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GREAT WHITE HERON IN DEKALB AND PUTNAM COUNTIES, TENNESSEE

STEPHEN J. STEDMAN

Department of English, Box 5053

Tennessee Tech University

Cookeville, TN 38505

and

CAROL D. WILLIAMS

3909 Cookeville Highway

Smithville, TN 37166

During the Putnam County Fall Bird Count 21 September 2002, Carol D. Williams found a large white heron at the Happy Hollow Boat Ramp on the Caney Fork River at the boundary of DeKalb and Putnam Counties, Tennessee. While visiting this site 27 September 2002, Stephen J. Stedman found the same heron, which he photographed (Figure 1) and identified as a Great White Heron (Ardea herodias occidentalis), a subspecies of Great Blue Heron (A. herodias) largely restricted to peninsular Florida but known for vagrancy (Knight et al. 1992). Characteristics that led to the initial identification of this heron included its light-colored tarsi; massive mandibles with a dark culmen but without a black tip as in most Great Egrets (Ardea alba); and overall large size. Other characters and behaviors confirming the identification are noted below. This heron remained at the boat ramp until at least 11 November 2002, presumably remaining faithful to the site in part because it is a regular release point for captive-bred trout raised at the National Fish Hatchery in Celina, Clay County, Tennessee (T.M. Campbell, pers. com.).

The Great White Heron was seen by many observers during its seven-week stay. Stedman made about 20 visits to the site during this period and observed various behaviors, including an aggressive posture noted 22 October and 3 November 2002 that matched the aggressive posture of nearby "normal" Great Blue Herons. On 4 October 2002 the bird produced vocalizations matching those of Great Blue Heron (T. M. Campbell, pers. com.); Stedman also heard similar-sounding vocalizations 22 and 27 October 2002. On 9 October 2002 short occipital plumes



Figure 1: A "Great White Heron" photographed 27 September 2002 at the Happy Hollow Boat Ramp, Caney Fork River, DeKalb and Putnam Counties, Tennessee. Photo S. J. Stedman.



Figure 2: The same "Great White Heron" photographed at the same site 1 November 2002; note the short occipital plume. Photo S. J. Stedman.

(Figure 2) were observed on the bird by Stedman and R. M. Denton; wispy plumes on the heron's neck were also evident, indicating that it was changing to alternate plumage long before most locally breeding "normal" Great Blues begin to display these nuptial characteristics. The onset of the acquisition of alternate plumage prior to the time when locally breeding Great Blue Herons begin the same change in plumage possibly indicates that the site of origin of this particular bird was south of Tennessee.

The closest location of a Great White Heron sighting to the one noted above involved a juvenile or immature observed and photographed 21-25 July 2000 in Pulaski County, Kentucky (R. M. Denton, pers. com.), about 150 km northeast of the Happy Hollow Boat Ramp; this sighting represented the first of this subspecies in Kentucky (Palmer-Ball 2003). In Tennessee a Great White Heron was observed in Upper East Tennessee 15-19 October 1990 on both sides of South Holston Lake, which forms the border between Sullivan County, Tennessee, and Washington County, Virginia (Knight et al. 1992); the first of this subspecies to be sighted in Tennessee, it was located about 300 km east of the Happy Hollow Boat Ramp. A Great White Heron was observed at the same site during several succeeding years, including 1991, 1994, and 7-29 August 2002, just a month before the sighting described above (R. L. Knight, pers. com.).

The sighting of Great White Herons at two widely separated sites in Tennessee during fall 2002 indicates that this subspecies may occur more regularly in the state than previously believed, although the origin of the birds remains enigmatic.

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CAPTURE RECORDS OF NORTHERN SAW-WHET OWLS IN BLOUNT COUNTY

Daniel H. Kim and James J. Giocomo Department of Forestry, Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN 37996

Small nocturnal birds are difficult to study due to their size and secretive nature. Even basic information such as presence/absence may be missed unless active monitoring programs are employed. Encouraged from recent sighting and capture records of Northern Saw-whet Owls (*Aegolius acadicus*) from Kentucky and Tennessee (Monroe 2000, Stedman 2001) we set up an owl banding station using mist nets with an audio lure (Whalen and Watts 1999) south of Maryville, Tennessee in the fall of 2002. Our goal was to document the presence and abundance of non-breeding Northern Saw-whet Owls and to investigate the potential cost/benefit of establishing a long-term banding program to add to the eastern United States Northern Saw-whet Owl banding network (Project Owlnet).

We ran the station intermittently in the evening from dusk until 0100–0300 EST for a total of 45 hrs between 27 October and 30 November 2002 and 40 hrs between 16 March and 30 March 2003. During October we broadcast Eastern Screech Owl (Megascops asio) calls (both the whinny and bounce) to verify our station set up would work, while during November and in the spring we used a Northern Saw-whet Owl advertisement (or toot) call. Both calls were recorded from Stokes Guide to Bird Song: Eastern Region (Elliot et al. 1997) and broadcast using a Johnny Stewart 512 Game Caller at maximum volume.

We caught two female Northern Saw-whet Owls, the first 22 November 2002 and the second 16 March 2003 (Figure 1). Age was determined by molt limit (Pyle 1999) while sex was determined by a combination of mass and wing chord (David Brinker, pers. com.). Owl 1 was after-hatch-year (AHY), with a wing-chord of 143 mm and mass of 78 g while Owl 2 was second-year (SY) with a wing-chord of 139 mm and a mass of 90 g. Both owls were banded with a USFWS numbered aluminum leg band and released at the site of capture within 25 minutes of extrication from the net.

The presence of Northern Saw-whet Owls has been confirmed during the breeding season in Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Sevier County, Tennessee and Swain County, North Carolina (Stupka 1946) and breeding has been verified in northeastern Tennessee, Claiborne and Unicoi counties (McKinney and Owen 1989, Mayfield and Alsop 1992). Recent records Northern Saw-whet Owls in Tennessee during the non-breeding season include reports by Stedman (2001) in Pickett and Scott Counties and Mann (2002) in Davidson County. Since 1950, Christmas bird count records report four individual owls in the state of Tennessee at the following count circles: Nickajack Lake — Hamilton and Marion counties in 1985;

Hiwassee — Meigs and Rhea counties in 1995; Bristol — Süllivan County in 1999; and Cade's Cove — Blount County in 2000 (National Audubon Society 2002).

The presence of Northern Saw-whet Owls in Blount County is not surprising as they are well documented as both latitudinal and altitudinal migrants (Cannings 1993), and this species has been well documented in North Carolina (see Milling et al. 1997 for a review) as well as in the Cumberland Plateau of Tennessee and Kentucky (Stedman 2001). Northern Saw-whet Owl populations are irruptive, and autumns displaying greater than normal migration intensities (movements south) are characterized by large influxes of hatch-year birds (Cannings 1993, Whalen and Watts 2002). Robinson (1990) considered Northern Saw-whet Owl a rare migrant and winter resident in Tennessee. Since Northern Saw-whet Owls are no-madic (Marks and Doremus 2000) and irruptive (Whalen and Watts 2002), during cold or snowy winters, this small, shy owl may migrate through, and winter in, Tennessee in greater numbers than previously thought.



Figure 1. Female Northern Saw-whet Owl captured in Blount County, Tennessee. (Photograph by D. Kim 16 April 2003)

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JUNE

We thank Steve Stedman, Chris Welsh and an anonymous reviewer for helpful comments on an earlier version of this article. J Fiedler, A. Keller and others spent several owl-less nights with us. This work was done under USFWS Banding permit number 22585.

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[Editor's Note: The authors had captured and banded more than 20 individual saw-whet owls by the end of December 2003.]

THE 25TH ANNUAL MIDWINTER BALD EAGLE SURVEY

TROY ETTEL¹ Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency P.O. Box 40747 Nashville, TN 37204

Personnel from five state and federal agencies along with volunteers from the Tennessee Ornithological Society participated in the 25th Annual Midwinter Bald Eagle Survey during January 1–15, 2003. The survey is a nationwide count of wintering Bald Eagle populations coordinated annually by the Unites States Geological Survey's Biological Resources Division. Tennessee has participated in the annual survey since the inaugural count held in 1979. Participating agencies included the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Tennessee Valley Authority.

A total of 315 Bald Eagles and two Golden Eagles were counted statewide (Table 1). This included 200 adult Bald Eagles, 114 immature birds, and one of unknown age. The two Golden Eagles were of unknown age and were recorded from Chickamauga Reservoir.

Table 1. Regional breakdown of eagle sightings during the 25th annual midwinter Bald Eagle survey, 1-15 January 2003.

	E	Bald Eagl	e	Golden Eagle
Region	Adult	Imm.	Total	Total
East Tennessee	41	16	57	2 1
Middle Tennessee	43	14	58 ²	=
West Tennessee	116	84	200	-
Statewide	200	114	315	2

Imm. = Immature

Areas with high counts of Bald Eagles for 2003 included Tennessee National Wildlife Refuge (75), Reelfoot Lake (49), Land Between the Lakes (33, Tennessee portion only), and Dale Hollow (29). Although the count of Bald Eagles was much higher in 2003 (315) than in the previous year (292), it falls well within the 25-year range. The record low and high counts occurred in Tennessee in 1984 (184) and 1995 (463), respectively.

¹ Age of Golden Eagles was unknown.

² Total for Middle Tennessee includes one eagle of unknown age.

¹ Current address: 806 Hwy 202/206 N., Bridgewater, NJ 08807

THE 2002 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

Ron Hoff 282 Hackworth Lane Clinton, TN 37716

The 2002-2003 Christmas Bird Count season produced 155 species and 1,058,874 individuals (Table 1). 28 counts were conducted with the help of 462 participants who logged over 1449 party hours. This produced a rate of 730+ birds/party hour. The most exciting find was a Long-billed Murrelet on the Reelfoot count which, if accepted by the records committee, would be the first record for this species in Tennessee. Other notable finds for the season were Western Grebe, 2 species of swans, Long-tailed Duck, Lesser Black-backed Gull, Bewick's Wren, White-eyed and Blue-headed Vireos, Prairie and Black-and-white Warblers, Smith's Longspur, and Evening Grosbeak. Totals for Red-breasted Nuthatches, Purple Finches, and Pine Siskins were drastically reduced from last year's count. The weather was pretty normal for most of the counts, with the exception of the Cross Creeks count, which suffered heavy rains.

BRISTOL (36° 35' N, 82° 06' W) – 29 Dec. 2002; 0700-1800. Weather: clear with no precipitation; 25-55° F. Unusually high numbers were reported for Great Blue Heron, White-breasted Nuthatch, Carolina Wren, and Northern Mockingbird. A Merlin and a Rufous Hummingbird were exceptional finds, but also notable were a Black-crowned Night-Heron, a Ruffed Grouse, and a Barn Owl. Observers: Rob Biller, Allen Boynton, Ron Carrico, Wallace Coffey, Rack Cross, Bill Grigsby, Bert Hale, Loraine Hale, Ron Harrington, Katherine Higgins, Don Holt, Andy Jones, Richard Knight, Phillip Lewis, Richard Lewis (compiler: 407 V.I. Ranch Rd., Bristol, TN 37620; mountainbirds@email.com), Janice Martin, Larry McDaniel, and Jamie Scott.

BUFFALO RIVER (35° 18' N, 87° 28' W) – 27 Dec. 2002; 0630-1700. Weather: clear and cold in the morning turning partly cloudy in the afternoon with winds NW 0-5; 21-35° F. Healthy numbers were recorded for Northern Harrier, American Kestrel, Red-headed Woodpecker, and Loggerhead Shrike. Several sparrow totals were notable. Observers: Michael Beuerlein, Dana Dodd, Billy Engels, Chester McConnell, Dorothy McConnell, Jane Newell, Carole Owen, Donette Sellers, Damien Simbeck, Don Simbeck (compiler: 424 Riddle Ln., Loretto, TN 38469; dnks@lorettonet.net), Alex W. G. Williams, Morris Williams, and Buford Worn.

