

Birds Around the State - Spring Migration and Breeding Season, 1977

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The following is a summary of noteworthy bird sightings in Mississippi, and some in immediately adjacent areas, for the 1977 spring migration (1 March to 31 May) and breeding season (1 June to 31 July) periods. (A few observations from January and February 1977 are also included.) The list of sightings is followed by a key to observers' initials and another key identifying all localities mentioned. Most sightings fall into one of the following categories, as indicated by a capital letter: (A), arrival date and (D), departure date for migratory species; (E), exceptionally early date, and (L), exceptionally late date; (N), large number; (R), species rare in the area concerned; or (C) species casual or accidental (of less than annual occurrence) in Mississippi.

Abbreviations used in this section are: m, male; f, female; ad., adult; subad., subadult; imm., immature; pr., pair; pl., plumage; max., maximum; BBS, Breeding Bird Survey.

- COMMON LOON -- 1, 10 May, Gulfport, JT (D); 1, 25 May, off Ocean Springs, RPR; 1 (breeding pl.), also 1 freshly dead, 25 May, East Ship I., RPR; several other birds seen and 2 others found dead in mid- to late May, mostly on Horn I. (RPR); some of living birds appeared ill; 5, 28 June, Petit Bois I., RPR (R in summer); 1, 4 and 5 July, East Ship I., WCW.
- RED-THROATED LOON -- 1, 14 June, East Ship I., WCW (C - apparently 5th record and first summer record for Miss.; detailed notes on file).
- EARED GREBE -- 6, 13 Mar., Hattiesburg sewage ponds (probably at least 6 present all winter), LYG, WCW (R).
- PIED-BILLED GREBE -- 3, 20 July, Noxubee NWR, WCW.
- WHITE PELICAN -- 25, 8 Mar., on water off East Ship I., WCW; 150, 18 Apr. (birds present one day only), Hattiesburg sewage ponds, LYG (N); 1, 5 June, Pascagoula R. marsh, JT (R in summer); 1, 6 June, same place, WCW.
- BROWN PELICAN -- 12, early May (date?), spoil island W of Petit Bois I., ML; 6, 14 May, spoil island W of Petit Bois I., MH; 5 ads., 28 June, spoil island W of Petit Bois I. (later seen feeding along beach on Petit Bois), WCW, JT, RPR; 1, 12 July, Biloxi harbor, KL (R).
- GANNET -- 11 (2 ad., 9 imm.), 8 Mar., East Ship I. (including a flock of 9 fishing 2 mi. S of island), WCW; 3, 9 Mar., East Ship I., WCW; 2, 11 Mar., Mississippi Sound (Horn I. to Ocean Springs), WCW.
- DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT -- 1, 5 May, Pass Christian, JT (D); 20 on channel marker, 13 May, off Ocean Springs, WCW; 1 on same marker, 19 May, RPR (D).
- ANHINGA -- 1, 22 May, Noxubee NWR, DP (WOS field trip) (R); 3, 20 June, Merrill, RPR; 5, 22 June, Merrill, WCW (probably nesting nearby).
- MAGNIFICENT FRIGATEBIRD -- 1, 29 Mar., Gulfport, JT (E); 210 (60 soaring overhead, 150 following shrimp boats), 21 May, East Ship I., RPR (N); 120, 28 June, Biloxi Bay & Miss. Sound, WCW, JT, RPR (N); 40, 5 July, East Ship I., WCW (N).

- GREAT BLUE HERON -- 2 nests with young, June-July, East Ship I., WCW; 10 nesting pairs, Deer I. (colony wiped out by fire on 5 June), reported to RPR.
- GREEN HERON -- 1, 27 Mar., Noxubee NWR, JAJ (A); 1, 6 Apr., Kosciusko, JS (A).
- LITTLE BLUE HERON -- 100 nesting with Cattle Egrets W of Newton, 10 June, WHT, MT.
