

**BIRDS AROUND THE STATE:
SPRING-SUMMER 2019**

Compiled by
Nicholas A. Winstead
Mississippi Museum of Natural Science
2148 Riverside Dr.
Jackson, MS 39202

The following is a summary of noteworthy bird sightings in Mississippi for spring and summer 2019 (1 March-31 July 2019). The sequence of information in each account is: species, number, date, place, observer(s), and significance. Numbers of birds sighted are underlined. The significance of sightings is indicated by letters in parentheses following a record. These letters are as follows: (Ac) = accidental, (Ca) = casual, (E) = early date, (L) = late date, (N) = unusually large number, (R) = species rare in area, (RS) = species rare in that season, (U) = species uncommon in area, (US) = species uncommon in that season. Other abbreviations used include the following: ad = adult, BBS = Breeding Bird Survey, Co. = County, cos. = counties, imm = immature(s), m = male(s), m.ob. = many observers, MSU = Mississippi State University, NWR = National Wildlife Refuge, Rd. = Road, S.L. = Sewage Lagoon, and WMA = Wildlife Management Area. The list of sightings is followed by a key to observers' initials and a gazetteer of localities.

Contributions of records are welcome from anyone who makes observations of Mississippi birds. Only with the assistance of many individuals from throughout the state over a period of years can we come to understand the dynamics of the bird populations of Mississippi. Contributors should submit records on 3" x 5" cards or similar-sized slips of paper with one record per card including the following information: species, number seen,

date (including year), location (state, county, and specific location), observer(s), and details and significance of the observation. Very unusual records should be accompanied by full details including description of bird, details of observation, and explanation of how similar species were eliminated. While records are welcome at any time, those received by 15 March, 15 June, 15 August, and 15 December will be submitted with the seasonal report to *North American Birds* (formerly known as *Audubon Field Notes* and *American Birds*), and will also be considered for use in *The Mississippi Kite*. Please send all records to:

Terence L. Schiefer
Mississippi State University
Department of Entomology
P.O. Box 9775
Mississippi State, MS 39762-9775

BLACK-BELLIED WHISTLING-DUCK -- up to 18, 30 Apr.-11 May, MSU South Farm, Oktibbeha Co., JH, TS, MS (R); up to 10, 23 May-fall, Noxubee NWR, Noxubee and Oktibbeha cos., TO, LY, JH, m.ob. (R); 1 ad, 31 May-4 Jul., Stan Tabor Rd., JH, TS, MS, DW (R); up to 50, 30 Jun.-fall, Carson Rd., Lowndes Co., JH, TS, MS (R); 6 ad, 6 Jul., Paulette Rd., JH (R)

BLUE-WINGED TEAL -- 2, 8 Jun., Stan Tabor Rd., JH (L)

GADWALL -- 2 m, 6 Jun.-fall, Stan Tabor Rd., TS, JH (RS); 1, 11 Jun., Oktibbeha Co. Lake, TS (RS)

AMERICAN WIGEON -- 1 m, 6 Jun.-fall, Stan Tabor Rd., TS, JH (RS)

LESSER SCAUP -- 1 m, 27 May-fall, Carson Rd., Lowndes Co., PM, TS, MS (RS)

WHITE-WINGED SCOTER -- 1, 7-11 Mar., Biloxi Small Craft Harbor, HC (U)

BLACK SCOTER -- up to 3, 1-13 Jun., Pass Christian Harbor, HC, CS, AD, MA (U)

RUDDY DUCK -- 1 m, 1 f, 1 Jun.-fall, Stan Tabor Rd., TS, MS, JH, m.ob. (RS); 2 m, 1 Jul.-fall, West Point S.L., BJ, TS (RS)

PIED-BILLED GREBE -- 12, 23 Jul.-fall, Carson Rd., Lowndes Co., TS (U nesting species)

INCA DOVE -- 1, 8 Apr., Biloxi, HC (U); 1, 30 May, Moss Point, CS, AD (U)

WHITE-WINGED DOVE -- 1, 12 Apr., Starkville, JH (R, E); up to 50, Jun.-Jul., Greenville, FS, FSe (N)

BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO -- 1, 6 May, Starkville, JH (R)