CADE'S COVE (35° 36' N, 83° 50' W) – 29 Dec. 2002; 0815-1745. Weather: mostly clear, with water partially frozen in the morning and 1" of snow above 3,000' on north slopes; 27-58° F. Black Vulture and Red Crossbill (130!) numbers represented new high totals for the count. Cooper's Hawk and Vesper Sparrow were new species to the count. Observers: Mark Armstrong, Lyn Bales, Tracey Everson, Paul

Hartigan, Audrey Hoff, Tom Howe, Susan Hoyle (compiler: P. O. Box 8421, Knoxville, TN 37996; hoyle@cs.utk.edu), Jim Human, Evan W. James, Kristine Johnson, Charlie Muise, Martha Rudolph, David Trently, and Chris Welsh.

CHATTANOOGA (35° 06' N, 85° 14' W) – 14 Dec. 2002; 0600-1800. Weather: cloudy to partly cloudy with no precipitation; 39-42° F. Unusually high numbers were recorded for Double-crested Cormorant, Red-breasted Merganser, Bald Eagle, Virginia Rail, Sandhill Crane, Bonaparte's Gull, and Fox Sparrow. Unusual species for the count were Greater Scaup, Virginia Rail, American Woodcock, Sedge Wren, and Orange-crowned Warbler. Observers: David Aborn, Tim Baker, Nelson Bennett, Ernie Brown, Kevin Calhoun (compiler: 934 Craven's Terrace, Lookout Mtn., TN 37409; kac@tennis.org), Janice Chadwell, Danny Gaddy, Bill Haley, Dennis Harris, John Henderson, Daniel Jacobson, Bonnie Johnson, Spicer Jonathon, Joel Keebler, Starr Klein, Mike McMahan, Judy Newsome, Johnny Parks, David Patterson, Tom Patton, Susan Schott, Anam Shahid, David Spicer, David Vogt, Jimmy Wilkerson, Dan Williams, Hayden Wilson, and Libby Wolfe.

CLARKSVILLE (36° 30' N, 87° 22' W) – 14 Dec. 2002; 0700-1630. Weather: clear, becoming partly cloudy and no precipitation; 35-48° F. Unusual species found were a Rough-legged Hawk, a Black-and-white Warbler, and a Pine Siskin. Observers: Suva Bastin, Alan Bottomlee, Jennifer Ellis, Randy Ellis, Elizabeth Fitch, Kevin Fitch, Elaine Foust, Deborah Hamilton (compiler: 290 Ardmoor Dr., Clarksville, TN 37043; ammonite@charter.net), Steve Hamilton, Bonnie Kruck, Leonard Kruck, Gloria Milliken, William Milliken, Daniel Moss, Anna Ragland, Martin Ragland, Joe Schiller, David Snyder, Logan Snyder, and Amy Wallace.

CLAY COUNTY (36° 30' N, 85° 22' W) – 18 Dec. 2002; 0415-0630. Weather: clear, becoming partly cloudy and no precipitation; 42-55° F. Spotted Sandpiper was an unusual find, as was American Woodcock. Observers: Terry Campbell (compiler: 1886 New Hope Rd., Celina, TN 38551; terry_campbell@fws.gov), Gary Casey, Roseanna Denton, Michael O'Rourke, Boyd Sharp. Ronnie Smith, Barbara Stedman, Stephen Stedman, and Winston Walden.

COOKEVILLE (36° 09' N, 85° 28' W) – 14 Dec. 2002; 0405-1645. Weather: cloudy with light drizzle in the morning, becoming partly cloudy with sleet in the afternoon; winds were NW 0-20 and temperatures were 30-39° F. This was the 40th Cookeville CBC. The species total of 79 tied for the second most in count history. One of the notable features of this count was the large numbers of migrating Sandhill Cranes. The cranes and 12 other species were recorded in record numbers for this count. The other 12 species were Black Vulture, Snow Goose, Gadwall, American Widgeon, Hooded Merganser, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Hairy Woodpecker, American Crow, Eastern Bluebird, Northern Mockingbird, and White-crowned Sparrow. Observers: Kris Bolin, Sharon Brines, Wally Brines, Terry Campbell, Daniel Combs, Darcie Cripps, Ann Davis, Ginger Ensor, Janie Finch, Ric Finch, Ken Gum, Louann Gum, Mike Hawkins, Steve Hayslette, Jane Herrin, Graham Kash, Nancy Layzer, Ken Morgan, Michael O'Rourke, John Owens, Dena Russell, Randy Russell, Richard Simmers, Barbara Stedman, Stephen Stedman

Table 1. Results of Tennessee Christmas Bird Counts for the 2002-2003 season.

Species	Bris	BRiv	Cade	Chat	Clark	Clay	Cook	CrCk	Eliz	Fay	Grne	GSM	Hk-Pr
Common Loon	17	-	-	62		17		-	1	-	-	-	74
Pied-billed Grebe	36	1	8	49	1	10	3	13	5		12	-	65
Horned Grebe	6	4	-	17	2	97	3	-	4	-	9		103
Eared Grebe	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Western Grebe	5	¥	2	-	4		-		-	(4)	-	4	9
Amer. White Pelican	1.4	*	÷	+	3	29-2	*	-		-	-		-
Dbl-crested Cormorant	2	1	:	28	2		20	*:	-	-	-		1
Great Blue Heron	32	18	2	111	19	16	14	87	11	10	9	1	96
Great Egret		99	*	-	-		~		+		+		14
Blk-crowned Night-Hero	n 1	-	-	-	¥		-	21	~	41	-	-	18
Black Vulture	136	26	39	149	93	56	191	14	-	35	103	(30)	165
Turkey Vulture	253	137	83	81	111	102	58	1	13	105	54	4	6
Greater White-frt.Goose			-					18	-	-	-	-	17
Snow Goose	176	-	-	1	34	-	3	2	1	= 1	~	\rightarrow	146
Canada Goose	752	155	37	722	187	24	460	2059	203	- 2	148	-21	487
Mute Swan	1,4	4	-	-	-	74.	-		3		ū	-	
Tundra Swan	-		-	2.0	2	12	2	1	-	- 2	1	20	-
Wood Duck	2.0	4	-	7	27	2	cw	4	-	7.0	2	6	2
Gadwall	6	-	-	187	-	10	28	763	CW	4	35	-	30
American Widgeon	19	4	-	-	-	-	4	332	1	+	7	-	1
American Black Duck	4	4	-	3	2	1	cw	402	2		12		54
Mallard	312	89	29	299	48	58	51	4350	246	7	71	28	345
Blue-winged Teal	1	*			1.0	-	1	*	*	70	3.00	: 41	-
Northern Shoveler	-	1	-	20		5	9	20	-	-	-		3
Northern Pintail			-	7	1		+	120	*	*	3		-
Amer. Green-wing.Teal	CW	3	-	40	1,2		2	58	2	ŷ.	18	30	1
Canvasback	-	4	3	+		-	1	-				-	
Ring-necked Duck	55	196	1-	25	175	5	13	301	45	*	17		9
Greater Scaup	1	-	-	2	32		~	-	3.4	2	-	-	
Lesser Scaup	9	177	0	34		1	÷	7	1	70	÷	-	78
Long-tailed Duck	12	3.5	1	2	12	-	120	5		-	1,0	-	-
Bufflehead	283		11	74	- 5	23	9	7.5	110	77.0	77	1.5	48
Common Goldeneye	1	-	1	43	146	4	-	*		+0	-	*	30
Hooded Merganser	208	2	្ន	11	-	13	83	12	3	*	- 2		4
Common Merganser	-	5	0	-	17	15	-	-	5	=	177	1.7	7
Red-breasted Merganser	-	÷	€	12	9	-	-	\$	Ţ	¥	1		2
Ruddy Duck	31		7	*	17	. 7	13	77		7.1	10		5
Duck sp.		88	14	5	24		90	+0		*			
Osprey	-	-	g.	<u></u>	-	2	-	-	- 5	-	1	-	-
Bald Eagle	1	177	35	17	17	3		1	3		-	*	1

HRim	Hiwa	Jack	Knox	Leb	My/Gry	Mem	Nash	Nick	Norr	Reel	Roan	Savh	ShVl	Warr	Totals
22	1	-			-		-	5	1	3	:	13			216
11	45	cw	63	7	5	19	2	234	13	69	-	180	-	9	848
5	2	-	8				-	1	-	15	-	13		1	274
	-		-	- 3	-		-			-		100	-		2
2	-	-	14		-	-	#	1	-	2		-	-	-	1
_	_	_		_	_	_	_			8	-		_		8
30	222		4	-	4	83	1	61	-	102		-			539
25	253	10	171	14	25	47	14	85	16	59		101	7	10	1263
-	76	-	1	-	-	1		2.42	(40)	**	-	(#)		-	2
2		-	cw	2	25	40	2		-	CW		-	-		19
20	108	21	45	42	49	-	102	299	27	19		20	4		1763
75	88	156	46	17	16	3	29	87	2	2	2	57	17	29	1629
-			.08	-	(2.5)	60	770	2.00	77.0	600	-	200		1	679
2	2	(4)	-	-	-	553	-	6	-	120		5	-	1	695
110	606	12	600	37	141	345	316	4	291	160	-	87	120	245	8308
-		~		*	*	1	-	140	1,41	-		14.5	14	8-83	1
20	12	125	1	23	21	2	-2	100	120		7.2	(2)	- 2	12	3
*	2	5	4	-	10	10		2	-	4		7		1	72
5	63	85	56	1	41	70	7	153	-	55	-	11	-	4	1610
-	4	65	-	-	7		9	8		64			-		525
12	199	5	2		6	cw	18	39	3	2	9		-	4	727
75	1854	3625	179	1	99	175	106	37	204	12309		72	52	55	24776
71		-	2.5	100	=		-	1.0	-			-	12	(+)	1
20	3	37	4	\$	<u> -</u> :	75	2		1	84	-	3	1	12	248
+	23	65	2	*	2	-	-	*	*	cw	*	7	- 3		227
2	17	40	1	4	43	1	2	1	11	6	- 2	-	100	CW	240
				7.	23	3	12	24	1	3		11	17	17.	78
-	152	201	91	-	100	226	5	61	89	229	. +	1	~	1	1609
3	*	1	1	-	2	10	-	94	-	2	-	5	100	-	119
7.7	10	cw	3	7.	79	665	8	48	12	1734	7.50	51	ਂ	1,70	2654
2		3	14	2	5	3			-	74	-	4		-	2
23	56	12%	5	100	4	cw	9	69	3.5	143	7	12	17		886
-		*	3+	-	*	1	-			4		8	-	-	91
55	81		109	_	92	7	Ç	26		6	1		- 2	16	726
4	-	20		-	\$	5	175		3	3	1	-			7
2	-	-	2	2	2	2	42	-	2	1	- 2	-	12	12	16
7	100		1	4	4	19	3.55	159	7	5050	1.0		1,1	1	5263
*	*	*	199	-	-	*	-		1	1,0		50	-	-	139
	/2	-	- 2	2	1	*	+			-	-		-	5.25	2
7.	26		1	$\underline{\boldsymbol{x}} = \boldsymbol{x}$		1	1	9	5	44	100	25			138