- CATTLE EGRET -- 1, 17 Mar., Monticello, CB (A); 1, 29 Mar., Hillside Floodway (Holmes Co.), WHT, JHP (A); (Number?), 13 Apr., Kosciusko, JS (A); About 2000 nesting (most nests with eggs, no young seen) in thicket nr. 1-20 W of Newton, 10 June, WHT, MT.
- REDDISH EGRET -- 1, 11 and 12 May (WCW) and 25 May (RPR), East Ship I.; 3, possibly 5 (birds were flying about), 17 to 19 May, Horn I., RPR; 1, 13 to 15 June, East Ship I., WCW; 1, 5 July, East Ship I., WCW.
- BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT HERON -- 1 subad., June and July, East Ship I., WCW.
- YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT HERON -- 1, 9 Apr., Noxubee NWR, JAJ; 1, 21 Apr., Kosciusko, JS (A).
- LEAST BITTERN -- 1 m calling, 16 Apr., Noxubee NWR, WCW (A).
- WOOD STORK -- 30, 20 July, Noxubee NWR, WCW; 2, 22 July, near Lucedale, LJG.
- WHITE IBIS -- 20, 21 and 22 June, Merrill, (probably nesting nearby), WCW; 2 imm., 30 July, Pascagoula R. marsh, RPR.
- WHISTLING SWAN -- 2, 24 Mar.-3 Apr., Noxubee NWR, JAJ (D).
- CANADA GOOSE -- 2000, 28 Feb., Noxubee NWR, JS (N); 200 flying N, 25 Mar., Starkville, WCW; several incubating, 30 March, Noxubee NWR, JAJ.
- SNOW GOOSE -- 1 ad., 28 Feb., Noxubee NWR, JS.
- MALLARD -- 1 m, starting eclipse, 6 June, Pascagoula R. marsh, WCW (L).
- MOTTLED DUCK -- 2 (pr), possibly nesting, 30 Apr. (JT), 15 May (JT, WCW), Buccaneer State Pk.; 15 ads., including 2 f with broods (8 and 9 young), and another f flushed from probable nest, 8 May, Pascagoula R. Marsh, WCW; Many present throughout June (max. 60 ads. on 29 June), Pascagoula R. marsh, WCW, JT, RPR (several females with broods seen); 62 ads., 30 July, Pascagoula R. marsh, WCW, RPR (N - probably record high count for Miss.).
- GADWALL -- 6 (3 pr), 28 Mar., Hillside Floodway, Holmes Co., WHT, JHP (D).
- GREEN-WINGED TEAL -- 2 (pr), 8 May, Pascagoula R. marsh, WCW; 1 m (with probable f), 6 June, Pascagoula R. marsh, WCW; 1 m with probable f, 19 June, same place, WCW, JT, RPR; 1 m, 29 and 30 June, same place, WCW (R in summer).
- BLUE-WINGED TEAL -- 5 m, 28 Feb., Noxubee NWR, JS (A); 40, 25 Mar., Noxubee NWR, WCW (N); 4, 18 May, Mississippi Sound off Horn I., RPR (D); 3 (pr plus 1f), 21 and 25 May, West Ship I., RPR (D); Several present throughout June, both m and f (max. 12 on 19 June), Pascagoula R. marsh, WCW, JT, RPR (R in summer); 4, 30 July, Pascagoula R. marsh, WCW, RPR.
- AMERICAN WIGEON -- 2 m, 8 May, Pascagoula R. marsh, WCW (D).
- NORTHERN SHOVELER -- 6 (3 pr), 2 Apr., Madison Co., WHT (D).
- RING-NECKED DUCK -- several, 28 Mar., Noxubee NWR, WCW (D); 1 f, 17 May Hattiesburg sewage ponds, LJG, WCW (L).

- GREATER SCAUP -- 1 f, 7 Mar., West Ship I., WCW (R).  