BLACK RAIL -- 1, 21 May, Deer Island, Harrison Co., HC (Ca)
[Review List Species]

KING RAIL -- 1, 18-28 Jun., Noxubee NWR, Winston Co., TS, MS, JH (R)

PURPLE GALLINULE -- up to 10, 12 Apr.-fall, Noxubee NWR, Noxubee and Oktibbeha cos., TS, MS, JH, m.ob. (R)

COMMON GALLINULE -- up to 10, 5 Apr.-fall, Noxubee NWR, Noxubee and Oktibbeha cos., TS, MS, JH, m.ob. (R)

AMERICAN COOT -- 2, 17 Jul.-fall, Stan Tabor Rd., JH, TS (RS)

LIMPKIN -- 1, 22 Jun. 2019, Boneyard Lake, George Co., LD (Ac) [Review List Species]

BLACK-NECKED STILT -- 1, 10 Apr., Noxubee NWR, Noxubee Co., FB, RS (R); 1, 7-8 May, near Trinity, Lowndes Co., KH, PM (R); 2, 12 May, Catalpa Creek bottoms, JH (R, L); 5, 22 Jul.-fall, Carson Rd., Lowndes Co., TS, MS, JH (R)

AMERICAN AVOCET -- 2, 14 Apr., Catalpa Creek bottoms, TS, MS, JH, PM, WP (R)

BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER -- 1, 12 May, Catalpa Creek bottoms, JH (R)

AMERICAN GOLDEN-PLOVER -- 7, 5 Mar., Catalpa Creek bottoms, TS, MS (U)

SEMIPALMATED PLOVER -- 3, 3 Jun., Stan Tabor Rd., TS, MS (L)

UPLAND SANDPIPER -- 1, 10 Apr., New Round Island, Jackson Co., CS, MA, AD (U); 1, 19 Apr., MSU North Farm, Oktibbeha Co., TS (U)

LONG-BILLED CURLEW -- 1, 13 Apr., Lake Mars boat ramp, Ocean Springs, HC, LM, LJ (U)

MARbled GODWIT -- 2, 19 Apr., Catalpa Creek bottoms, PM, JH, TS, MS (R)

STILT SANDPIPER -- 2, 8 May, Stan Tabor Rd., PM (RS)

DUNLIN -- 1, 14, 19 Apr., Catalpa Creek bottoms, WP, JH, TS, MS, PM (R); up to 3, 4-5 May, Paulette Rd., JH, TS, MS (R); 1, 29 May-2 Jun., Stan Tabor Rd., DW, JH, TS, m.ob. (R, L)

BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER -- 1, 1-2 Jun., Stan Tabor Rd., TS, MS, JH, m.ob. (RS)

PECTORAL SANDPIPER -- 1, 2 Jun., Stan Tabor Rd., TS, MS (L)

DOWITCHER SP. -- 1, 3 Jul., Oktibbeha Co. Lake, TS (E)

SPOTTED SANDPIPER -- 1, 4 Jul., Paulette Rd., JH (E)

LESSER YELLOWLEGS -- 3, 25 Jun., Oktibbeha Co. Lake, TS, MS (E)

WILLET -- 1, 4 May, Columbus Lake, PM, TS, MS, JH (R); 1, 4 May, Paulette Rd., JH, TS, MS (R); up to 2, 4-5 Jul., Paulette Rd., JH (R, E)

GREATER YELLOWLEGS -- 6, 27 May, Stan Tabor Rd., PM (L)

LAUGHING GULL -- 1 imm, 4 May, Columbus Lake, TS, MS, JH, PM (R)

COMMON TERN -- up to 8, 5, 18 Jul., Cat Island, Harrison Co., CS, AD (U)

WOOD STORK -- up to 2, 27 May-29 Jun., Noxubee NWR, Noxubee Co., JO, WP, JH, m.ob. (U); up to 59, 8 Jun.-22 Jul., near Brooksville, JH, TS (U); up to 13, 18 Jun.-9 Jul., Oktibbeha Co. Lake, TS, MS (U); up to 22, 30 Jun.-17 Jul., Paulette Rd., JH, BJ, TS (U); up to 115, 12 Jul.-fall, Stan Tabor Rd., JH, BJ, TS (U); 1, 19 Jul., Hwy 50/Tombigbee River, Lowndes Co., TS (U); 3, 31 Jul., Columbus, PM (U)

