5) CCNWR (JCR), ers; 28 Oct - 13 Nov (21 b) GOR (GRM), Lincoln's Sparrow: 4 Oct (1/1) PWP/EWP (DFV), ers. Swamp Sparrow: 27 Sep (6) DRU (JCR), ers. Whitethroated Sparrow: 9 Sep (1) CLA (AHH), ers. Dark-eyed Junco: 30 Sep (1) BAH (RWS), ers. Lapland Longspur: 25 Oct (3) CCNWR (JCR), ers and very early; 1 Nov (1) CCNWR (JCR), only other report. Bobolink: 24 Aug (2) DRU (SJS, BHS, JCR), ers; 25 Aug - 25 Oct (up to 19 on 13 different dates) CCNWR (JCR); obviously, this species must be considered uncommon, not rare, in suitable habitat at this season, although it could be that the fall of 1987 was a much better than average season for it. Brewer's Blackbird: 7 Nov (1 female) Etheridge, LWC (DJS), ers and very early; only report with convincing details. Orchard Oriole: 6 Sep (2) CCNWR (JCR), Irs. Northern Oriole: 6 Oct (1) SWC (DWB), lrs.

Finch — Grosbeak: Purple Finch: 13 Oct (2) SWC (DWB), ers; widespread and in moderate numbers by EOP. House Finch: large numbers reported in

many areas. RED CROSSBILL: 8 Nov (3) LBL (DWB), only report; good description of call notes. Pine Siskin: 3 Oct (1) DRU (JCR, SJS, DWB, BHS), ers; widespread in small numbers by EOP. Evening Grosbeak: reported from many locales in small numbers, but few remaining long.

Addendum: Rose-breasted Grosbeak: 27 Nov 1986 (1 imm male) RDL (C. Rowan DeBold), new NA late fall date.

Locations: BAH - Barnes Hollow, Putnam Co.; CCNWR - Cross Creeks National Wildlife Refuge, Stewart Co.; CCSP — Cumberland City Steam Plant, Stewart Co.; CLA - Clarksville, Montgomery Co.; CRH - Craggie Hope, Cheatham Co.; DRU — Duck River Unit, Tennessee National Wildlife Refuge, Humphreys Co.; DUC — Dunbar Cave State Park, Montgomery Co.; DVC — Davidson Co.; EWP — Edwin Warner Park, Davidson County; FKC — Franklin Co.; FRR — Franklin Reservoir, Williamson Co.; GOR — Gordonsburg, Lewis Co.; GSP — Gallatin Steam Plant, Sumner Co.; JAC — Jackson Co.; LBL - Land-Between-the-Lakes, Stewart Co.; LHL - Laurel Hill Lake, Lawrence Co.; LOV — Love Lady Community, Pickett Co.; LWC Lawrence Co.; MC — Metro Center, Davidson Co.; MTC — Montgomery Co.: MUC — Maury Co.: NA — Nashville Area (includes all of Cheatham. Davidson, Robertson, Rutherford, Sumner, Williamson, and Wilson Counties, and parts of Dickson and Trousdale Counties); NASH — Nashville: NEWJ - New Johnsonville Sewage Ponds, Humphreys Co.; OHL - Old Hickory Lake (in Davidson, Smith, Sumner, Trousdale, and Wilson Counties); PIC — Pickett Co.; PPL — Percy Priest Lake (in Davidson, Rutherford, and Wilson Counties); PUC - Putnam Co.; PWP - Percy Warner Park, Davidson Co.; RBC — Robertson Co.; RDL — Radnor Lake State Natural Area, Davidson Co.; RUC — Rutherford Co.; SHB — Shelby Bottoms, Davidson Co.; SUC — Sumner Co.; SWC — Stewart Co.; WDR — Woods Reservoir (in Coffee and Franklin Counties); WLC - Wilson Co.; WMC -Williamson Co.