Species	Bris	BRiv	Cade	Chat	Clark	Clay	Cook	CrCk	Eliz	Fay	Grne	GSM	Hk-Pr
Northern Harrier	cw	18	1	-	3	3	1			6	5		7-2
Sharp-shinned Hawk	4	2	-	5	1	2	3	1	2	1	1	24	6
Cooper's Hawk	7	3	1	8	2	3	4		2	1	2	1	7
Accipiter sp.		(m)		-	5	-	30	- 2	-	-	-	14	-
Red-shouldered Hawk	1	7	4	12	11	6	12	4	-	7	-	1	4
Red-tailed Hawk	20	43	4	43	26	25	23	10	11	42	17	6	14
Rough-legged Hawk	25			-	1	2	12			-	-	-	
American Kestrel	39	37	3	12	27	46	75	3	13	8	32	3	14
Merlin	1	-	G# 2	-			-	-		1.0	1	(4)	2
Peregrine Falcon	-	-	-	12		-	12	72	•	7	1		22
Ruffed Grouse	1	*	-			2		12	1	2	1-1		
Wild Turkey	E.	2	-	18	57	31	12	296	34		38	12	12
Northern Bobwhite	1.71	-	14.1	10	17	16	-		370		14	-	
Virginia Rail	(= :		-	5	5+3	-	-	-	97	-			-
Sora	18		3 7	2	7.2	3	-	3	*	3	50		7.0
American Coot	11		10	237	10	28	3	9				-	428
Sandhill Crane	721	-	120	352	100	-	357	1	1	-	1		-
Killdeer	5	135	30	14	15	135	152	77	1	225	126	15	29
Greater Yellowlegs		-	-	-	-	2	94	-	-	-	-	12	-
Spotted Sandpiper	12	2	527	7		1	3	-	17.		1.77		30
Least Sandpiper		-	-	1,2		_	4	-	-	2	14		
Wilson's Snipe	-	7	12.1	5	6	26	8	10	-	-	6	1	12
American Woodcock			-	1	. 10	2			-	-	74		10
Bonaparte's Gull	7		12	961	-	20	2	-	12	9	12	1	311
Ring-billed Gull	598	•		2528	2	369	cw	358	231		12		2010
Herring Gull	1		19	6	2	2.5	2	9	1	2	2	- 2	58
Lesser Blk-backed Gull		-	-	-	77.7			-		-		0.40	
Long-billed Murrelet		-	100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	546	(4)
Rock Dove	220	60	15	2120	185	121	197	1	172	57	131	65	334
Eurasian Collared-Dove			.5	54	(5.)	20	7	53	500	5	17	200	(*)
Mourning Dove	508	286	22	582	155	90	570	20	163	144	505	14	98
Barn Owl	1	-	-	=	-	-	1	-	-	1	2	*	-
Eastern Screech Owl	7	1	8	4	1-	8	9	2	2	-	2		-
Great Horned Owl	7	2	12	4	12	3	3	2	-	1	7	-	4
Barred Owl	-	7	3	-	17	2	3	*	5	1	3	-	3
Short-eared Owl		-	12	2	42	722	-	-		ē	2	-	
Owl sp.	30	100		7.	1,5		-	*	-	-		-	-
Rufous Hummingbird	1	-			-	(- -	2.5	2	2	2	1	-	12
Belted Kingfisher	11	15	4	21	21	13	10	2	12	8	10	4	22
Red-headed Woodpecke	-	25	=	8	2	3.67	4			4	2	1	1
Red-bellied Woodpecker	38	96	11	50	67	50	73	13	11	7.	46	10	8
Yellow-bellied Sapsucke	r 5	11	5	21	11	3	3	-	5	9	7	4	10
Downy Woodpecker	37	55	30	56	37	35	42	4	26	21	38	42	28
Hairy Woodpecker	8	8	8	4	11	7	23	3	cw	1	7	12	3
Northern Flicker	18	43	10	53	51	32	47	10	6	42	28	11	49

HRim	Hiw	a Jack	Knox	Leb	My/Gry	Mem	Nash	Nick	Norr	Reel	Roan	Savh	ShVI	Warr	Totals
5		9	2	2	5	8	1	1		30	-	32	1	-	133
	3	2	6	·	4	3	5	5	2	6	1	3	2	CW	70
1	5	5	12	3	2	2	7	2	2	2	1	6	6	4	101
			2	F-1	*	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	100	9
1	11	12	13	-	7	8	1	18	12	9	120	27	2	2	192
34	24	20	44	6	44	66	41	27	21	54	5	50	8	26	754
-		-	-				*	2	-	-	2.1	-	-	-	1
33	11	22	7	9	47	32	30	14	18	28	2	18	16	53	652
	2	٠ د	-				cw	2	1	-	2	1	- 2	-	8
-	77	cw	8	145	41		72	2	2	26	2	or.	20	140	4
	"	cw	8	145	41 14	2	5	2	2	36	-	85	38	6	1010
	- 7	cw			14			- 2	- 3	2	**	100		CW	82
	-	ŷ	- 0	-	1			2		1	-	ŝ	-	-	5 2
13	137	1	70	491		21	2	16001		18		775		14	18270
	12817	-	60		-		26	10001				3	1	14	13617
55	181	423	257	2	88	262	394	39	7	161	1	794	28	92	3743
-		-	1	-	-	-		-	- 0		ŝ		20	-	1
	~	2		-	2				1	8	8	9	-		1
	12			-	-	7		2	12	1	14	2	-	4	22
15	2	19	9	2	11	12		1	1	133	2.5	13	3		300
-	11	-			1		1	13	-	4	-	4	-	19	47
30	11	-	673	7	-	10	2.5	13	130	611	12	5		12	2789
138	822	7	2012	106	1	727	10	818	573	3859	17	628	-	-	15797
-	**	-		(+)	40	2	1 (2)	10	1	7	2	51		-2	137
-		-	-		3			-	-	-	- 5	1	*	-	1
7.										1	1+		-		1
24		441	721	17	156	682	517	123	144	75	7	238	2	124	6951
-	1	3	*		70	78	~	17	.77	8	=	2	*		146
62	210		348	52	175	807	278	143	389	346	105	311	317	88	6893
	- 1	-	- 2		1	77.7		- 15	, .J	- 5	8	5	- 5	- 7	6
1	1	2	3		4		1	10	2	1	1	1	2	1	71
2	7	2		-	6	1	5	1	3	8	-	6	*	*	72
2	1	1	2		2	2	1	2	1	13	27	2	*	97	48
4	- 2	=	-		4	7	-	72	=	1	2	6	*		7
	*	-	1		7.	7.	(.7)	-		7.		1	77.	-	1
6	39	7	49	1	13	19	22	28	1		8	22	-	-	4
	5	1	49	-	8	13	1	14	14	7 13	8	38	8	9	405 143
20	48	43	90	14	41	100	79	48	81	64		106	2	35	1244
3	13	5	28	2	5	26	18	21	36	17	*	16	- 2	35	1244 287
11	39	26	96	15	43	41	86	34	83	49	3	51	4	10	1042
3	11	3	10	1	9	12	13	3	19	2	4	12	3	2	202
19	97	35	63	6	19	88	50	50	69	161	2	143	2	25	1229

Species	Bris	BRiv	Cade	Chat	Clark	Clay	Cook	CrCk	Eliz	Fay	Grne	GSM	I Hk-Pr
Pileated Woodpecker	17	19	36	8	14	30	21	1	4	3	15	14	3
Eastern Phoebe	16	19	7	16	8	9	12	-	11	4	11	10	-
Loggerhead Shrike	2	16	1	1	2	1	2	1		2	2	-	~
White-eyed Vireo	-	-	-		-	-		-		-	-		
Blue-headed Vireo	-	-	~	-	¥	2	54	-	Q	*	-	-	4.0
Blue Jay	187	216	32	257	224	90	240	33	81	106	186	18	30
American Crow	676	455	164	630	268	392	5677	129	438	162	387	222	91
Fish Crow	-		- 7	-	-	-	-	-		-	-		-
Common Raven	3	+	6	-	- 5	+	-		5	-	- 5	5	140
Horned Lark	-	88		-	19	-		12	-	59	1	÷	- 4
Carolina Chickadee	158	118	162	200	194	131	128	21	119	32	105	182	90
Black-capped Chickadee		2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.0	-	-	50	-
Chickadee sp.		5	4		5		-		-			14	-
Tufted Titmouse	121	164	75	157	147	92	138	43	75	56	98	75	47
Red-breasted Nuthatch	-	-	29	÷	_	2	1	-	2	-	-	7	*
White-breasted Nuthatch	74	46	54	16	37	72	56	5	25	2	29	39	: * :
Brown-headed Nuthatch		-	21	12	ੂ	2	2	-		-	-	-	
Brown Creeper	7	5	4	10	3	4	cw		3	1	6	22	4
Carolina Wren	120	95	35	141	115	117	118	25	63	54	81	56	67
Bewick's Wren	-	2	-	- 2	5-	-	-	-	-	2	3		-
House Wren		-		1	2	*	-		1	-	-	+	
Winter Wren	6	1	7	20	2	10	3	-	2	1	2	8	43
Sedge Wren	100	7.	*	2	170	77.	-	37	7	17	7.		6
Marsh Wren	·	-	-	150	-	-	-		-	-	+	-	1
Golden-crowned Kinglet	82	6	54	37	17	30	19	2	30	17	15	105	43
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	3	1	9	47	-	4	-	1	4	12	6	1	15
Eastern Bluebird	175	438	58	155	215	209	494	39	97	149	257	25	54
Hermit Thrush	4	20	5	22	2	4	6	- 3	4	4	11	3	10
American Robin	81	315	5	476	28	20	258	30	66	144	951	143	255
Northern Mockingbird	160	156	9	178	179	57	136	15	48	56	112	11	76
Brown Thrasher	1	11	1.20	18	5	3	5	10		16	.2	2	4
and the seathful and the field of the seathful	2426	11775	74	2616	5330	918	20650	53	1044	725	4826	55	25839
American Pipit		30	*.		30	- 5	- 25			10	159	30	
Cedar Waxwing	19	3		157	-	9	50	-	62	106	12	-	
Orange-crowned Warble		17	-	2	- 5		17		3	ě	-		
Yellow-rumped Warbler	29	5	6	24	6	28	11		57	5	88	-	51
Pine Warbler	cw	€.		18	1	~	0.75	17	7.7	7	1	7.	: *:
Prairie Warbler	*	-		-	-	1.0		9	*	~	- 3		-
Palm Warbler	1	- 2		-	- 2	-				-	7	2	-
Black-and-white Warbler	Ħ.	1.0	**	7.	1	-	-		0.0	÷	7.7	5	1.50
Common Yellowthroat	2	2	,529	121	2	<u></u>	1	12		2	2	2	-
Eastern Towhee	35	115	11	91	51	47	50	18	12	37	48	2	30
American Tree Sparrow		~	3.4	*	-	- 2				+	*	*	
Chipping Sparrow	20	14	9	92	12	4	72		12237	2	43	2	1
Field Sparrow	48	614	29	214	45	135	97	6	58	38	84	12	63

HRim	Hiwa	Jack	Knox	Leb	My/Gry	Mem	Nash	Nick	Norr	Reel	Roan	Savh	ShV1	Warr	Totals
2	26	1	13	2	16	13	19	26	35	12	2	22	2	4	380
2	24	1	15	1	5	9	11	20	10	7	2	11	2	8	251
1	1	cw	-	1	6	5	-	4	-	18	-	1	*:	1	67
		-	· ·	-	10	2	2		72.	1	\$	-	-		1
	3		7	3	1.0	3	27	=;	100	÷	÷	1.75	7		3
144	301	140	317	75	47	137	237	302	272	63	9	317	20	130	4211
586	463	1648	3413	44	156	82	1008	296	475	54	58	670	1377	131	20152
9		6	-		-	1	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	7
-	+	-					-	~	16	12	12	12	4	-	35
*	3	327		*	75	194	39	×	50	1291	7:	1198			3278
45	174	68	450	31	105	86	430	131	260	86	63	194	102	27	3892
-			17			-	17.	**	-	25	*	100			50
2	-	-	-		-	14	~	-	-	-	-	-	-		18
39	170	53	355	72	84	94	277	109	229	69	17	175	37	38	3106
-	1		6		*	*	3		1		2	*	*		52
9	32	9	58	4	12	5	62	43	83	26	16	32	8	13	867
	26	~	2			90	3	1	*		-	3	-	-	46
2	5	3	18	1	2	8	4	14	4	9	1	12	2	-	152
22	109	42	251	18	62	154	279	71	164	70	22	136	15	43	2545
	*	*	-	1	(#1)	~		•	*			*	*	-	1
	3		3.	275	1	2	1	4	1	1	5	3	-	-	23
-	15	4	8	-	4	12	3	15	23	13	2	10	1.0	4	218
- 2	-	-	-	-	-	4		-	2	2	-	1	- 2	-	11
7			- 2	- 1				-	-	1		-		-	1010
4	43	58	55	5	9	59	46	39	82	51	24	25	51	2	1010
140	30	13	22		4	41	5	39	28	24	-	39		1	348
185	295	68	440	74	137	47	243	157	224	70	11	369	27	203	4915
1	21	1	9	1	2	7	8	19	15	12	- 4	17	2	1	211
61	206	232	822	25	94	490	3346	197	225	91	2	151	15	113	8842
106	84	51	263	24	82	125	221	64	107	26	2	101	13	85	2547
1	9	7	11		1	20	12	27	10	5		10		2	192
1450		32060	7305	1029	2100	907	4418	537	1520	19914	55	7621	175	32362	188729
-72	57	10	4		6	7	72	42	1100000	7	- 2	112	4	80	656
*	111		190	7.00	43	•	16	27	136	8	17.	10		1.0	959
-	141	-	-	-	-	3		1	-	*		-			6
·	27	13	175	1	15	46	10	32	106	23	-	70	1	5	834
-27	5	6	2	-	2	7	29	2	-	1	-	5	*	54	55
27.0	-			7.7			+	1			- 3	2	(2)		1
	4	*	6			1	300	1	13		3	7			42
-		-		2	-	•	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	-	-		-	*	1		- 7	-	2	-				4
12	80	23	138	7	17	28	80	.66	62	5	3	58	1,00	36	1162
							2	205		6			-		6
15	163	35	35	15	5	4	7	102	10	1	7	315	7	14	886
48	225	67	336	-	32	96	134	98	123	40	6	179	5	94	2926