 LESSER SCAUP -- 51 f, 7 m, 16 Apr., Noxubee NWR, JAJ; 10, 8 May, Pascagoula R. marsh, WCW; 10, 17 May, Hattiesburg sewage ponds, LYG, WCW (D); Several non-breeders present throughout June (9 on 6 June, 6 on 29 June: not crippled, could fly), Pascagoula R. marsh, WCW, JT, RPR (R in summer)
- BUFFLEHEAD -- 5, 21 Mar., Noxubee NWR, WCW (D).  
 OLDSQUAW -- 2, 7 Mar., Mississippi Sound off Biloxi, WCW; 40, 7 Mar., West Ship I., WCW (N); 7 to 12 daily, 8 to 10 Mar., East Ship I., WCW; 32, 1 Apr., Gulfport harbor, JT (N).  
 WHITE-WINGED SCOTER -- 1 f, 1 Apr., Gulfport, JT (R).  
 SURF SCOTER -- 5, (3 m, 2 f), 15 May, Horn I., DMB (R).  
 BLACK SCOTER -- 8 (6 f, 2 imm. m), 10 Mar., East Ship I., WCW (detailed notes on file) (C).  
 RUDDY DUCK -- 1 f, 16 Apr., Noxubee NWR, WCW (D); 4, 17 May, Hattiesburg sewage ponds, LYG, WCW (L).  
 HOODED MERGANSER -- 4, 1 Apr., Gulfport, JT (D); 1 f, 6 Apr., L. Mary Crawford, CB (D).  
 RED-BREASTED MERGANSER -- 3 f, 15 May, Bay St. Louis & Waveland, JT, WCW; 2 f, 25 May, East Ship I., RPR; 5, (all in imm./f plumage), 14 to 17 June (none in July), East Ship I., WCW (R in summer).  
 SWALLOW-TAILED KITE -- 1, 11 Mar., just E. of La. state line on U.S. 90, JT (A); 1, 10 Apr., Pascagoula R. near Wade, WCW, WJW; 2 (pr), 20 June, Merrill, RPR; 1, 15 July, Pascagoula R., W. of Wade, RPR; 2, 22 July, Merrill, LYG; 1 imm., 24 July, Pascagoula R., near Wade, WCW.
- MISSISSIPPI KITE -- 50, in loose flocks, 14 May, Tennessee Bar, WHT, JAS (N); 2 (pr), ad. incubating on nest in pecan tree, 22 May, Chotard Landing, WHT, JHL; birds also seen carrying nest material on 19 May; 40 plus feeding over pasture, 4 June, Eagle L., WHT, MG (N); 3 (including a pr), Merrill, 20 June, RPR; 2 (pr), Merrill, 22 June, WCW; 1, 15 July, Pascagoula R., W of Wade, RPR; 4 ads. (at least 1 pr), 24 July, same place, WCW.
- SHARP-SHINNED HAWK -- 1, 23 Apr., Dorman L., WCW (D).  
 COOPER'S HAWK -- 1, 29 Mar., Holmes Co., WHT, JHP; 1, 5 May, Jackson, WHT.
- BROAD-WINGED HAWK -- 1, 8 Apr., Kosciusko, JS (A). Unusually scarce in migration at Kosciusko this spring (JS); June and July, numerous records from D'Iberville, Ocean Springs, De Soto Natl. Forest, Merrill, Wade, Pearl R. Swamp (WCW, JT, RPR).
- MARSH HAWK -- 1 f, 10 Apr., Starkville, JAJ; 1, 8 May, Pascagoula R. marsh, WCW; 1 m, 5 June, Pascagoula R. marsh, JT; 1, 6 June, same place, WCW; 1 f, 13 June, same place, RPR; 2 (1 m, 1 f, possibly a pr), 19 June, same place, WCW, JT, RPR; no later sightings (R in summer); 1 f, 30 July, Kosciusko, JS (E).