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EASTERN RIDGE AND VALLEY REGION — In general, August was very dry (except at Chattanooga) and hot, September was near average, October was dry and much cooler than average, and November was dry and slightly cooler than average. Precipitation totals for the season were 3.5 to 4 inches deficient at most places. Cold fronts, with their associated waves of migrants, were more regular than during the past 3 fall seasons, when they were scarce.

Two outstanding finds were reported — an Anhinga at Amnicola Marsh and a Vermilion Flycatcher at Austin Springs. Also noteworthy were 2 American White Pelicans and a Lapland Longspur.

Shorebird habitat was somewhat scarce due to infrequent fluctuation of Chickamauga Lake water levels, ash pond manipulation at Kingston Steam Plant, and overall dry conditions. Partly because of this, the shorebird flight was unremarkable. The waterfowl movement was good near Knoxville (no specifics provided) and Chattanooga, but poor in the Johnson City area. Waterfowl counts from the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency were recorded on aerial surveys.

Comments on the passerine migration came mostly from 2 banding stations, both in operation for the eighth consecutive fall season. Chuck

Nicholson ran mist nets at Norris from 22 August to 7 November, banding 715 birds of 65 species at a capture rate of 108 birds per 100 net-hours. This rate was close to his overall average and about 20% above that of the previous 3 years. Rick Knight banded 494 birds of 53 species at Austin Springs from 1 September to 24 October. Twenty-eight birds banded there in previous years were recaptured: Carolina Chickadee - 3, Carolina Wren - 1, Gray Catbird - 1, Common Yellowthroat - 1, Field Sparrow - 2, Song Sparrow 17, and American Goldfinch - 3.

Loon - Ibis: Common Loon: 9 Oct (1) BOL (CFW), ers; 22 Nov (50) TEL (KTOS), max. only 3 found there a week later (MWA, ARH, RCH): 10/22 Nov (8/10) BOL/CHL (RLK/KHD, LHD), max these locations. Pied-billed Grebe: 4 Aug (1) SAB (KHD, LHD), ers; 22 Nov (150) CHL (CDB et al.), max. Horned Grebe: 1 Nov (6) TEL (MWA, ARH, RDH), ers; 22 Nov (23/30) TEL/CHL (KTOS/CDB et al.), max; 29 Nov (2) BOL (RLK), only sighting there. AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN: late Oct - 8 Nov (2) Sevierville. Sevier Co. (JAK, m.ob.). Double-crested Cormorant: 15 Sep (3) NIL (WKJ): 27 Sep (3) KNC (KTOS); 12 Oct (1) SAB (KHD, LHD); 7 Nov (2) HRA (CTOS); only reports, somewhat below recent numbers. ANHINGA: 11 Oct (1) AMM (LHD et al.), first regional record, details to be published. Least Bittern: 28 Aug (1) Washington Ferry, upper CHL, Rhea Co. (WKJ). Great Egret: many reports; 19 Sep (49) RAB (JAK), max; 7 Nov (1) LST (JB), lrs. Snowy Egret: 22 Aug (1) HRA (KHD, LHD); 24 Aug (1) SAB (LHD). Little Blue Heron: from last period thru 5 Sep (7-56) HRA (KHD, LHD); 8 Aug (4) Cherokee Lake, HWC portion (RLK); 15/22 Aug (2) RAB (JAK). Cattle Egret: 1 Aug/13 Sep (1/3) HRA (J.W. Knott/KHD, LHD); 10 Oct (18) Norris Lake, Union Co. (Joseph C. Howell). Green-backed Heron: 7 Nov (1) JNB (RLK), lrs. Black-crowned Night-Heron: 15 Aug - 13 Sep (3-7) KSP (m.ob.); present thru 21 Oct (1-8) AUS (RLK et al.); thru EOP at Fort Loudoun Dam, Loudon Co. (KTOS). Yellow-crowned Night-Heron: 19 Sep (1) HWC (FJA), lrs. White Ibis: 12, 15 Aug (1, age ?) HRA (KHD, LHD).