Species	Bris	BRiv	Cade	Chat	Clark	Clay	Cook	CrCk	Eliz	Fay	Grne	GSM	Hk-Pr
Vesper Sparrow			2			-	-			2	2		20
Savannah Sparrow	1	309	-	14	14	3	4	6		51			6
LeConte's Sparrow	(9)	-	0.50	-	**	-	*	-	-	-			2
Fox Sparrow	2	10	1	24	3	5	8	1	3	2		-	18
Song Sparrow	211	489	151	295	74	144	201	13	192	102		54	114
Lincoln's Sparrow	-	20	1.2		12	-	12	5	2	5		-	121
Swamp Sparrow	8	294	21	67	(2)	13	33	1	5	37	14	13	44
White-throated Sparrow	231	749	20	421	159	177	194	153	278	416	330	54	153
White-crowned Sparrow	89	85	-	3	29	21	18	9	25	2	42		35
Dark-eyed Junco	132	693	110	27	280	154	256	195	207	401	50	108	83
Lapland Longspur	-	-	-		-	-	- 2	2	12	2			4
Smith's Longspur				-			-	-		-		1+3	-
Northern Cardinal	237	545	43	312	551	225	323	213	171	192	212	87	104
Red-winged Blackbird	- 54	775		505	650	17	4	158	6	495	80	-	137
Eastern Meadowlark	32	368	39	120	72	26	95	65	5	75	167	18	5
Western Meadowlark	1	12		-	12	-	2	-		-			-
Rusty Blackbird	1.0	4	2	58	2	1.0	3	50		52	45	-	-
Brewer's Blackbird	\times			+	-	100	-	2		2		-	-
Common Grackle	3	8384	-	301	427	90	22	3		295	1	-	56
Brown-headed Cowbird		107		10	4		11	1		46	3	-	*
Blackbird sp.	2	225	120	-	4206		1000			-	-	180	
Purple Finch						0.00				-	2	1+1	27
House Finch	195	20	14	76	44	10	154	2	66	26	220	16	23
Red Crossbill	-	-	130	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	4	171
Pine Siskin					1		+	27		-	100	·	26
American Goldfinch	131	159	40	129	83	71	172	12	73	83	146	37	45
House Sparrow	16	173	1	33	111	34	41	13	24	88	34	2	17
Total Individuals	9430	29530	1821	17208	14838	4930	33272	10687	4704	4909	10638	1743	32717
Total Species	83	76	60	97	71	82	79	65	66	65	83	54	86
Observers	18	13	14	28	20	9	20	8	13	8	13	23	12
Parties	6	7	8	11	7	5	7 to 9	5	5	4	6	10	4
	58.5	61	50.25	92.5	59	57.5	62	40	43	31	35.5	60.5	42.75
Hours by car	30	41	11,25	35.5		34.25	45.5	40	23	19	16.25	9	25
	28.5	20	39	55	26.25	20.5	16.5	7	- 20	12	19.25	51.5	17.75
Party Miles	461	392	150	444			417.25	235	323		265.75		284
Miles by car	446	375	108.8	398	326.5	393	407	235	316	329	257	82.5	270
Miles on foot	15	17	41.2	42	17	14.5	10.25	7,0	7	10	8.75	50	14
A.F	5.25	***	3.25	7	1	6.05	4	2	1	-	2.5	-	2.5
	33.5		23.9	9.5	1	59	34.5	2	5	-	21.5	20	14.5
Hours by boat or other	- 5	0.70	2	2	17	2.75	7	17.		17		100	100
Miles by boat or other	-		-	4	-	20	-		-		/-	~	-
Feeder Watchers	-			-	8	(2)	7	1	-	2.5	2		-
Feeder Hours	177	**	-	17	26.5	*	10.5	1	-	100	22	-	

Bris = Bristol, B.Riv = Buffalo River, Cade = Cades Cove, Chat = Chattanooga, Clark = Clarksville, Clay = Clay Co., Cook = Cookeville, CrCk = Cross Creeks NWR, Eliz = Elizabethton, Fay = Fayette, Grne = Greeneville, GSM = Great Smoky Mtn NP, Hk-Pr = Hickory-Priest, Hrim = Highland Rim, Hiwa = Hiwassee, Jack = Jackson, Knox = Knoxville, Leb = Lebanon, My/Gry = Mayfield-Gray, Mem = Memphis, Nash = Nashville, Nick = Nickajack L., Norr = Norris, Reel = Reelfoot L., Roan = Roan Mtn, Savh = Savannah, ShVl = Shady Valley-Mountain City, Warr = Warren Co.

HRim	Hiwa	Jack	Knox	Leb	My/Gry	Men	Nash	Nick	Non	Reel	Roan	Savh	ShV	I Warr	Totals
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2	154	76	109	9	17	45	54	57	4	85	1	1036	4	23	2217
38	452	125	822	48	96	667	670	496	346	273	34	715	43	81	8241
19	6	20	15	13	14	53	6	2	4	29	-	34	3		574
57	119	185	150	70	45	116	405	183	230	244	59	928	47	57	5591
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	24519	56527	23368	2940			20476	44798	8422	455074		27128	2849	285132	1058874
72	98	82	94	57	87	99	82	98	82	118	46	104	54	69	155
12	20	5	56	7	12	22	31	18	21	12	4	19	12	12	462
6	8	3	24-28	3	7	7	11	7	10	4	2	9	3	3	193
45	65		115.75	14.42	45		74.25	61.5	60	43.25	17	91.5	12	31.75	1449.52
44	26	16.6	38	13.42	32	17	40.25	20.75	24.75	36.75	7	41.25	6	27.75	754.02
1	34	12	76.75	1	13	34	34	40.75	35.25	6.5	10	50.25	6	4	684.75
175	327	219	578.1	67.7	528.5		385.5	288.3	296.3	386.5	108	444.9	170	32.75	8433
173	281.5	210	521.1	66.7	518	186	354	260.8	269	381	103	414.6	158	27.75	7868.25
2	20.5	9	53.5	1	10.5	25	31.5	27.5	27.25	5.5	5	30.3	12	5	512.25
1	3	0.5	3		4	1	4.5	6.25	2	2.5	0.5	2.25	4	0.25	67.3
4	23	6	10	-	3	5	25.5	81	2	15	3	18.2	6	40	404.1
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-	-	3	15.92	18.5	*		2.5	-	2		-			- 9	101.92

(compiler: 2675 Lakeland Dr., Cookeville, TN 38506; sstedman@tntech.edu), Winston Walden, and Carol Williams.

CROSS CREEKS N. W. R. (36° 28' N, 87° 45' W) – 19 Dec. 2002; 0630-1430. Weather: heavy rains in the morning, tapering off to light rains in the afternoon; 45-55° F. Heavy morning rains nearly wiped out this count, but the participants persevered and managed to find Greater White-fronted Goose, Snow Goose, an amazing 296 Wild Turkeys, and a Loggerhead Shrike. Observers: Gayle Boone, Joe Casey, Shirley Casey, Richard Groves, Wendell Halderson, Madge Lawrence, Bill North, Joyce North, and Sarah Welker (compiler: USFWS, Cross Creeks NWR, 643 Wildlife Road, Dover, TN 37058; sarah_welker@fws.gov).

ELIZABETHTON (36° 20' N, 82° 08' W) – 14 Dec. 2002; 0620-1700. Weather: overcast with occasional showers or flurries and 1" snow in the higher elevations; wind was from the west and gusting at 10-20 mph with temperatures 31-39° F. Notable finds included a Ruffed Grouse, a Herring Gull, Common Ravens, and Red-breasted Nuthatches. Observers: Wallace Coffey, Rack Cross, Gilbert Derouen, Don Holt, Reece Jamerson, Ralph Keffer, Rick Knight (compiler: 804 N. Hills Dr., Johnson City, TN 37604: RKnight@preferred.com), H. P. Langridge, Larry McDaniel, Joe McGuiness, Bryan Stevens, Allan Trently, and Gary Wallace.

FAYETTE (35° 06' N, 90° 35' W) – 29 Dec. 2002; 0700-1630. Weather: partly cloudy all day with no precipitation; 39-59° F. No species were reported in unusually high numbers and no unusual species were recorded. Six Northern Harriers and a Barn Owl were notable finds. Observers: Chas Askew, Carolyn Bullock, Dick Preston, Virginia Reynolds, Agnes Stark, Richard Whittington (compiler: 338 Williamsburg Lane, Memphis, TN 38117: RichWhit@RWAssociates.com), Linda Zempel, and John Zempel.

GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS N. P. (35° 43′ N, 83° 29′ W) – 21 Dec. 2002; 0700-1715. Weather: local fog in the morning turned partly cloudy in the afternoon with winds gusting 0-20 mph-there was 0-2″ snow in the higher elevations; 28-51° F. Species found in unusually high numbers were Wood Duck, Brown Thrasher, and Palm Warbler. Also of note were 4 Red Crossbills. Observers: Jean Alexander, JoAnne Benard, Ken Clarke, Marcia Davis, Tony Headrick, Harold Howell, Jay Howell, Susan Hoyle, David Johnson, Kristine Johnson, Tony King, Ed Manous, Alison McNutt, Bill McNutt, Dan Mooney, Laurie Mooney, Art Newman, Chuck Nicholson, Martha Rudolph, Boyd Sharp, David Trently (compiler: 1029 Morrow Dr., Knoxville, TN 37923; dtrently@utk.edu), Keith Watson, and June Welch.

GREENEVILLE (36° 10' N, 82° 51' W) – 26 Dec. 2002; 0600-2000. Weather: cloudy with light and variable winds; 20-40° F. Notable species recorded were Redbreasted Merganser, Peregrine Falcon, Merlin, Sandhill Crane, Rufous Hummingbird and 2 Purple Finches. Observers: Orland Britton, Phine Britton, Don Culton, Bruce Grimes, Don Holt, Jim Holt (compiler: 311 Colonial Ave., Greeneville, TN 37745; jholt@xtn.net), Clyde Kessler, Richard Knight, Alice Loftin, Don Miller, Eleanor Mosca, Richard Nevius, Willie Ruth Nevius, Linda Northrop, and Virginia Williams.

HICKORY-PRIEST (36° 12' N, 86° 40' W) - 1 Jan. 2003; Weather: cloudy all day

with no precipitation; 35-45° F. Species found in unusually high numbers were Common Loon, Black Vulture, American Woodcock, Winter Wren, and Sedge Wren. Unusual species recorded for this count were Eared Grebe and Marsh Wren. Also of note were 18 Black-crowned Night-Herons and a couple of Merlins. Observers: Gary Casey, Phillip Casteel, Richard Conners, Beth Creighton, Jerry Drewry, Joe Mclaughlin, Sarah Scott, Jan Shaw, Chris Sloan (compiler: 512 Old Hickory Blvd., Apt. 1203, Nashville, TN 37209; chris.sloan@comcast.net), Joe Stone, Sabin Thompson, and John Walton.