- OSPREY -- 4 (2 pr), 8 to 10 Mar., East Ship I., WCW; 1, 25 Mar.; 1, 31 Mar.; 1, 10 Apr.; 1, 14 Apr., all at L. Mary Crawford, CB; 1, 16 Apr., Noxubee NWR, JAJ, WCW (A); 1, 23 Apr., Dorman L., WCW; 2, 26 Apr., Noxubee NWR, JAJ; at least 13 active nests (1 destroyed in fire, May 1977), Horn I., RPR et al.; 1 active nest, Deer I., (apparently abandoned after fire on 5 June) reported to RPR; 4 active nests, East Ship I. (1 nest still with young on 14 June, but other nests had apparently fledged young by then), WCW.

- PEREGRINE FALCON -- 1, 8 to 9 Mar., East Ship I., WCW (R); 1, 10 and 11 May, East Ship I., WCW (R,L).
- MERLIN -- 1, 10 May, East Ship I., WCW (R,D).
- WILD TURKEY -- 1 f with 3 flying yg., 23 May, Noxubee NWR, JAJ.
- SANDHILL CRANE -- Apr. and May, pair nesting about 10 mi N of previously known nesting areas in Jackson Co., JV (R).
- KING RAIL -- 1, 16 Apr., Noxubee NWR, JAJ, WCW; 1 (seen well), 15 June, East Ship I., WCW (R in summer on coastal islands).
- PURPLE GALLINULE -- 1, 14 June, East Ship I., WCW.
- AMERICAN COOT -- 10, 6 June, Pascagoula R. marsh, WCW; 8, 19 June, same place, WCW, JT, RPR; 2, 30 June, same place, WCW (R in summer).
- SEMIPALMATED PLOVER -- 1, 16 Apr., Noxubee NWR, WCW (A); 4, 8 May, Pascagoula R. marsh, WCW; 1, 19 May, Tupelo fish hatchery, BBC, LCC; 1, 13 June, East Ship I., WCW (R in early summer); 2, 15 June, East Ship I., WCW; 3, 19 June, Pascagoula R. marsh, WCW, JT, RPR; 8, 30 June, same place, WCW (N); 8, 29 July, Pascagoula R. marsh, RPR.
- PIPING PLOVER -- 6, 5 June, Pascagoula R. marsh, JT (N; R in summer); 1, 30 June, Pascagoula R. marsh, WCW; 2, 5 July, East Ship I., WCW (E).
- SNOWY PLOVER -- 2, 8 Mar., East Ship I., WCW; 11 (at least 4 or 5 pr), 17 and 18 May, Horn I., RPR (N); 4 (2 pr), 21 May, West Ship I. (but none on East Ship I.), RPR; 1, 28 June, Petit Bois I., WCW, JT, RPR.
- WILSON'S PLOVER -- 1, 8 to 10 Mar., East Ship I., WCW (A); 14 (at least 5 or 6 pr, plus some apparently unmated birds), 21 May, West Ship I., RPR; 9, 25 May, East Ship I., RPR (but none on Horn I., 17 to 19 May); 15, (8 in 1 flock), 15 June, East Ship I., WCW (N); 8, 5 July, East Ship I., WCW; present throughout June and July (max. 8 on 3 June) and probably nested, Pascagoula R. marsh, JT, WCW, RPR.
- AMERICAN GOLDEN PLOVER -- 14 (winter plumage; appeared to have just crossed Gulf), 7 Mar., West Ship I., WCW (A); 20, 9 Mar., near Hattiesburg, WHT, JHP.
- BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER -- 19 (most in breeding plumage), 8 May, Pascagoula R. marsh, WCW; 60 (most in breeding plumage), 18 May, Horn I., RPR; 13 to 17 June (max. 4 on 15 June), East Ship I., WCW; 14, (most in winter pl.), 19 June, Pascagoula R. marsh, WCW, JT, RPR.
- RUDDY TURNSTONE -- 1, 31 May, West Ship I., RPR (L).
- AMERICAN WOODCOCK -- courtship calls heard regularly by 28 Feb., near Kosciusko, JS; 2 heard displaying, 4 Mar., Starkville, WCW.