Waterfowl: Snow Goose: 7 Nov (1 white) CHL (RJH): 12 Nov (3/3 white) HRA/Watts Bar Lake (TWRA); 22 Nov (1 blue) HRA (CDB et al.). Greenwinged Teal: 22 Nov (125) HRA (CDB et al.), max. American Black Duck: 24 Nov (366) CHL & HRA (TWRA), max. Mallard: 24 Nov (1217) CHL & HRA (TWRA), max. Northern Pintail: 26 Sep (2) LST (RLK, BC), ers; 22 Nov (50) HRA (CDB et al.), max. Blue-winged Teal: 15 Aug - 10 Oct several reports of small flocks from throughout the region. Northern Shoveler: 29 Aug - 13 Sep (1-4) KSP (m.ob.). Gadwall: 22 Nov (600) CHL (CDB et al.), max. American Wigeon: 12 Nov (170) CHL & HRA (TWRA), max. Canvasback: 31 Oct (1) CHL (KHD, LHD); 27 Nov (7) NIL (RJH); only reports. Redhead: 22 Nov (50) CHL (CDB et al.), max. Ring-necked Duck: 22 Nov (1000/1500) CHL/HRA (CDB et al.), max, "It is of interest with waterfowl populations down nationwide we are finding these numbers. They seem to be increasing in our area [CHA] during migration, as most have departed by Dec." (fide KHD); conversely, only 1 record in the JNC area — 12 Oct (7) BOL (RLK). Greater Scaup: 17 Oct (12) HRA (AMJ), ers. Lesser Scaup: summering male seen thru late Sep in JNC (RLK et al.). Common Goldeneye: 22 Nov (6) CHL (CDB et al.). Bufflehead: 22 Nov (20) CHL (CDB et al.), max. Hooded Merganser: 7 Nov (200) HRA (CTOS), max. Common Merganser: no reports. Red-breasted Merganser: 19/22 Nov (11/10) CHL (RJH/CDB et al.). Ruddy Duck: 12 Oct (5) BOL (RLK), ers & earliest JNC/Elizabethton area fall record by 7 days; 22 Nov (130) CHL (CDB et al.), max.

Vulture — Crane: Vultures: 4 Nov (48 Blacks, 109 Turkeys) CIC (GWM), max. Bald Eagle: 8 Aug (1 imm) KSP (KHD, LHD, David & Tom Patton); 29 Sep (1 ad) NIL (AMJ); 1/29 Nov (2 ad/1 mm) TEL (ARH, RDH, MWA, LNA); 7 Nov (1 ad) HRA (RJH); 27 Nov (1 ad) NIL (RJH). Northern Harrier & Accipiters: few reports: better coverage/reporting needed. Red-shouldered Hawk: 6 Oct (1) AUS (RLK), only JNC area report. Broad-winged Hawk: 24 Nov (1 imm) Union Co. (Steve Satterfield), Irs, very late; details of migration to appear in Autumn Hawk Count report. Red-tailed Hawk: 27 Nov (1 dark phase, reported without details) SQC (RJH). Merlin: 4 Oct (1) Hamblen Co. (GOW); 27 Oct/10 Nov (1) SAB (KHD, LHD); 1 Nov (1) Sewanee airport. Franklin Co. (Harry C. & Jean A. Yeatman). Peregrine Falcon: 7 Oct (1 imm found dead, not banded) struck fence in a JNC yard (fide GOW); 19-20 Nov (1 ad) downtown CHA (Dan N. Williams, Jr. et al.). Ruffed Grouse: 30 Sep (1) in marsh at AUS (RLK), unusual location, Virginia Rail: 5 Oct (1) AMM (JTP). Sora: 29 Aug (1) HRA (LHD); 26 Sep (1) AUS (RLK); only reports. American Coot: 31 Oct (4000) CHL (KHD, LHD), max. Sandhill Crane: 22 Oct to EOP (23 reports of 1183 birds) HLC, Meigs Co., Bradley Co., SQC, Cumberland Co. (m.ob., fide KHD); no reports from KNX area.