NEOTROPIC CORMORANT -- 1 ad, 2 May, Columbus Lake, TS, MS, PM, MM (R)

ANHINGA -- up to 11, 17 Mar.-fall, Noxubee NWR, Noxubee, Oktibbeha and Winston cos., JH, TS, MS, m.ob. (U nesting species); 1, 25 Mar.-14 Jul., Columbus, PM (U); up to 2, 3 May-12 Jun., Plymouth Bluff, Lowndes Co., JO, PM (U); 1, 28 May, White's Slough, Lowndes Co., PM (U); 1, 31 Jul., Oktibbeha Co. Lake, TS (U)

AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN -- up to 2, 4 Jun., 14-15 Jul., Columbus Lake, TS, PM (US); 26, 6 Jun., near Cliftonville, TS (US)

AMERICAN BITTERN -- 1, 6-10 Apr., Noxubee NWR, Noxubee Co., MM, JH, TS, m.ob. (U)

TRICOLORED HERON -- 1, 19 May, 9-13 Jun., Noxubee NWR, Noxubee Co., RSc, WP, JH, m.ob. (R)

REDDISH EGRET -- 1 imm dark morph, 24 Jun., Oktibbeha Co. Lake, TS, MS, JH, MM (R)

BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON -- up to 61, 6 Apr.-12 Jul., Noxubee NWR, Noxubee and Oktibbeha cos., WP, JH, LT, m.ob.

(U, E); up to 6, 1-16 Jun., Lynn Creek Rd., Noxubee Co., PM, MS, JO, JH, WP (U); 13, 14 Jul., Paulette Rd., JH (U)

YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON -- up to 3, 2 Apr.-29 Jun., Noxubee NWR, Noxubee Co., RR, JH (U); up to 4, 4-26 Jun., Columbus, PM (U); 1 imm, 6 Jul., Oktibbeha Co. Lake, TS (U)

WHITE IBIS -- 229, 15 Mar., Noxubee NWR, Noxubee Co., JG (N)

ROSEATE SPOONBILL -- 3 imm, 19 Jul., Noxubee NWR, Winston Co., VM (R)

OSPREY -- up to 2 ad, 3 imm, winter-19 Jul., Columbus Lake, TS (R nesting species); 1, 11 May, Starkville, LT, ST (U); 2 ad, 2 imm, 30 Jun.-20 Jul., near West Point, TS (R nesting species)

SWALLOW-TAILED KITE -- 1, 11 May, MSU North Farm, Oktibbeha Co., DP, MC (R)

NORTHERN HARRIER -- 1, 28 Jul., Paulette Rd., JH (E)

BALD EAGLE -- 1 ad, 1 imm, 18 Mar., Oktibbeha Co. Lake, TS (R nesting species); 1 ad on nest, 18 Mar., Daniels Lake, Oktibbeha Co., TS (R nesting species)

SHORT-EARED OWL -- 1, 29 Mar., Cat Island, Harrison Co., CS, MA, AS (R)

PEREGRINE FALCON -- 1 ad, 14 Apr., 12 May, Catalpa Creek bottoms, MS, JH, PM, TS, WP (R)

WESTERN KINGBIRD -- up to 4, winter-21 Apr., Broadwater Golf Course, Biloxi, HC (U); 2, 28-29 Apr., Tillman St., Pascagoula, BJ, MJ, JR, m.ob. (U)

GRAY KINGBIRD -- 1, 17-20 May, Tillman St., Pascagoula, HC, m.ob. (Ca) [Review List Species]

SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER -- 1, 28 Apr., Bellefontaine Beach, Jackson Co., TS, MS, JH (R); 1, 6-7 May, near Artesia, JH, AB, PM (R); up to 2 ad, 2 imm, 11-23 Jun., Brooksville, DG, JH, TS, m.ob. (R)

WILLOW FLYCATCHER -- 1 singing territorial bird, 4 May-6 Jul., Paulette Rd., JH, TS, MS, PM, BJ (R, E); 1 singing territorial bird, 19 May-30 Jun., Stan Tabor Rd., JH, PM, TS, MS, m.ob. (R)