- WHIMBREL -- 1, 7 May, Ocean Springs, WCW; 2, 8 May, Pascagoula R. marsh, WCW.
- SPOTTED SANDPIPER -- 3, 16 Apr., Noxubee NWR, JAJ, WCW (A); 1, 25 Apr., Kosciusko, JS (A); 2, 19 May, Tupelo fish hatchery, BBC, LCC; several, 22 May, near Columbus on Tombigbee R. in Clay Co., JAJ; 1 4 to 6 July, East Ship I., WCW (E); 1, 19 and 20 July, Noxubee NWR, WCW (A).
- SOLITARY SANDPIPER -- 6, 16 Apr., Noxubee NWR, WCW (A); 1, 18 Apr., Kosciusko, JS (A); 1, 3 June, Pascagoula R. marsh, JT (L); 6, 30 July, Pascagoula R. marsh, WCW, RPR (A)
- GREATER YELLOWLEGS -- 1, 3 Mar., Holmes Co., WHT (A); 10, 30 June, Pascagoula R. marsh, WCW.
- LESSER YELLOWLEGS -- 1, 13 June, Pascagoula R. marsh, RPR; 3, 19 June, same place, WCW, JT, RPR; 120, same place, 29 and 30 June, WCW (N).

- RED KNOT -- 1, 5 May, Waveland, JT; 4, 17 May, Horn I., RPR; 2, (winter pl.), 4 July, East Ship I., WCW (E).
- PECTORAL SANDPIPER -- 26, 30 July, Pascagoula R. marsh, WCW, RPR (A).
- WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER -- 1, 19 May, Tupelo fish hatchery, BBC, LCC; 6, 25 May, East Ship I., RPR.
- LEAST SANDPIPER -- 20, 30 June, Pascagoula R. marsh, WCW (E); 3, 19 July, Noxubee NWR, WCW (A).
- DUNLIN -- 50 (most in breeding plumage), 8 May, Pascagoula R. marsh, WCW; 72 (most in breeding plumage), 25 May, East Ship I., RPR (D).
- SHORT-BILLED DOWITCHER -- 80, 8 May, Pascagoula R. marsh, WCW; 56, 5 June, Pascagoula R. marsh, JT; 35, 6 June, same place, WCW; 18, 13 June, same place, RPR; 80 (most in breeding plumage), 29 June, same place, WCW; 150, 19 July, same place, RPR; 110, 29 July, same place, RPR (N); 3 to 5 July (max 8 on 4 July), East Ship I., WCW.
- STILT SANDPIPER -- 1, 17 May, Horn I., RPR; 1 (full breeding plumage), 30 June, Pascagoula R. marsh, WCW (E); 22, 29 July, Pascagoula R. marsh, RPR (N).
- SEMIPALMATED SANDPIPER -- 500, 8 May, Pascagoula R. marsh, WCW (N); 30, 19 May, Tupelo fish hatchery, BBC, LCC; 150, 6 June, Pascagoula R. marsh, WCW; 4, 15 June, East Ship I., WCW; 60, 19 June, Pascagoula R. marsh, WCW, JT, RPR.
- PEEP SPP. -- 1500, (mostly Westerns), 30 July, Pascagoula R. marsh, WCW RPR.
- MARbled GODWIT -- 1, 17 Apr., Pascagoula R. marsh, LJJ (R); 1, 21 May, West Ship I., RPR (R).
- SANDERLING -- 13 to 17 June (max. 20 on 15 June), East Ship I., WCW.
- AMERICAN AVOCET -- 33, 8 May, Pascagoula R. marsh, WCW; present throughout June and July (counts ranging from 38 on 3 June to 24 on 14 June), Pascagoula R. marsh, WCW, JT, RPR et al.; no evidence of breeding. (Species normally R in summer).