Shorebirds: Black-bellied Ployer: 7 Nov (1) HRA (CTOS), only report. Lesser Golden-Ployer: 10/12 Oct (1) HRA (KHD, LHD/RJH). Semipalmated Plover: 22 Aug (5) KSP (KHD, LHD, RLK, JSL), max; 26 Sep (1) AUS (RLK, BC), Irs. American Avocet: 15 Aug (1) RAB (JAK); 22 Aug (1) KSP (KHD, LHD, RLK, JSL). Greater Yellowlegs: several reports of 1-12 birds; 7 Nov(1) HRA (CTOS), Irs. Lesser Yellowlegs: 25 Oct (1) SAB (KHD, LHD), Irs. Solitary Sandpiper: 26 Sep (1) JNB (RLK, BC), lrs. Spotted Sandpiper: 13 Oct (1) AUS (RLK), Irs. Ruddy Turnstone: 15 Aug (1) KSP (KHD, LHD); 21 Oct (1) KSP (FB, SB), late. Sanderling: 13/15 Aug (2) HRA (KHD, LHD); 2 Sep (1) AUS (RLK); 18 Sep (1) SAB (KHD, LHD); 31 Oct (2) CHL (KHD, LHD), Semipalmated Sandpiper: 29 Aug (40) RAB (JAK), max; 17 Oct (10) HRA (AMJ), lrs. Western Sandpiper: from last period thru 13 Sep (1-10 sporadic) KSP (m.ob.); 17 Oct (1) HRA (AMJ), lrs. Least Sandpiper: to EOP, max 30, at HRA (fide KHD). White-rumped Sandpiper: no reports. Baird's Sandpiper: 13 Sep (1) KSP (m.ob.). Pectoral Sandpiper: several reports of up to 61 birds; 1 Nov (2) SAB (KHD, LHD), lrs. Dunlin: 21 Oct (2) KSP (FB, SB). ers; 1 Nov (115) HRA (KHD, LHD), max; 8 Nov (1) LST (RLK), unusual location. Stilt Sandpiper: 2 Aug (1) KSP (KHD, LHD), only report. Dowitcher sp.: 15/29 Aug (1/4) RAB (JAK). Common Snipe: 1 Sep (1) AUS (RLK), ers, very early; 31 Oct (74) HRA (KHD, LHD), max. American Woodcock: 1-19 Oct (1) AUS (RLK).

Gull — Woodpecker: Bonaparte's Gull: 10 Nov (13) BOL (RLK), ers. Ringbilled Gull: 30 Sep (1) AUS (RLK), ers. Herring Gull: 12 Oct (1) BOL (RLK), ers. Caspian Tern: 1, 8 Åug, 7 Sep (1-3) KSP (m.ob.); 10 Sep (2) AUS (RLK). Common Tern: 6 Sep (56) NIL (Peter D. Robinson). Forster's Tern: 31 Oct (1) CHL (KHD, LHD), only report. Black Tern: no reports. Black-billed Cuckoo: no reports. Yellow-billed Cuckoo: 25 Oct (1) CHA (AMJ), lrs, late. Common Barn-Owl: 8 Aug (1) HRA (RJH); mid-Sep (1) JNC (Ken Ripley, TWRA). Common Nighthawk: 25 Sep (500) west KNC (Verna Dimmick), max; last reports (all rather late) — 25 Oct (1) JNC (RLK); 1 Nov (2) KNC (ARH, RDH); 2 Nov (1) CHA (KHD, LHD). Chimney Swift: 13 Oct (2) JNC (RLK), lrs. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: 24 Oct (1) White Pine, JEC (JAK), lrs. Redheaded Woodpecker: 26 Sep (1) LST (RLK, BC); 28 Oct (1) CIC (GWM); only reports.