HIGHLAND RIM (35° 18' N, 85° 34' W) – 28 Dec. 2002; 0500-1430. Weather: clear to partly cloudy with winds S 5; 32-45° F. Notable finds came in the waterfowl department with records for Snow Goose, Greater Scaup, Long-tailed Duck (only sighting for the state), and Common Merganser. Observers: Dwane Adams, Joyce Adams, John J. Bruner (compiler: 2752 Old Salem Lexie Rd., Belvedere, TN 37306; jbruner@infoave.com), Lois Bruner, Don Davidson, John Lamb, Ruth Luckado, Elaine McKelvey, Nickey Medley, Polly Rooker, Dale Swant, and Elaine Weaver.

HIWASSEE (35° 22' N, 84° 54' W) – 1 Jan.2003; 0600-1800. Weather: local fog and light rain in the morning, turning partly cloudy in the afternoon; 50-55° F. Unusual species for this count were Eurasian Collared-Dove and Lincoln's Sparrow. Species found in unusually high numbers were Double-crested Cormorant, Merlin, Wild Turkey, Sandhill Crane (an amazing 12,817!), American Woodcock, House Wren, and Palm Warbler. Observers: Nelson Bennett, Harold Birch, Clyde Blum, Kevin Calhoon (compiler: 1185 Mountain Creek Rd., Apt. 715, Chattanooga, TN 37045; kac@tennis.org), Danny Gaddy, Bill Haley, John Henderson, Daniel Jacobson, Bill Johnson, Bonnie Johnson, Scott Manly, Judy Newsome, Johnny Parks, Robin Rudd, Cielo Sand, Keith Snyder, David Trently, Jimmy Wilkerson, Hayden Wilson, and Libby Wolfe.

JACKSON (35° 37' N, 88° 49' W) – 28 Dec. 2002; 0630-1730. Weather: clear all day with no precipitation; 35-47° F. Unusual species found were Greater Scaup, Fish Crow, Chipping Sparrow, Lapland Longspur, and Smith's Longspur. Observers: Bob Ford, Clay Gascoigne, Mark Greene (compiler: 2881 Central Ave., Humboldt, TN 38343; mgreene@devap.com), Rick Light, Don Manning, and Michael Todd.

KNOXVILLE (35° 55' N, 84° 05' W) – 4 Jan. 2003; 0500-1800. Weather: clear all day with no precipitation and winds SW 5 mph; 30-41° F. This was the third time this count tied the record for species (94). A large list of observers (56) helped set count record high numbers for Hooded Merganser, Cooper's Hawk, Sandhill Crane, Bonaparte's Gull, Downy Woodpecker, Eastern Phoebe, American Crow, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, House Wren, Eastern Bluebird, and Palm Warbler. Unusual species recorded were Tundra Swan, Greater Scaup (only recorded for the second time ever), Sandhill Crane, Greater Yellowlegs (new species for this count), Brown-headed Nuthatch (possible first Knox County record and new for this count), House Wren, and Lapland Longspur (new species for this count). The 3 new species on this count brings the all time total for the count to 154. The female Rufous Hummingbird was first banded in New Orleans in

1996 and has returned to the same house in west Knoxville for the past 5 years. It may be the oldest known individual of the species. Observers: Jean Alexander, Lyn Bales, Jane Beintema, Peg Beute, Frank Bills, Joseph Byrd, Ed Clebsch, Meredith Clebsch, Gail and Steve Clendenen, Marcia Davis, Cindy Day, Norm Day, Amber Edwards, K. Dean Edwards (compiler: 1615 Meadow Chase Lane, Knoxville, TN 37931; kde@utk.edu), Barbara Finney, Chris Foelli, Carole Gobert, Christopher Goggans, Paul Hartigan, Madeleine Hassil, Ron Hoff, Tom Howe, David Howell, Harold Howell, Susan Hoyle, Jim Human, Wesley James, Pennie Jennings, David Johnson, Kristine Johnson, Tony King, Ed Manous, Janet McKnight; Ben, Dan, and Laurie Mooney, Charlie Muise, Dollyann Myers, Charles P. Nicholson, Holly Overton, Margot and Vince Pantalone, Joseph Pyle, W. Kelly Roy, Martha Rudolph, Susan Schott, Boyd Sharp, Mary Jane Sharp, Jean Stierberger, Alice Torbett, Allan Trently, David Trently, June Welch, Chris Welsh, and Corwin Witt.

LEBANON (36° 25' N, 86° 36' W) – 4 Jan. 2003; 0700-1440. Weather: calm in the morning with winds 5-8 mph later on; 22-40° F. Notable finds for the count were 145 Wild Turkeys, the state's only Bewick's Wren, and 3 Purple Finches. Observers: Charles Berry, Earline Berry, Kay Brinkhurst, Ralph Brinkhurst, Frank Crawford, Polly Rooker, Melissa Turrentine (compiler: 339 Rippy Ridge Road, Normandy, TN 37360; roymel@cafes.net), Roy Turrentine, Grace Speck, Dean Walker, and Jerry Walker.

MAYFIELD-GRAY (formerly Columbia chapter) (35° 36' N, 87° 10' W) – 14 Dec. 2002; 0700-1730. Weather: partly cloudy with winds 5-15 mph N to NW; 32-45° F. Some interesting finds were Osprey, Sora, American Woodcock, Barn Owl, and 6 Loggerhead Shrikes. Observers: Bobby Brown, Janet Brown, Jennifer Cardenas, Robert Cardenas, Phyllis Coble, Tommy Edwards (compiler: 896 Iron Bridge Rd., Columbia, TN 38401; (tomandmissy@peoplepc.com), William Jernigan, Allyn Lay, Anne Lochridge, Bedford Lochridge, Cleo Mayfield, and George Mayfield.

MEMPHIS (35° 09' N, 89° 56' W) – 15 Dec. 2002; 0600-1645. Weather: clear in the morning with some clouds in the afternoon; 34-61° F. This was the 75th consecutive CBC, which has been conducted every year since the count was started by Ben Coffey in 1928. Greater White-fronted Goose, Snow Goose, Greater Scaup, Eurasian Collared-Dove, and Blue-headed Vireo were all found in unusually high numbers. Unusual species found were Great Egret, Greater White-fronted Goose, Greater Scaup, Palm Warbler, and Common Yellowthroat. Observers: David Blaylock, Carolyn Bullock, Fred Carney, Helen Dinkelspiel, Jim and Sue Ferguson, Anne Hooper, Bob Ilardi, Margaret Jefferson, Prudence Katze, Keith Kunkel, Jo Levy, Gerry Papachristou, George Payne, Jeanne Payne, Rob Peeples (compiler: 8205 Meadow Glen Dr., Germantown, TN 38138; wpeeples@midsouth.rr.com), Dick Preston, Ernest Restivo, Virginia Reynolds, Martha Waldron, Barbara Wilson, and Linda Zempel.

NASHVILLE (36° 03' N, 86° 56' W) – 14 Dec. 2002; 0400-1730. Weather: cloudy in the morning, becoming partly cloudy in the afternoon; 37-45° F. Species of interest found on count day were Sandhill Cranes, American Woodcock, lots of Carolina Chickadees, Red-breasted Nuthatches, and 13 Fox Sparrows. Observers:

Sandy Bivens, Bob Brown, Jack Brown, Jean Buchanan, Ed Byrne, Gary Casey, Phillip Casteel, Richard Conners, Camille Crenshaw, Jay Desgrosellier, Bob English, Pandy English, Troy Ettel, Francis Fekel, Tarcila Fox, John Froeshauer, Ed Gleaves, Barbara Harris, Susan Hollyday, Linda Kelly, Cass Kennedy, John Leader, Jason Mann, Kara Mann, Janeth McKendrick, Elizabeth O'Conner, Jan Shaw (compiler: 5019 Timberhill Dr., Nashville, TN 37211; JanKShaw@aol.com), Kathy Shaw, Dee Thompson, Rita Venable, and Melinda Welton.

NICKAJACK LAKE (35° 04' N, 85° 31' W) - 28 Dec. 2002; 0500-1800. Weather: clear and cold with still water frozen in the morning, becoming partly cloudy in the afternoon with winds 0-10 mph; 21-50° F. Unusually high numbers were recorded for Snow Goose, Greater Scaup (count record), American Woodcock (count record), and Chipping Sparrow (count record). Unusual species found were Western Grebe and Prairie Warbler (count first). American Black Duck numbers were the second highest total ever, but Gadwalls and Mallard were record count lows. Common Goldeneye was missed for the first time after averaging 29 during the first 13 years of the count and 4.2 over the last 5 years. The American Crow total was the second lowest ever: 296 compared with 17 year average of 761. European Starling tied last year's record low. Impressive totals recorded for Red-winged Blackbird and Common Grackle after 4 years of very low numbers. Record low numbers were recorded for both House Finch and American Goldfinch, Observers: Nelson Bennett, Harold Birch, Danny Gaddy, William Haley, John Henderson, Tanya Iles, Jerry Ingles, Daniel Jacobson, Johnny Parks (compiler: 164 McDonald Dr., Ringgold, Ga. 30736; Ringgold_birdchaser@juno.com), Rebecca Rudd, Robin Rudd, Deborah and Roi Shannon, Joe Stone, Carl Swafford, David Vogt, Jim Wilkerson, and Libby Wolfe.

NORRIS (36° 13' N, 84° 05' W) - 14 Dec. 2002; 0630-1630. Weather: cloudy with light rain and snow in the morning turning cloudy with light rain in the afternoon and winds of 5-15 mph; 33-40° F. A large participant turnout help record unusually high numbers for Pied-billed Grebe, Mallard, Ring-necked Duck, Bald Eagle, Bonaparte's Gull, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Downy Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Horned Lark, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, Palm Warbler, Northern Cardinal, Red-winged Blackbird, and Brown-headed Cowbird. Unusual species recorded were Canvasback, Merlin, Herring Gull, Rufous Hummingbird, Horned Lark, and House Wren. One hybrid Mallard / American Black Duck and one Audubon's Yellow-rumped Warbler were also seen. This was only the second time in count history that Purple Finch was not found. Observers: Jean Alexander, Ellen Bean, K. Dean Edwards, Tracey Everson, Grace Foster, Susan Hoyle, Dev Joslin, Tony King, Ed Manous, Dan Mooney, Laurie Mooney, Nell Moore, Charlie Muise, Autumn Nauman, Charles Nicholson (compiler: P.O. Box 402, Norris, TN 37828; cpnichol@bellsouth.net), Laurie Pearl, Martha Rudolph, Boyd Sharp, and David Trently.

REELFOOT LAKE (36° 25' N, 89° 23' W) – 14 Dec. 2002; 0600-1715. Weather: partly cloudy in the morning, clearing up in the afternoon with winds SE at 5-15; 31-45° F. The highlight of this count and probably the entire state was the first

state record (if accepted) of a Long-billed Murrelet. Other unusual sightings were American White Pelican, Greater Scaup, Common Merganser, Sora, Least Sandpiper, Short-eared Owl, White-eyed Vireo, House Wren, Sedge Wren, Marsh Wren, Pine Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, American Tree Sparrow, Chipping Sparrow, Vesper Sparrow, LeConte's Sparrow, Lapland Longspur, Western Meadowlark, and Brewer's Blackbird. The species total of 118 was one short of the all time count high in 1999. Notable misses on count day were Black-crowned Night-Heron, Northern Pintail, Redhead, Red-breasted Nuthatch, and Purple Finch. Observers: Jerry Drewry, Bob Foehring, Mark Greene (compiler: 2881 Central Ave., Humboldt, TN 38343; mgreene@devap.com), Joe Guinn, Ken Leggett, Don Manning, Nancy Moore, Chris Sloan, Joe Stone, Sabin Thompson, Michael Todd, and Jeff Wilson.