LEAST FLYCATCHER -- 1, 22 Apr., P.D. Fulgham Rd., Oktibbeha Co., MS, TS (RS)

PURPLE MARTIN -- 11,500, 5 Jul., Stan Tabor Rd., JH (N)

BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER -- 1, 10 Mar., near Adaton, Oktibbeha Co., TS, MS (E); 1, 10 Mar., Noxubee NWR, Noxubee Co., JH (E)

RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET -- 1, 28 Jun.-3 Jul., Columbus, PM, TS (RS)

VEERY -- 1, 18 May, Plymouth Bluff, Lowndes Co., JO (L)

BACHMAN'S SPARROW -- up to 2, 20 Apr.-21 Jun., Noxubee NWR, Winston Co., JH, PM, TS, LT (U)

GRASSHOPPER SPARROW -- 1, 30-31 May, Yokohama Blvd., Clay Co., TS, MS (R)

LARK SPARROW -- 1, 16 Mar., Biloxi Causeway, HC (R); 3, 19 Apr.-25 Jul., MSU North Farm, Oktibbeha Co., LT, TS, MS (U); 2, 24 Apr., Judge Thomas Rd., Clay Co., TS (U); 1, 4 May, Hardy Billups Rd., Lowndes Co., JH (U); 3, 4 May-summer, near Artesia, JH, AB (U); up to 7, 4 May-fall, Stan Tabor Rd., JH, TS, m.ob. (U); 1, 5-6 May, Harris Rd., Oktibbeha Co., JH (U); 2, 5 May, Turkey Creek Rd., Oktibbeha Co., JH (U); 2, 8 May, near Cliftonville, PM (U); 2, 26-27 May, Schlater Rd., Lowndes Co., JH, PM (U); 1, 27 May-4 Jul., Gilmer Wilburn Rd., Lowndes Co., PM, JH (U); 1, 27 May, Paulette Rd., PM (U); up to 2, 30 May-fall, Greenbrier Rd., Noxubee Co., JH, TS (U); 5, 2 Jun., Macon BBS route, Noxubee Co., TS (U); 1, 5 Jun., Plum Grove Rd., Lowndes Co., TS (U); 2, 8 Jun., Black Prairie WMA, Lowndes Co., JH (U); 1, 8 Jun., County Line Rd., Noxubee Co., JH (U)

FOX SPARROW -- 1, 3 Apr., P.D. Fulgham Rd., Oktibbeha Co., MS, TS (L)

WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW -- 1, 7 May, Artesia, PM (L)

BALTIMORE ORIOLE -- 1, 12 Apr., Columbus, PM (E)

BRONZED COWBIRD -- up to 3, 6 Apr.-29 May, Ansley, Hancock Co., NB, HC, m.ob. (R); 1, 13 Apr., East Beach, Ocean Springs, CS, MA, AD (R)

OVENBIRD -- 2, 14-15 Jun., Noxubee NWR, Winston Co., TS, MS, JH (R nesting species)

LOUISIANA WATERTHRUSH -- 1, 12 Jul., Gulfport, NM (RS)

BREWSTER'S WARBLER -- 1, 3 May, Oktibbeha Co. Lake, TS, MS (R)