Flycatcher— Vireo: Eastern Wood-Pewee: 11 Oct (1) AMM (CTOS), lrs. "Traill's" Flycatcher: 1-22 Sep (6 b) AUS (RLK), near average; 1-15 Sep (7 b) NOR (CPN), much higher than average. VERMILION FLYCATCH-ER: 26-28 Sep (1 imm male) AUS (RLK, BC, then m.ob.), second regional record, details to be published. Eastern Kingbird: 11 Aug (60+) AUS (RLK), max; 26 Sep (1) LST (RLK, BC), lrs. Tree Swallow: 19 Sep (about 200) Douglas Lake, JEC (JAK), max; 20 Oct (4) SAB (KHD, LHD), lrs. Northern Rough-winged Swallow: 27 Sep (1) AUS (RLK), Irs. Bank Swallow: 3-11 Sep (4-10) AUS (RLK), Cliff Swallow: 22 Sep (1) AUS (RLK), lrs. Barn Swallow: 18 Oct (2) SAB (KHD), lrs. Red-breasted Nuthatch: 18 Sep - 11 Oct (1) Harrison, HLC (Elena Killian), only CHA area report; 4 Oct (1) CIC (GWM), earliest of the very few KNX area reports; no reports from JNC area. House Wren: 14 Nov (1) CHA (AMJ), Irs. Sedge Wren: 20 Aug (1) SAB (LHD): 9 Nov AMM (JTP). Marsh Wren: 23-30 Sep (1-2) AUS (RLK); 9 Nov (1) AMM (JTP). Golden-crowned Kinglet: 12 Oct (5) BOL (RLK), ers. Swainson's Thrush: 22 b at NOR was "lowest number ever" (CPN). Water Pipit: 17 Oct (6) HRA (AMJ), ers. Loggerhead Shrike: 19 Sep (1) HWC airport (FJA); 29 Nov (1/1) BOL/Maryville, Blount Co. (RLK/JAK); only reports. White-eved Vireo: 18 Oct (1 recaptured b) NOR (CPN), lrs. Solitary Vireo: 1 Nov (1) JNB (JB), Irs. Yellow-throated Vireo: 29 Oct (1) CIC (GWM), Irs, late. Warbling Vireo: 4 Sep (1 b) AUS (RLK), only report. Philadelphia Vireo: 13 Sep (3 b) NOR (CPN), "all in same row of nets at same time." Red-eyed Vireo: 1 Sep (ad vireo feeding imm cowbird) AUS (RLK), late breeding.

Warblers: Blue-winged Warbler: 6 Oct (1 b) NOR (CPN), lrs, late. Orangecrowned Warbler: 3 Oct (1 b) AUS (RLK). Yellow Warbler: 1 Sep (1 b) AUS (RLK), lrs. Yellow-rumped Warbler: 1 Oct (1 b) AUS (RLK), ers. Blackthroated Green Warbler: 20 Oct (1 b) NOR (CPN), lrs. Prairie Warbler: 27 Sep (1 b) AUS (RLK), lrs. Palm Warbler: 14 Sep - 25 Oct (16 b, low) AUS (RLK). Bay-breasted Warbler: 12 Oct (1/1 b) BOL/NOR (RLK/CPN), lrs. Ovenbird: 19 Sep - 2 Oct (7 b, well above average) AUS (RLK). Northern Waterthrush: 6 Sep - 2 Oct (14 b, more than twice average) AUS (RLK); 18 Oct (1) AUS (RLK), Irs. Mourning Warbler: 14 Sep (1 b) AUS (RLK), Common Yellowthroat: 54 b at AUS, above average (RLK); 21 Oct (2) AUS (RLK), Irs. Hooded Warbler: 13 b at NOR, 50% above average (CPN). Wilson's Warbler: 3 Sep (1) Pickett State Park, Pickett Co. (SJS, BHS); 14-19 Sep (4 b) AUS (RLK). Canada Warbler: 27 Sep (2) KNC (KTOS), lrs. Yellow-breasted Chat: 18 Oct (1 b) NOR (CPN), lrs.