ROAN MOUNTAIN (36° 06' N, 82° 07' W) – 15 Dec. 2002; 0645-1815. Weather: clear with winds W at 0-15 mph and 2-4" of snow on the ground; 25-41° F. Nice finds were 2 Ruffed Grouse, 12 Common Ravens, and a Red Crossbill. Observers: Don Holt, Rick Knight (compiler: 804 N. Hills Dr., Johnson City, TN 37604; rknight@preferred.com), and Allan Trently.

SAVANNAH (35° 08' N, 88° 09' W) – 4 Jan. 2003; 0445-2115. Weather: clear skies and no precipitation but 0-20 mph winds; 22-48° F. Unusually high numbers were recorded for Pied-billed Grebe, Bald Eagle, Cooper's Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Wild Turkey, Northern Flicker, Horned Lark, House Wren, Northern Mockingbird, Palm Warbler, Chipping Sparrow, Savannah Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, Dark-eyed Junco, and Northern Cardinal. Unusual species found on the count were Greater Scaup, Sandhill Crane, Least Sandpiper, and Lesser Black-backed Gull. Six Short-eared Owls were also of note. Observers: Jared Caudle, Dwight Cooley, Jeff Garner, Scott Gravette, Mark Greene, Ken Hansgen, Jud Johnston, Don Manning, Francis Markine, Gary Markine, Johnny Parks, Jack Paul, Ned Piper, John Ross, Floyd Sherrod, Libby Sherrod, Damien Simbeck (compiler: 4905 County Rd. 33, Killen, Al. 35645; tnbarredowl@aol.com), Michael Todd, and Shirley Wayland.

SHADY VALLEY – MOUNTAIN CITY (36° 30' N, 81° 51' W) – 21 Dec. 2002; 0500-1700. Weather: clear and windy all day, with winds at 10-20 mph; 32-44° F. A lone Sandhill Crane was a great find for this count. Observers: Rob Biller (compiler: 1500 Bell Ridge Rd., Apt. 5, Johnson City, TN 37601; rbiller@aol.com), Ron Carrico, Wallace Coffey, Rack Cross, Glenn Eller, Bill Grigsby, Don Holt, Rick Knight, Howard Langridge, Richard Lewis, Larry McDaniel, and Christopher O'Bryan.

WARREN COUNTY (35° 40' N, 85° 46' W) – 28 Dec. 2002; 0615-1645. Weather: clear all day with no precipitation; 27-50° F. A Greater White-fronted Goose was an unusual find. Other sightings of interest were 53 American Kestrels, a Loggerhead Shrike, 4 Winter Wrens, and a couple of Rusty Blackbirds. Observers: J. P. Foster, Todd Foster, Trevor Foster, Edwin Gleaves, Ruth Henry, Clyde Malone (compiler: littlemalone@blomand.net), Crystal Malone, Max Medley, Michael O'Rourke, Stephen Stedman, Virginia Veach, and Winston Walden.

THE WINTER SEASON

RICHARD L. KNIGHT, Editor



1 DECEMBER 2002-28 FEBRUARY 2003

This winter was the coldest that the state had experienced in several years. All areas received at least two moderate snowfalls. Precipitation was above average for the season as a whole and was particularly heavy in February.

Three trends in birdlife were apparent statewide this season. First, waterfowl numbers, in general, were below average. However, a few rare or uncommon species provided exceptions to this trend. Second, the number of half-hardy species lingering well into the season seemed rather high given the colder temperatures. Good examples include Spotted Sandpipers in three regions and Ospreys in the two eastern regions. The third trend was the near total absence of boreal irruptives. Additionally, a few early spring migrants (i.e., Blue-winged Teal, Pectoral Sandpiper, and two swallow species) began arriving in February.

Among rarities, a Long-billed Murrelet reported on the Reelfoot Lake Christmas Bird Count was the most newsworthy. Other notables included Ash-throated Flycatcher and Northern Goshawk in West Tennessee, Allen's Hummingbird in Middle Tennessee, and Trumpeter Swan and "Audubon's" Warbler in the East.

This season marked the 25th anniversary of the national Midwinter Eagle Count. Tennesseans have participated each year since the inaugural count held in 1979. A total of 315 Bald Eagles were tallied statewide on this year's count, with a breakdown of 57 in East Tennessee, 58 in Middle Tennessee, and 200 in the West. Counts in the Volunteer State are dependent upon a dedicated group of individuals, which includes members from several chapters of the Tennessee Ornithological Society and personnel from several state and federal agencies including the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Tennessee Valley Authority. (My thanks to Troy Ettel for providing this information.)

Standard Abbreviations

ad - adult Is - Island CBC - Christmas Bird Count L - Lake

Co - County max - maximum count Cr - Creek m.ob. - many observers

ers - earliest reported sighting et al. - and others R - River fide - reported by SP - State Park

im - immature WMA - Wildlife Management Area

WESTERN COASTAL PLAIN REGION — A typical December was followed by a colder than average January and February (by about five degrees Fahrenheit). Rainfall amounts were normal in December and light in January, while February received twice its expected share of precipitation, including two moderate snowfalls. Despite the weather, a number of half-hardy species lingered into January, while a Great Egret endured the entire winter at Shelby Farms. Meanwhile, there were unusually few reports of winter irruptive species (i.e., Red-breasted Nuthatch, Purple Finch & Pine Siskin).

Outstanding rarities of the season included not only a Northern Goshawk from Lauderdale County, but also an Ash-throated Flycatcher from the EARTH Complex, which, if accepted by the TBRC, would be West Tennessee's first record and only the second for the state. Thayer's Gull, a species not yet official in Tennessee, was reported from Pickwick. The star find of this winter, however, was a Longbilled Murrelet seen by three observers at Reelfoot Lake on the day of the Christmas Bird Count there. Unfortunately, efforts to relocate the bird later were not successful. If accepted by the records committee, the murrelet would be not only a state first, but also one of few records for the southeastern United States.

Loon-Heron: Red-throated Loon: 23 Feb (1) Pickwick SP (JRW, Steve Dinsmore). Pacific Loon: 23 Feb (1) Hardin Co (JRW). Common Loon: 22 Feb (127) Pace Pt. (JRW), max. Horned Grebe: 22 Dec (852) Pace Pt. (JRW), max. Eared Grebe: 22 Dec (1) Britton Ford (JRW). American White Pelican: 11 Dec (100) Mud Is. (JRW, AW); 14 Dec (8) Reelfoot CBC; 18/19 Jan (12/200) Lauderdale Co (WGC, KCL/JRW); 26 Jan (1) Memphis (JRW). Great Egret: 9 Dec thru March (1) Shelby Farms (VBR, WRP, m.ob.). Black-crowned Night-Heron: 11 Dec (1 im) EARTH Complex (JRW, AW); 15 Dec (1) Black Bayou (JRW).

Waterfowl: Greater White-fronted Goose: 14 Dec (600) Reelfoot CBC, max. Ross's Goose: 7-8 Dec (1) Pace Pt. (JRW, MCT, Don Manning); 9 Dec/6 Feb (1) Shelby Farms (JRW/VBR); 21 Dec (1) Lauderdale Co (JRW). Canada Goose: "Cackling," race minima: 19 Feb thru period (3), "Richardson's," race hutchinsii: 20 Feb thru period (4), "Lesser," race parvipes: 20 Feb thru period (15), all Shelby Farms (WRP). Mute Swan: 15 Dec (1) Memphis CBC; 15-28 Jan (3) Dyersburg, Dyer Co (KCL).

Tundra Swan: 20 Dec (4) corner of Crockett, Haywood & Lauderdale Cos (JRW). Blue-winged Teal: 1 Feb (3) Black Bayou (NaM), ers. Canvasback: 22 Dec (458) Pace Pt. (JRW), max. Greater Scaup: 14 Dec (2) Reelfoot CBC; 15 Dec (10) EARTH Complex (WRP, VBR, Linda Zempel) thru end of period (JRW); 26 Dec (1) Carroll Co (MCT), Co. first; 28 Dec (1) Jackson CBC; 4 Jan (5) Savannah CBC. Surf Scoter: 22 Dec (8) Britton Ford (JRW). Black Scoter: 23 Feb (1) Hardin Co (JRW). Longtailed Duck: 8/22 Dec (1/2) Pace Pt. (JRW, MCT, Don Manning); 15-22 Dec (1-2) Reelfoot L (KCL, NaM, AW, m.ob.). Common Goldeneye: 22 Dec (738) Pace Pt. (JRW), max. Common Merganser: 14/21 Dec (3) Reelfoot L (MAG, JRW, BF); 25/26 Jan (1) Shelby Co (JRW, AW); 8 Feb (5) Britton Ford (MAG, JRW). Ruddy Duck: 14 Dec (5050) Reelfoot CBC, max.

Eagle-Crane: Bald Eagle: 15 & 28 Dec/11 Jan (2 ad, 1 im) Shelby Co (DDP, WRP, VH). NORTHERN GOSHAWK: 19 Jan (1 im) Ashport, Lauderdale Co (JRW). "Harlan's" Red-tailed Hawk: 26 Dec (1, light morph) EARTH Complex (JRW). Rough-legged Hawk: 18 Jan/15 Feb (1, dark morph) Lake Co (WGC, KCL). Golden Eagle: 22 Dec (1) Britton Ford (JRW); 15 Jan (2) Pace Pt. (MCT). Merlin: 4 Jan (1) Savannah CBC. Peregrine Falcon: 8 Jan (1) Lake Co (KCL); 28 Jan- 2 Feb (1) Mud Is. (AW, JRW). Sora: 14 Dec (1) Reelfoot CBC (MAG). Sandhill Crane: 4 Jan (3) Savannah CBC (MAG, Ken Hansgren); 17 Jan (8) Shelby Farms (VBR et al.); 19 Jan (3) Lauderdale Co (JRW); 25 Jan (75) Dyer Co (WGC).

Sandpiper-Owl: Spotted Sandpiper: 26/28 Jan (1/2) Mud Is. (JRW, AW). Least Sandpiper: 19 Jan (25) EARTH Complex (CHB, VBR, WRP); 8 Feb (20) Benton Co (MAG, JRW). Pectoral Sandpiper: 26 Feb (1) Shelby Farms (JRW), ers. Dunlin: 8 Feb (3) Benton Co (MAG, JRW). American Woodcock: 14 Dec (4) Reelfoot CBC; 4 Jan (4) Savannah CBC; 19 Feb (1) Shelby Farms (WRP et al.); 23 Feb (1) Fayette Co (Judy Dorsey). Laughing Gull: 17 Dec (1) Mud Is. (JRW). THAYER'S GULL: 25 Dec (1 im)/23 Feb (1-2 im) Pickwick SP (Steve Dinsmore, JRW), pending TBRC action. Lesser Black-backed Gull: 7 Dec (2 im) Pace Pt. (JRW); 25 Dec/4 Jan/23 Feb (1-3 im) Pickwick SP (JRW et al.); 8/22 Feb (3 im/1 ad, 2 im) Henry & Benton Cos (JRW, MAG et al.). Glaucous Gull: 23 Feb (1) Pickwick SP (JRW). LONG-BILLED MURRELET: 14 Dec (1) Reelfoot CBC (JRW, MAG, BF), first state record, pending TBRC action. Eurasian Collared-Dove: 15 Dec (78) Memphis CBC, new West Tenn. high count; 3 Feb (2) Gibson Co (MAG), Co first. Barn Owl: 29 Dec (1) Fayette Co CBC; 12 Feb thru period (1 ad & young) Gibson Co (MAG). Shorteared Owl: 14/28 Dec (1) Lake Co (JRW et al.); 4 Jan (6) Savannah CBC.

Flycatcher-Pipit: ASH-THROATED FLYCATCHER: 11 Dec (1) EARTH Complex (JRW), photo. White-eyed Vireo: 14 Dec (1) Reelfoot CBC (Jerry Drewry, Sabin Thompson, Joe Stone). Blue-headed Vireo: 15 Dec (3) Memphis CBC. Fish Crow: 15 Dec (1) Overton Park on Memphis CBC (Margaret Jefferson); 28 Dec (2) Shelby Forest (WRP) & (6) Madison Co (MAG). Purple Martin: 15 Feb (1) Lake Co (JRW), ers. Red-breasted Nuthatch: 7 Dec (1) Millington, Shelby Co (VH); 28 Dec (1)

Shelby Forest (VH). **Brown-headed Nuthatch**: 4 Jan (3) Pickwick SP on Savannah CBC; 23 Feb (3) Pickwick SP, west side of Tenn. R. (JRW). **House Wren**: 1-13 Jan (1) Shelby Farms (VBR); 4 Jan (3) Savannah CBC; 26 Jan (1) EARTH Complex (CHB, VBR). **Sedge Wren**: 14 Dec (2) Reelfoot CBC; 4 Jan (1) Savannah CBC. **Marsh Wren**: 14 Dec (1) Reelfoot CBC (MAG). **American Pipit**: 4 Jan (112) Savannah CBC, max.