SWAINSON'S WARBLER -- 2, 10 Apr.-31 Jul., Plymouth Bluff, Lowndes Co., PM, JO (U); 2, 11 Apr.-fall, Columbus, PM (U); 2, 12 Apr.-11 May, Morris Rd., Oktibbeha Co., IB (U); 1, 12 Apr., Skinner Rd., Oktibbeha Co., TS (U); 3, 14 Apr.-28 May, River Walk, Lowndes Co., PM, TS, MS, LT (U); 2, 14 Apr.-10 May, Section Line Rd., Lowndes Co., PM (U); 3, 16 Apr.-5 May, Natchez Trace Parkway, Choctaw Co., MS, TS, IB, LT (U); 1, 16-17 Apr., Natchez Trace Parkway, Webster Co., MS, IB, LT (U); 1, 17 Apr.-26 Jun., Oktibbeha Co. Lake, TS (U); 1, 17 Apr.-10 Jun., Noxubee NWR entrance road, Oktibbeha Co., TS, LT (U); 1, 18 Apr., White's Creek Lake, Webster Co., TS (U); 3, 21 Apr., Longview Rd., Oktibbeha Co., JH (U); 2, 30 Apr., Polly Bell Rd., Oktibbeha Co., TS, MS, JH (U); 1, 3 May, Fate Douglas Rd., Oktibbeha Co., MS (U); 3, 3-11 May, Harrell Rd., Oktibbeha Co., TS, MS, JH (U); 1, 8 May, Jeff Busby Park, Choctaw Co., LT (U); 1, 11 May, Walter Bell Rd., Oktibbeha Co., JH (U); 2, 11 May, John Logan Rd, Oktibbeha Co., PM (U); 1, 11 May-6 Jul., Keaton Tower Rd., Oktibbeha Co., LT, TS, MS (U); 1, 11 May, St. Mark Dr., Oktibbeha Co., LT (U); 1, 12 May, Fairview St., Oktibbeha Co., LT (U); 1, 16 May-21 Jun., Noxubee NWR, River Rd., Oktibbeha Co., LT, JH (U); 1, 9 Jun., Embry BBS route, Webster Co., TS (U); 3, 16 Jun., Griffin Rd., Noxubee Co., JH (U); 2, 16 Jun., Mahorner Rd., Noxubee Co., JH (U); 1, 3 Jul., Curtis Hamill Rd., Winston Co., TS (U); 2, 3 Jul., Moorhouse Bottom Rd., Winston Co., TS (U)

MOURNING WARBLER -- 1, 15 May, Columbus, PM (Ca)
[Review List Species]

AMERICAN REDSTART -- 1 ad m, 6 Apr., Noxubee NWR, Noxubee Co., LT, LC, TS, MS, m.ob. (E)

CERULEAN WARBLER -- 1 m, 21 Apr., 5 May, Jeff Busby Park, Choctaw Co., TS, MS (U)

ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK -- 1, 9 Apr., Starkville, JH (E)

PAINTED BUNTING -- up to 3, 1 May-15 Jun., MSU South Farm, Oktibbeha Co., TS, MS, JH (U nesting species); 2 ad m, 4 May, Hardy Billups Rd., Lowndes Co., JH (U nesting species); 1 ad m, 4 May-8 Jun., Paulette Rd., JH (U nesting species); up to 2, 8 May-13 Jun., Black Prairie WMA, Lowndes Co., PM, JH, JO (U nesting species); 1, 11 May, Trim Cane WMA, Oktibbeha Co., JH (U nesting species); 1 imm m, 24 May-1 Jun., Sessums Rd., Oktibbeha Co., JH (U nesting species); 1, 26 May, Harris Rd., Oktibbeha Co., JH (U nesting species); 1 imm m, 2 Jun., Prairie Point Rd., Noxubee Co., TS (U nesting species); 1, 2 Jun., E. Skinner Rd., Noxubee Co., TS (U nesting species); at least 2, 7, 12 Jun., Stan Tabor Rd., TS (U nesting species); 2, 30 Jun.-11 Jul., near West Point, TS (U nesting species)

Contributors

Melinda Averhart, Andy Bell, Isaac Boden, Florence Box, Ned Boyajian, Linda Cambre, Margaret Copeland, Holly Cox, Abby Darrah, Larry Dees, Joseph Golson, Daniel Greene, Katie Hanson-Dorr, Jeffrey Harris, Lucy Jacobson, Brian Johnston, Mary Johnston, Paul Mack, Nancy Madden, Vicki Maples, Mo McCool, Lori McDonald, Jimmy Osborne, Tina Overstreet, Dianne Patterson, Wayne Patterson, J.R. Rigby, Ryne Rutherford, Marion Schiefer, Terence Schiefer, Randy Schultz (RSc), Frank John Serio, Frank Joseph Serio (FSe), Regina Snow, Collin Stempien,

Alex Sullivan, Lauren Thead, Shelia Thead, Douglas "BB" Watson, and Linda Yungbluth.

Key to Localities

Localities not listed are indexed on the "Official Highway Map of Mississippi" or the county is listed in the main text.

Catalpa Creek bottoms = Lowndes Co.; Columbus Lake = Lowndes Co.; Paulette Rd. = Noxubee Co.; Stan Tabor Rd. = Noxubee Co.