Grosbeak — Grosbeak: Rose-breasted Grosbeak: 12 Oct (1) BOL (RLK), lrs. Blue Grosbeak: 11 Oct (1) KNC (ARH), lrs. Indigo Bunting: 3 Sep (ad feeding fledglings) NOR (CPN), late breeding; 41 b at NOR, second highest ever (CPN), Vesper Sparrow: 15-21 Oct (1) AUS (RLK), Savannah Sparrow: 13 Sep (4) KSP (SJS, BHS, ARH, RDH), ers. Fox Sparrow: 24 Oct (1 b) NOR (CPN), ers. Song Sparrow: 7 Oct (1 recaptured — originally banded 3 Sep 1980 as adult, at least 8 years old) AUS (RLK). Lincoln's Sparrow: 23 Sep - 18 Oct (4 b, low) AUS (RLK); 26 Sep - 20 Oct (4 b) NOR (CPN). Swamp Sparrow: 26 Sep (1) AUS (RLK), ers. White-throated Sparrow: 27 Sep (1 b) AUS (RLK), ers. White-crowned Sparrow: 19 Oct (1 b) AUS (RLK), ers, late. Dark-eyed Junco: 27 Sep (2) KNC (KTOS), ers, early, LAPLAND LONGSPUR: 24 Oct (1) AUS (RLK et al.). Bobolink: 29 Aug (1) KSP (m.ob.), ers; a few small flocks reported; 8 Oct (1) KSP (FB, SB), lrs. Rusty Blackbird; 17 Oct (3) HRA (AMJ), ers. Orioles: 11 Aug (4+ Orchards, 5+ Northerns) AUS (RLK). Northern Oriole: 29 Aug (1 b, only second ever) NOR (CPN). Purple Finch: 24 Oct (2) NOR (CPN), ers; widespread in low numbers at EOP. Pine Siskin: 18 Oct (5) NOR (CPN), ers; 19 Oct (18/1) CIC/AUS (GWM/RLK); small flocks widespread over northern half of region by EOP; no reports from CHA. Evening Grosbeak: no reports.

Corrigenda: Migrant 58:27, 1987: The Black Scoter reported as the 12th state record was actually the 13th state record, since another was seen earlier the same day in the Highland Rim and Basin Region (p. 23). Migrant 58:62, 1987: JAR — Jo Anne Routledge was omitted from the list of observers.

Locations: AMM - Amnicola Marsh, Hamilton Co.; AUS - Austin Springs, Washington Co.; BOL - Boone Lake, Sullivan & Washington Cos.; CHA - Chattanooga: CHL - Chickamauga Lake, primarily Hamilton Co.; CIC — Claiborne Co.; HLC — Hamilton Co.; HRA — Hiwassee River Area, primarily Meigs Co., but also Bradley, McMinn & Rhea Cos.; HWC — Hawkins Co.; JEC — Jefferson Co.; JNB — Jonesborough, Washington Co.; JNC — Johnson City; KNC — Knox Co.; KNX — Knoxville: KSP - Kingston Steam Plant, Roane Co.; LST - Limestone, Washington Co.; NIL - Nickajack Lake, Marion Co.; NOR - Norris, Anderson Co.; RAB — Rankin Bottoms, Cocke Co.; SAB — Savannah Bay, Hamilton Co.; SQC — Sequatchie Co.; TEL — Tellico Lake, Monroe Co. RICHARD L. KNIGHT, 804 North Hills Drive, Johnson City, TN 37604.

EASTERN MOUNTAIN REGION - All 4 months had above average temperatures, with very few cool spells. At Elizabethton, the first killing frost was in the first week of October, about normal, Cool temperatures did not arrive until early November. Precipitation for the 4 month period was about 4 inches below average, with 1 and 0.9 inches of rain in August and October, respectively.

Several unusual sightings were reported from throughout the area. The bluebird population in the northern part of the region remained low. On the other hand, there were good numbers of migrating Gray-cheeked and Swainson's Thrushes, Northern Waterthrushes, and American Redstarts.