Warbler-Siskin: Orange-crowned Warbler: 15 Dec (3) Memphis CBC; 4 Jan (1) Shelby Farms (WRP). Palm Warbler: 15 Dec (1) Memphis CBC (DDP); 4 Jan (7) Savannah CBC. Common Yellowthroat: 14 Dec (2) Reelfoot CBC; 15 Dec (1) Memphis CBC (DDP); 18 Jan (1) Black Bayou (KCL, NaM, Anna Varney, Winston Walden). American Tree Sparrow: 14 Dec/18 Jan (6) Reelfoot L (MAG, BF, JRW/ KCL, NaM et al.). Chipping Sparrow: 4 Jan (315) Savannah CBC, max. LeConte's Sparrow: 14 Dec (4) Reelfoot CBC (MAG, BF, JRW); 15 Dec (1) Memphis CBC (Jo Levy, Helen Dinkelspiel); 4 Jan (1) Savannah CBC; 22 Feb (1) Big Sandy Unit, Henry Co (JRW). Lincoln's Sparrow: 26 Feb (1) Shelby Farms (JRW). Lapland Longspur: 28 Dec (5700) Dyer & Lake Cos (JRW), max. Smith's Longspur: 28 Dec (1) Madison Co (MAG); 11 Jan (1) Lake Co (JRW, Ken Allen). Western Meadowlark: 14 Dec/15 Feb (2/3) Lake Co (MAG, BF, JRW/KCL); 26 Jan/1 Feb (3) EARTH Complex (JRW). Brewer's Blackbird: 14 Dec (1) Reelfoot CBC; 4 Jan (44) Savannah CBC; 26 Feb (31) Shelby Farms (JRW); 28 Feb (4) Gibson Co (MAG). Purple Finch: 15 Dec (1) Memphis CBC (DDP); 28 Dec (1) Jackson CBC. Pine Siskin: 10 Dec (1) Shelby Co (VH); 14 Dec (2) Reelfoot CBC; 29 Dec (1) Madison Co (Clay Gascoigne); 16 Feb (1) Fayette Co (Judy Dorsey).

Locations: Black Bayou - in Lake Co; Britton Ford - in Henry Co; EARTH Complex - in Shelby Co; Mud Is. - in Shelby Co; Pace Pt. - in Henry Co; Pickwick SP - in Hardin Co; Reelfoot L - in Lake & Obion Cos; Shelby Farms/Forest - in Shelby Co.

W. ROBERT PEEPLES, 8205 Meadow Glen Drive, Germantown, Tennessee 38138.

HIGHLAND RIM AND BASIN REGION — The winter period in Nashville began with a near normal December. However, January and February of the new year had mean temperatures that were three to four degrees cooler than average. Precipitation was two inches below normal in January, but more than made up for with a very wet February, over four inches above average. In addition, for the first time in several years, Nashville got a very significant snowfall total, over 15 inches. For many, the highlight of this winter was the Allen's Hummingbird banded in Smith County, about the fifth record for this species in Tennessee.

Grebe-Duck: Horned Grebe: early Dec-mid Feb (~220) Center Hill L, DeKalb Co (SJS). Eared Grebe: 1-2 Jan (1) Old Hickory L, Davidson Co (CAS et al.). Greater White-fronted Goose: 28 Jan (1) Harvest Farms L, Warren Co (Doug Malone et al.), first Co. record. Snow Goose: 25 Jan (1) Bellevue, Davidson Co (CAS). Mute

Swan: 28 Dec-26 Jan (8) Granville, Jackson Co (Tommy & Virginia Curtis); 17 Feb (8) Dale Hollow L, Clay Co (Terry Campbell); first Co. record at both sites; thought to be the same group of birds. Blue-winged Teal: 26 Feb (1) Cane Cr. Park, Putnam Co (SJS), ers. Redhead: 22 Feb (10) Gallatin, Sumner Co (Michael Smith). Common Goldeneye: 27 Feb (8) Drake's Cr., Sumner Co (Michael Smith).

Eagle-Woodcock: Bald Eagle: 14 Dec (1) Bell's Bend (PDC, GBC). Merlin: 6 Dec (1) Putnam Co (SJS); 1 Jan (2) Percy-Priest L, Davidson Co (GBC, Richard Connors). Peregrine Falcon: 13 Dec (1) Nashville (Dee Thompson). Wild Turkey: 23 Feb (200+) Pardue Pond WMA, Cheatham Co (Jay Desgrosellier), max. Sandhill Crane: 7 Jan (40) Fort Campbell (DMo); first northbound flights noted in regular corridor were 22 Jan, with largish N flights on 2, 5, 13 & especially 19 Feb (fide SJS). Killdeer: 23 Dec (400+) Cheatham Co (RDH, DMy), max. Spotted Sandpiper: from last period thru 23 Dec (1) Celina, Clay Co (Terry Campbell). American Woodcock: 29 Dec (5 displaying) Shelby Bottoms (PDC, Mary Zimmerman).

Dove-Blackbird: Eurasian Collared-Dove: 9 Jan (1) Nashville (Jay Desgrosellier). Short-eared Owl: 4 Dec (1) Fort Campbell (DMo). Allen's Hummingbird: 26 Jan (1 im. male) Elmwood, Smith Co (banded by CAS & Portia Macmillan), 5th state record. Horned Lark: 4 Dec (41) Fort Campbell (DMo); 14 Dec (39) Bell's Bend (PDC, GBC). Purple Martin: 23 Feb (1) Savannah, Hardin Co (Bill Darnell), ers. Red-breasted Nuthatch: intermittently thru season (1) Nashville (Dee Thompson), only report. House Wren: 9 Dec (1) Shelby Bottoms (PDC, Jan Shaw). Sedge Wren: 1 Jan (6) Shelby Bottoms (PDC, Jerry Drewry). Marsh Wren: 1 Jan (1) Shelby Bottoms (PDC, Jerry Drewry). American Pipit: 14 Dec (71) Bell's Bend (PDC, GBC), max. Palm Warbler: 7 Dec (10) Putnam Co (SJS, Winston Walden). Common Yellowthroat: 14 Dec (1) Putnam Co (Barbara Stedman). LeConte's Sparrow: 1 Jan (2) Shelby Bottoms (PDC, Jerry Drewry). Lapland Longspur: 6-7 Dec (2) Putnam Co (SJS, Winston Walden). Dickcissel: 25 Jan thru period (1) Nashville (Mary Zimmerman); 26 Feb (1) Clarksville, Montgomery Co (DMo); both at feeders. Brewer's Blackbird: 16 Jan (1) Bellevue, Davidson Co (Francis Fekel).

Locations: Bell's Bend - in Davidson Co; Fort Campbell - in Montgomery Co; Shelby Park/Bottoms - in Davidson Co.

PHILLIP D. CASTEEL, 720 Powers Avenue, Nashville, Tennessee 37206.

CUMBERLAND PLATEAU/RIDGE & VALLEY REGION — Following a few mild winters, this winter was comparatively cold. In January the Tri-cities area experienced three consecutive nights of single-digit lows and nearly a week of sub-freezing high temperatures. Precipitation was above average in December, but then well below average in January through mid February. However, during the latter half of February the region received about double the monthly average. Only four measurable snowfalls occurred in the northerly counties.

Despite the cold, waterfowl numbers were below average. An exception to this was provided by geese, swans, and Long-tailed Ducks in the northern part of the region. Also in contrast to the cold temperatures were several lingering half-hardy birds. Notable among these were Osprey, Sora, Spotted Sandpiper, Gray Catbird, Prairie Warbler, and Baltimore Oriole. Boreal irruptives (i.e., Red-breasted Nuthatch, Purple Finch, and Pine Siskin) were scarce to absent. Frugivores, particularly Cedar Waxwings, were present in low numbers. A tagged Trumpeter Swan from the reintroduction program in Ontario became the first of its species ever seen in East Tennessee. Another noteworthy rarity was the Western Grebe at Nickajack Lake.

Grebe-Vulture: Red-necked Grebe: 18-23 Feb (1) Boone L (RLK et al.). Western Grebe: 21 Dec-19 Jan (1) Nickajack L (John Henderson, m.ob.). Double-crested Cormorant: thru season (up to 31) Kingsport (RLK). Great Egret: 6 Dec (1) Hiwassee Refuge (Ken Dubke); 4 Jan (1) Knoxville CBC. Black-crowned Night-Heron: thru season (up to 11) Kingsport (RLK); 14 Dec (27) Douglas Dam, Sevier Co (RLK). Black Vulture: 26 Jan (160) Kingsport (RLK), max at roost site.

Waterfowl: Greater White-fronted Goose: 17 Dec (1) Allandale, Hawkins Co (FRC, JWC). Snow Goose: singles on the Chattanooga & Nickajack CBCs, plus 2 blues on the Hiwassee CBC; 3 Jan (2 blue) Washington Co (RLK); 11 Jan (1 white) Oneida (NeM); 20 Jan-17 Feb (2 blue) Cove Lake SP (NeM); 24 Feb (2 blue) Eagle Bend (NeM). Ross's Goose: 6 Dec (1) Cove Lake SP (NeM). TRUMPETER SWAN: a wing-tagged bird from the Ontario reintroduction program spent 1-12 Jan at Bristol (RLK, m.ob.), then 25-28 Jan at Blountville, Sullivan Co (JWC), and was last seen from early Feb-22 Feb near Gray, Washington Co (fide RLK). Tundra Swan: 17-26 Dec (1 im) Greeneville (Phine Britton, m.ob.); 4 Jan (1) Knoxville CBC (Chris Welsh); 15 Feb (2) Cherokee Dam (Steve & Rebecca Satterfield); 1 Mar (1) Rankin Bottoms, Cocke Co (Michael Sledjeski, Leslie Gibbens). Northern Pintail: 17 Feb (24) Greene Co (DHM), max. Canvasback: 8 Feb (4) Cherokee L (KDE); 11 Feb (2) Oneida (NeM). Redhead: 6 Dec (20) Boone L (RLK); 8 Feb (15) Cherokee L (KDE); 9 Feb (7) Brainerd Levee, Hamilton Co (Joel Keebler, Troy Ettel); 17-26 Feb (53+) Cove Lake SP (NeM); 24 Feb (8) Eagle Bend (NeM). Greater Scaup: 28 Dec (94) Nickajack CBC, max; below average numbers at other regular Chattanooga area wintering sites (fide KAC). Long-tailed Duck: 25 Jan (1) Ft. Loudoun L, Blount Co (JJA, David Johnson); 2-9 Feb (4-5) Cherokee L (FLB, SAB, m.ob.); 3-4 Feb (2) Boone L (RAP et al.). White-winged Scoter: 8-18 Feb (3) Cherokee L (KDE et al.). Common Goldeneye: 8 Feb (30) Cherokee L (KDE), max. Hooded Merganser: 11 Jan (122) Cove Lake SP (NeM), max. Common Merganser: 20 Dec (1 female) Boone L (RLK), only report.