Loon — Falcon: Common Loon: no reports received. Pied-billed Grebe: 2 Sep (1) Watauga River, Carter Co. (HHF), ers. Great Blue Heron: 2-5 in ELI area from mid-Sep to EOP (LHTOS). Great Egret: 14 Aug (1) RNC (RLK). CATTLE EGRET: 5 Sep (2) SMB (GDE). Green-backed Heron: 9 Oct (1) Hunter Swamp, ELI (HHF), Irs. Yellow-crowned Night-Heron: 29 Sep (1) ELI (GDE), Irs. Canada Goose: 1 Aug - 20 Sep (50-55), then 22 Sep to EOP (125-140) RZF (LHTOS). Blue-winged Teal: 21 Sep - 6 Oct in ELI area, poor migration (fide GDE). Gadwall: 13 Nov (2) WIL (GDE), only report. Greater Scaup: 1 Nov (1) WIL (GDE), only report. Common Goldeneye: 16 Nov (1) WIL (CFW). Bufflehead: 1 Nov (7) WIL (GDE), ers, late. Hooded Merganser: 23 Nov (4) Ripshin Lake, Carter Co. (CFW), ers. Osprey: 12 Sep - 16 Oct in ELI area (LHTOS). BALD EAGLE: 29 Nov (1 imm) Cove Ridge (GDE). Northern Harrier: 26 Sep (1) RNM (FJA); 26 Sep (1) HOM (GOW, CFW, HL); 19 Oct (1) UNM (FJA); 22 Nov (1) ELI (HHF). NORTHERN GOSHAWK: 9 Nov (1) RNM (FJA); 15 Nov (1) RIM (GDE); 22 Nov (1) RNM (RLK). Redshouldered Hawk: 26 Sep (1) HOM (GOW, CFW, HL). Broad-winged Hawk: 20 Sep (316) LKR (ARH, RDH). PEREGRINE FALCON: 22 Aug (1) RNM (Brenda Hull): 3 Oct (1) LKR (ARH, RDH): 19 Oct (1) UNM (FJA).

Rail — Swallow: Virginia Rail: 22 Nov (1) TLR (KTOS). Sandhill Crane: 22 Nov (3) TLR (KTOS). Least Sandpiper: 4 Oct (4) SMV (HL), Irs. Pectoral Sandpiper: 20 Aug (1) St. Johns, Carter Co. (GDE); 26 Sep (4) RNC (GDE, HHF). Ring-billed Gull: 11 Nov (35) ELI (GOW), ers. Yellow-billed Cuckoo: 29 Sep (1) SMV (HL), Irs. Great Horned Owl: reported from 6 locations in ELI area (LHTOS). Barred Owl: 7 Aug (1) HOM (GOW); 26 Sep (1) RIM (FJA). Common Nighthawk: 13 Oct (2) ELI (HHF), Irs. Whip-poor-will: 26 Sep (2) WIL (GOW, CFW, HL), Irs, late. Chimney Swift: 17 Oct (50) ELI (FJA), Irs. Red-headed Woodpecker: 26 Sep - EOP (1-2) ELI (LHTOS); 3 Oct (7) LKR (ARH, RDH). Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: 26 Sep (3) ELI (GDE, HHF), ers. Least Flycatcher: 26 Sep (2) RNM (FJA), Irs. Olive-sided Flycatcher: 12 Sep (1) RNSP (LHTOS); 26 Sep (1) Cove Ridge (GDE, HHF, EHS). Purple Martin: 6 Aug (3) ELI (fide GDE), Irs. Cliff Swallow: 5 Sep (25) RZF (GDE), Irs. Barn Swallow: 2 Oct (2) ELI (HHF), Irs.