Osprey-Crane: Osprey: 6 Dec / 24 Feb (1) Eagle Bend (NeM); 26 Dec (1) Greeneville CBC (DHM); 28 Dec (1) Hiwassee Refuge (James Brooks). Bald Eagle: above average numbers on upper lakes; 14 - 20 Jan (2 ad) Cove Lake SP (NeM); 26 Jan (1 ad)

Kingsport (RLK). Red-shouldered Hawk: 22 Dec/7-14 Feb (1/pair nest building, but later abandoned) Kingsport (RLK/RAP). Rough-legged Hawk: 11 Jan (1) Bledsoe Co (Dan Jacobson, Judy Newsome), at regular wintering site. Merlin: 14 Dec (1) Norris CBC (KDE); 1 Jan (1) Hiwassee CBC; 13 Jan (1) Greene Co (DHM); 8/23 Feb (1) Hiwassee Refuge (Jimmy Wilkerson, Kenn Kaufman/KAC, David Aborn). Peregrine Falcon: 12 Jan (1) Seven Is. Refuge, Knox Co (KTOS); 13/20 Jan (1) Washington Co (RLK). Virginia Rail: 14 Dec/2 Jan/19 Feb (5/5/1) Standifer Gap Marsh (DP). Sora: 28 Dec (1) Kingston Steam Plant, Roane Co (Dev Joslin); 2 Jan (1) Standifer Gap Marsh (DP). Sandhill Crane: 2/26 Dec (4/1) Greene Co (Don Holt/RLK); 20-22 Dec (1) Washington Co (RLK); 26 Dec (9) Johnson City (Tom McNeil); 18 Jan (20) Blount Co (RDH, DMy, FLB, SAB); all east of usual corridor; 1 Jan (12,800+) Hiwassee CBC, max at regular wintering site.

Sandpiper-Woodpecker: Spotted Sandpiper: 30 Jan (1) Boone Dam (Fred Alsop). Least Sandpiper: 1 Jan (12) Hiwassee CBC. Dunlin: 14 Jan (20) Douglas L, Jefferson Co (RLK). Wilson's Snipe: 7 Dec (51) Hamblen Co (RLK), max. American Woodcock: 22 Feb (3) Greene Co (DHM). Bonaparte's Gull: 14 Jan (600+) Cherokee L (RLK), max. Ring-billed Gull: 18 Jan (3500+) Ft. Loudoun L, Blount & Knox Cos (RDH, DMy, FLB, SAB), max; 4 Feb (1850) Boone L (RLK), new high count in NE Tenn. Eurasian Collared-Dove: 14 Dec (54) Chattanooga CBC; 1 Jan (1) Hiwassee CBC, first there. Rufous Hummingbird: a banded female in Knox Co present for its 5th consecutive year (Jean Stierberger, Fred Moore). Red-headed Woodpecker: 2 Dec (1) Oneida (NeM).

Raven-Catbird: Common Raven: 16/24 Dec (1/2) Bristol (RLK/Ken Hale); 29 Dec-7 Feb (1-3) Kingsport (RAP). Horned Lark: 13-28 Jan (250+) Limestone, Washington Co (RLK et al.), max. Purple Martin: 22 Feb (1) Nickajack L (Jerry Ingles), ers. Tree Swallow: 8 Feb (1) Cherokee Dam (FLB, SAB), ers; 24 Feb (2) Eagle Bend (NeM), also early. Red-breasted Nuthatch: very scarce throughout. Brown-headed Nuthatch: 15 Dec/4 Jan (2) west Knoxville (Boyd Sharp), first Co. record. House Wren: 2 Jan (1) Washington Co (RLK); 12 Jan (1) Knox Co (KTOS). Sedge Wren: 14 Dec/2 Jan (2) Standifer Gap Marsh (David Aborn/DP). Marsh Wren: 4 Jan/17 Feb (1) Greene Co (DHM). Gray Catbird: 2 Jan (1) Maryville, Blount Co (JJA).

Warbler-Siskin: Orange-crowned Warbler: 14 Dec (2) Chattanooga CBC; 9 Jan (1) Alcoa, Blount Co (JJA). "Audubon's" Yellow-rumped Warbler: 14 Dec (1) Norris CBC (KDE). Pine Warbler: 26 Dec (1) Greeneville CBC (DHM); irregular in winter NE of Knoxville. Prairie Warbler: 28 Dec (1) Nickajack CBC (Libby Wolf, Danny Gaddy). Palm Warbler: 7 Dec (3) Rankin Bottoms, Cocke Co (RLK); 14 Dec (9) Norris CBC; 14 Dec-17 Feb (1-3) Greene Co (DHM); 12 Jan (2) Knox Co (KTOS); 19 Jan (1) Kingston Steam Plant, Roane Co (RDH, DMy); thru season (up to 9) Brainerd Levee, Hamilton Co (fide KAC). Common Yellowthroat: 1/4 Jan (1) Greene Co (FRC, Don Holt/DHM); 13 Jan (1) Standifer Gap Marsh (Bonnie Johnson, Hayden Wilson). Chipping Sparrow: 26 Dec (25) Greeneville CBC (DHM), irregular there

in winter; 28 Dec (102) Nickajack CBC, record high there. Vesper Sparrow: 13 Jan (2) Greene Co (DHM). Savannah Sparrow: 19 Jan (78) Greene Co (DHM), max in north. Lincoln's Sparrow: 1 each on Nickajack & Hiwassee CBCs (fide KAC). Lapland Longspur: 4 Jan (3) Knoxville CBC, continuation from fall; 13-28 Jan (7-8) Limestone, Washington Co (RLK et al.), with Horned Lark flock. Brewer's Blackbird: 21 Dec (3) near Scott Co airport (NeM); 11 Jan thru season (up to 75) Sequatchie Co (Bonnie Johnson et al.). Baltimore Oriole: mid Jan/8 Feb (1 male) Monteagle, Grundy Co (Floyd Turner, Jerry Ingles). Purple Finch: few reports. Pine Siskin: no reports.

Locations: Boone L - in Sullivan & Washington Cos; Cherokee L - in Jefferson, Grainger & Hamblen Cos; Cove Lake SP - in Campbell Co; Eagle Bend - in Anderson Co; Hiwassee Refuge - in Meigs Co; Kingsport - in Sullivan Co; Nickajack L - in Marion Co; Oneida - in Scott Co; Standifer Gap Marsh - in Hamilton Co.

RICHARD L. KNIGHT, 804 North Hills Drive, Johnson City, Tennessee 37604.

EASTERN MOUNTAIN REGION — Temperatures were below normal for the period. Precipitation was above normal, with the greatest amount falling in February. The spruce-fir forest on Roan Mountain had a very poor cone crop resulting in few birds being found there.

Loon-Merganser: Common Loon: thru season (5-10) South Holston L (JWC, RLK, m.ob.). Horned Grebe: thru season (4 -10) South Holston L (JWC, RLK, m.ob.); 10 Jan (8) Watauga L, Carter/Johnson Cos. (RLK). Eared Grebe: thru season (1-7) South Holston L (JWC, RLK, m.ob.). Ross's Goose: bird from last season lingered thru 6 Dec at Middlebrook L (m.ob.). Canvasback: 7 Jan (1) Middlebrook L (BKS, HPL). Redhead: 22 Jan-4 Feb (1-2 males) South Holston R. weir (RLK, m.ob.). Ring-necked Duck: 22 Jan (138) South Holston R. weir (RLK), max. Greater Scaup: thru 3 Jan (1-7) South Holston R. weir (RLK et al.). Surf Scoter: 11 Dec (1) South Holston L. (BKS, HPL). White-winged Scoter: 28 Jan (1) South Holston L (JWC, BKS et al.). Black Scoter: 5 Dec (2 females) South Holston L (RLK, Fred Alsop). Long-tailed Duck: 15 Dec (1)/25-27 Jan (2) South Holston L (FRC/Ed Talbot, JWC, m.ob.). Bufflehead: 12 Dec (223) Wilbur L (RLK), max there; 22 Jan (295) South Holston R. weir (RLK), max. Common Goldeneye: 12 Dec-15 Jan (1 male) Middlebrook L (JWC, m.ob.); 1-27 Jan (1-2, irregularly) South Holston R. weir (RLK); 4 -22 Feb (1-6) South Holston L (RLK). Hooded Merganser: 16 Dec (260) Middlebrook L (RLK), max. Red-breasted Merganser: 5 Dec (65) South Holston L (JWC et al.).

Osprey-Woodpecker: Osprey: 1 Dec, 26 Dec-5 Jan (1) South Holston L (Don Holt, FRC, RLK, DHM). Bald Eagle: thru season (1-2) South Holston L (m.ob.); 3 Dec thru Jan (1-3) Wilbur L (Larry McDaniel, Allan Trently, m.ob.). Red-shouldered Hawk: 29 Dec (4) Cades Cove CBC. Merlin: 29 Dec (1) Bristol CBC (JWC et al.).

Sandhill Crane: 1 Dec (1) South Holston L (Don Holt); 21 Dec/2 Jan/30 Jan (1) Shady Valley (Rob Biller, Ron Carrico, Glen Eller, Larry McDaniel, HPL/Todd Eastin/JWC, CJO). American Woodcock: 24 Feb (3) Shady Valley (JWC, CJO). Ring-billed Gull: 7 Jan (410) Middlebrook L (RLK), max. Barn Owl: 29 Dec (1) Bristol CBC (RLK). Short-eared Owl: 25 Dec (1) Cades Cove (JJA, David Johnson). Red-headed Woodpecker: 21 Dec (1) GSMNP CBC.

Lark-Siskin: Horned Lark: 26 Jan (5) Shady Valley (CJO). Tree Swallow: 26 Feb (1) Middlebrook L (JWC), ties early arrival date in NE Tenn. House Wren: 14 Dec (1) Elizabethton CBC (RLK). Brown Thrasher: 21 Dec (2) GSMNP CBC; 29 Dec (1) Bristol CBC. American Pipit: 21 Dec (60) Shady Valley CBC. Pine Warbler: 1 Jan (1) South Holston R. weir (James Brooks). Palm Warbler: 21 Dec (2) GSMNP CBC; 29 Dec-12 Jan (1) South Holston L (RLK, m.ob.); 8 Jan (2) South Holston R. near Hwy 44 bridge (Ron Harrington); 9 Jan (1) Erwin, Unicoi Co (RLK). Savannah Sparrow: 21 Dec (7) Shady Valley CBC. Swamp Sparrow: 21 Dec (13) GSMNP CBC, max. Red Crossbill: 29 Dec (130) Cades Cove CBC. Pine Siskin: 20 Feb (1) Hampton, Carter Co (BKS), only report.

Locations: Cades Cove - in Great Smoky Mountains National Park; GSMNP - Great Smoky Mountains National Park; Middlebrook L - in Sullivan Co; South Holston L - in Sullivan Co; South Holston R. weir - in Sullivan Co; Wilbur L - in Carter Co.

RICHARD P. LEWIS, 407 V.I. Ranch Road, Bristol, Tennessee 37620.

OBSERVERS

JJA - Jean J. Alexander FLB - Frank L. Bills NaM - Nancy Moore SAB - Sharon A. Bostick NeM - Nell Moore CHB - Carolyn H. Bullock DMo - Daniel Moss KAC - Kevin A. Calhoon DMy - Dollyann Myers GBC - Gary B. Casey CJO - Chris J. O'Bryan PDC - Phillip D. Casteel DP - David Patterson JWC - J. Wallace Coffey WRP - W. Robert Peeples WGC - W. Glen Criswell RAP - Rick A. Phillips FRC - F. Rack Cross DDP - Dick D. Preston KDE - K. Dean Edwards VBR - Virginia B. Reynolds BF - Bob Foehring CAS - Chris A. Sloan MAG - Mark A. Greene SJS - Stephen J. Stedman VH - Van Harris BKS - Bryan K. Stevens RDH - Ron D. Hoff MCT - Michael C. Todd RLK - Richard L. Knight AW - Anthony Whitted HPL - Howard P. Langridge JRW - Jeff R. Wilson KCL - Ken C. Leggett

KTOS - Knoxville Chapter, TOS

DHM - Don H. Miller

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THE 2002 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT
Ron Hoff
THE WINTER SEASON: 1 DECEMBER 2002 - 28 FEBRUARY 2003
Richard L. Knight
WESTERN COASTAL PLAIN REGION
W. Robert Peeples
HIGHLAND RIM AND BASIN REGION
Phillip D. Casteel
CUMBERLAND PLATEAU/RIDGE AND VALLEY REGION
Richard L. Knight55
EASTERN MOUNTAIN REGION
Richard P. Lewis