Nuthatch — Warbler: Red-breasted Nuthatch: 17 Sep (2) RNM (GOW), ers, then numerous in spruce-fir forest. Gray-cheeked Thrush: 19 Oct (1) ELI (HHF), Irs. Swainson's Thrush: 10 Sep - 24 Oct (numerous) ELI area (LHTOS). Hermit Thrush: 2 Nov (1) ELI (HHF), ers. Water Pipit: 22 Nov (1) RNM (RLK), only report. Solitary Vireo: 31 Oct (1) Milligan College, Carter Co. (FJA), Irs. Philadelphia Vireo: 10 Sep (2) RNC (GDE, HL); 26 Sep (1) RIM (FJA). Blue-winged Warbler: 20 Sep (1) SMV (HL). Tennessee Warbler: 19 Oct (2) ELI (HHF), Irs. ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER: 8 Nov (1) ELI (GDE). Yellow-rumped Warbler: 26 Sep (2) RNC (GDE, HHF), ers. Pine Warbler: 2 Oct (1) WIL (Sally Goodin, Martha Dillenbeck), Irs. Palm Warbler: 24 Oct (1) RZF (CFW), Irs. Blackpoll: 26 Sep (1) RIM (FJA). Cerulean Warbler: 26 Sep (2) SMV (GOW, CFW, HL). American Redstart: 17 Oct (2) ELI (HHF), Irs. Worm-eating Warbler: 20 Sep (1) SMV (HL), only report. Common Yellowthroat: 21 Oct (1) RZF (CFW), Irs. Wilson's Warbler: 26 Sep (1) RIL (FJA).

Tanager — Grosbeak: Summer Tanager: 28 Sep (1) SMV (HL), Irs. Scarlet Tanager: 10 Oct (1) SMV (HL), Irs. Grasshopper Sparrow: 26 Sep (1) RZF (GOW, CFW, HL), Irs. Fox Sparrow: 21 Nov (1) ELI (HHF), ers. White-throated Sparrow: 26 Sep (2) ELI (Lynn Miller), ers. White-crowned Sparrow: 13 Oct (1) SMV (HL), ers. SNOW BUNTING: 7 Nov (1) Unicoi Mtn. (EHS). Bobolink: 26-27 Sep (36) SMV (GOW, HL). Northern Oriole: 12 Sep (1) RMSP (GDE, GOW), Irs. Purple Finch: 26 Oct (2) GSMNP, Blount Co. (CPN), ers. Red Crossbill: 24 Oct (2) RNM (FJA); 4 Nov (25) GSMNP (Terry J. Witt); 22 Nov (2) RNM (RLK). Pine Siskin: 15 Oct (2) ELI (HHF), ers; many flocks of 150-200 reported later in season (fide GDE). Evening Grosbeak: 25 Aug (1 female at feeder) Bristol (Brenda Hull), very unusual date; 4 Nov (6) GSMNP (Terry Witt), first normal winter arrivals.

Locations: ELI — Elizabethton; GSMNP — Great Smoky Mountains National Park; HOM — Holston Mountain; LKR — Look Rock, Blount Co.; RNC — Roans Creek, Johnson Co.; RNM — Roan Mountain; RMSP — Roan Mountain State Park, Carter Co.; RZF — Razor Farm, Carter Co.; SMV — Siam Valley, ELI; TLR — Tellico Refuge, Monroe Co.; WIL — Wilbur Lake, Carter Co.;

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## CONTENTS

THE OFFICIAL LIST OF TENNESSEE BIRDS: ADDENDUM I.  Charles P. Nicholson and Stephen J. Stedman	1
BOOK REVIEW. Charles P. Nicholson	4
THE 1987 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT.  Damien J. Simbeck	5
THE WINTER ROADSIDE RAPTOR SURVEY IN TENNESSEE: 1986-1987 RESULTS. Stephen J. Stedman	14
MINUTES OF THE 1987 FALL MEETING AND SYMPOSIUM.  John C. Robinson	22
ROUND TABLE NOTES.	
First Record of Snowy Owl in Stewart County, Tennessee.  John C. Robinson	28
Cattle Egrets Nest in Sumner County.  Stephen J. Stedman	29
THE SEASON. Fall Migration: 1 August — 30 November 1987.	
Western Coastal Plain Region. Martha G. Waldron	31
Highland Rim and Basin Region. Stephen J. Stedman	33
Eastern Ridge and Valley Region. Richard L. Knight	38
Eastern Mountain Region. Glen D. Eller	12
Observers	44