- BLACK-NECKED STILT -- 28, 9 Apr., Pascagoula R. marsh, LJJ; 13, 17 Apr., Pascagoula R. marsh, LJJ; 15, 8 May, Pascagoula R. marsh, WCW; present throughout June and July (max. 65 on 29 June), Pascagoula R. marsh, WCW, JT, RPR et al.; 2 nests with broken eggshells found on 6 June, WCW (destroyed by predators?); active nest with 3 eggs found on 22 July (NP, JK, TK, SW). First nesting record in Miss., and highest count in Miss.
- WILSON'S PHALAROPE -- 1 f ad. (breeding plumage), 13 June, Pascagoula R. marsh, RPR (R); 1 m or winter-plumage f, 29-30 June, Pascagoula R. marsh, WCW; 1 (winter plumage), 30 July, Pascagoula R. marsh, WCW, RPR.
- JAEGER SP. -- (probably PARASITIC) 1, 7 Mar., West Ship I., WCW (details on file).
- HERRING GULL -- 1 imm., 14 June, East Ship I., WCW (R in summer); 1 imm., 28 June, Ocean Springs, WCW, JT, RPR; 1 imm., 28 June, Petit Bois I., RPR.
- RING-BILLED GULL -- 50, 23 Mar., Ross Barnett Res., WHT.
- BONAPARTE'S GULL -- (number?), 22 Mar., Hancock Co., JT (D); 3, 23 Mar., Ross Barnett Res., WHT (D).
- GULL-BILLED TERN -- 7, 30 Apr., Buccaneer State Park, JT, LJJ; 5, 8 May, Pascagoula R. marsh, WCW; 3 or 4 pr courting, 17 to 19 May, Horn I., RPR; present throughout June (max. 10 on 6 June), Pascagoula R. marsh, WCW, JT, RPR; 6, 28 June, spoil bank W of Petit Bois I.

- (probably nesting), WCW, JT, RPR.
- FORSTER'S TERN -- 40 to 75 present throughout June, Pascagoula R. marsh, WCW, JT, RPR.
- COMMON TERN -- 10 (breeding plumage), 17 May, Horn I., RPR; present throughout June (up to 10, some in breeding plumage), Pascagoula R. marsh, WCW, JT, RPR; 20 (at least 2 nests found), 28 June, spoil bank W of Petit Bois I., WCW, JT, RPR.
- LEAST TERN -- 3, 10 Apr., Gulfport, JT; 13, 12 Apr., Gulfport, JT; hundreds by 16 Apr., Gulfport, JT; First eggs laid, 4 May (early) and first young hatched, 24 May, Gulfport, JT. Numbers up from 2100 pairs (1976) to 2700 pairs (1977) at Gulfport colony; numbers down from 2300 pairs (1976) to 1500 pairs (1977) at Long Beach-Pass Christian, probably because of disturbance by sunbathers (JT). Small colony nesting on roof of building of Navy Seabee base in Gulfport (reported to JT); 3 nests with eggs, 28 June, Petit Bois I., RPR.
- ROYAL TERN -- At least 25 nesting pairs, 28 June, spoil bank W of Petit Bois I., WCW, JT, RPR.
- SANDWICH TERN -- At least 200 nesting pairs (with Royal Terns), spoil bank W of Petit Bois I., 28 June, WCW, JT, RPR.
- CASPIAN TERN -- 1, 16 Apr., Noxubee NWR, WCW (details on file) (R); 17, 30 June, Pascagoula R. marsh, WCW.
- BLACK TERN -- 40 (flying NW in small groups), 9 May, East Ship I., WCW (A); 300 (85% in breeding plumage), 21 May, West Ship I., RPR (N); present throughout June and July (max. 200 on 14 June and 4 July), East Ship I., WCW.
- BLACK SKIMMER -- At least 200 nesting pairs (203 nests counted, some probably missed), 28 June, spoil bank W of Petit Bois I., WCW, JT, RPR (most with eggs, many with young).
- YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO -- 1, 10 Apr., Ocean Springs, WCW (A); 1 building nest (with persimmon twigs) in boxelder, 24 May, Chotard Landing, WHT; present throughout June and July (max. 3 on 4 July), East Ship I. (no evidence of breeding-habitat not suitable), WCW.
- BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO -- 1, 31 May, West Ship I., RPR (D).
- BARN OWL -- 1, 7 May, Ocean Springs, WCW; Apr. and May, pair nested in hollow tree on Miss. State Univ. campus and raised at least 2 young, JAJ, WCW et al. (young fledged 23 May, JAJ)
- SCREECH OWL -- Counts of up to 5 birds (on 7 and 19 June), frog survey route (20 5-min stops), Jackson & Harrison Cos., WCW.
- CHUCK-WILL'S-WIDOW -- 1, 9 Apr., near Ocean Springs, WCW (A); 1, 9 Apr., Kosciusko, JS (A); 1 heard, 14 Apr., Monticello, CB (A); counts of up to 32 birds in June, none in July (except 1 on 29 July), frog survey route, Jackson & Harrison Cos., WCW.
- COMMON NIGHTHAWK -- 1, 24 Apr., Noxubee NWR, BH, NHu (A); 1, 27 Apr., Kosciusko, JS (A); 15 in migrating flock, 14 May, Eagle L., WHT, JAS.
- CHIMNEY SWIFT -- 42, 22 Mar., Hancock Co., JT (A); 2, 28 Mar., near Columbus, WCW (A); 3, 28 Mar., Holmes Co., WHT, JHP (A); (Number?), 29 Mar., Kosciusko, JS (A).
- RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD -- 1, 15 Mar., Hancock Co., JT (A); 1, 31 Mar., Kosciusko, JS (A).
- PILEATED WOODPECKER -- 20, 28 and 29 Mar., Holmes Co., WHT, JHP (N)

- RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER -- 1 albinistic f, March, Pass Christian, KCK (photo by LG on file at Mississippi State Univ.), bird present for 3rd year, mated to normal male.
- YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER -- 1, 10 Apr., Ocean Springs, WCW (D).
- EASTERN KINGBIRD -- 2, 24 Mar., Hancock Co., JT (A); 1, 4 Apr., Monticello, CB (A); (Number?), 6 Apr., Kosciusko, JS (A); 1, 7 Apr., Starkville, WCW (A); 50, 11 May, East Ship I., WCW (one flock of 40 landed in trees about 19:30) (N).
- GRAY KINGBIRD -- 1 or 2 present through most of summer, Horn I. ranger station (reported to RPR).
- SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER -- 1, 14 Mar., Horn I., DMB (R); 1, early Apr. to first week of July, Tupelo, Mrs. WTW (R - see article this issue); 1 ad. on nest, 10 and 11 June, Lawrence, Newton Co., WHT, ACT, JP, CBe, FW, RD (see article this issue; 2nd nesting locality in Miss.).
- GREAT CRESTED FLYCATCHER -- 1, 12 Apr., Jackson, WHT (A).
- EASTERN PHOEBE -- 1, 29 Apr., near Rienzi, Alcorn Co., REP, BMDP (D-possibly breeding?).
- YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER -- 1, 19 May, Noxubee NWR, WOS field trip.
- ACADIAN FLYCATCHER -- 2, 24 Apr., Noxubee NWR, WCW (A).
- EASTERN WOOD PEWEE -- 2, 16 Apr., Noxubee NWR, WCW (A).
- OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER -- 1, 4 May, near Kosciusko, JS (R).
- TREE SWALLOW -- 1, 25 Mar., Hinds Co., WHT, JHP (A); 75, 27 Mar., Oktibbeha Co. L., WCW (A); 50, 28 Mar., Holmes Co., WHT (A); (Number?), 28 Mar., Kosciusko, JS (A); 40, 6 Apr. L. Mary Crawford, CB.
- BANK SWALLOW -- 3, 22 Mar., Hancock Co., JT (E); about 15, 26 Apr., Kosciusko sewage ponds, JS (A); 1, 19 July, Noxubee NWR, WCW (A).
- ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW -- 5, 24 Mar., Hancock Co., JT (A); 5, 27 Mar., Oktibbeha Co. L., WCW (A); 1 excavating nest, 29 Mar., Yazoo Co., WHT, JHP.
- BARN SWALLOW -- several, 20 Mar., Gulfport, JT (A); 1, 21 Mar., Noxubee NWR, WCW (A); 1, 22 Mar., near Clinton, WHT (A); 25, 22 Mar., Hancock Co., JT; (Number?), 28 Mar., Kosciusko, JS (A); 40 plus nests with eggs & young under one culvert, 16 May, Natchez Trace Parkway, Claiborne Co., WHT (N).
- CLIFF SWALLOW -- 1, 21 May, West Ship I., RPR (D).
- PURPLE MARTIN -- 2, 19 Feb., Jackson, WHT (A); 2 m, 28 Feb., Noxubee NWR, JS (A); (Number?), 2 Mar., Monticello, CB (A); about 150, 6 Apr., Kosciusko, JS (N); 100+, 27 Apr., Noxubee NWR, JAJ; 49, 5 June, Fontainebleau BBS route, WCW (3rd commonest species on route).
- BLUE JAY -- 2 small flocks seen flying NE (possible migration), 16 Apr., Noxubee NWR, WCW.
- FISH CROW -- 1, 21 May, Noxubee NWR, CSR (WOS field trip); first record for Refuge (R).
- RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH -- 1, 10 Apr., Ocean Springs, WCW (D); 1, 11 May, East Ship I., WCW (L).
- BROWN CREEPER -- 2, 27 Mar., Choctaw L., WCW (D).
- WINTER WREN -- 1, 28 Mar., Holmes Co., WHT, JHP (D).
- LONG-BILLED MARSH WREN -- 1, 25 to 28 Apr., Kosciusko sewage ponds, JS (A); 1, 4 May, near Kosciusko, JS; 1 singing, 13 July, Pearl R. marsh, U.S. Hwy. 90, just E of La. border, RPR.
- SHORT-BILLED MARSH WREN -- 1, 11 May, East Ship I., WCW (L).

- GRAY CATBIRD -- 1 m, 24 Apr., Starkville, WCW (A); 1, 24 Apr., Noxubee NWR, BH, NH (A).
- WOOD THRUSH -- 1, 6 Apr., L. Mary Crawford, CB (A); 1, 9 Apr., Jackson, WHT (A); 1, 10 Apr., Ocean Springs, WCW (A); 1, 11 Apr., Kosciusko, JS (A).
- Catharus SPP. -- Large migration observed, about 16:00 to 18:00, 10 May, East Ship I., WCW. Several groups dropped from sky; others heard calling overhead as they continued flying northward. At least 100 birds seen and heard altogether; 7 Swainson's, 3 Gray-cheeked, and 5 Veeries positively identified.
- SWAINSON'S THRUSH -- 3, 28 Apr., Noxubee NWR, WCW (A); 1, 31 May, West Ship I., RPR (L).
- VEERY -- 1, 27 Apr., Archer I., Ark., NH (A); 1, 28 Apr., Noxubee NWR, WCW (A); 1, 29 Apr., Gulfport, JT (A); 1, 4 May, near Kosciusko, JS (A).
- BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER -- several, 20 Mar., Noxubee NWR, PR (A); 1, 22 Mar., Bovina, WHT (A); (Number?), 1 Apr., Kosciusko, JS (A).
- GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET -- 2, 21 Mar., Noxubee NWR, WCW (D).
- RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET -- 1, 23 Apr., Dorman L., WCW (D).
- CEDAR WAXWING -- 17, 27 Mar., Monticello, CB; 50, 3 Apr., Jackson, WHT; 8, 12 May, East Ship I., WCW (D).
- LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE -- 2 ads. feeding 3 flying young, 15 May, Raymond, WHT.
- STARLING -- 1, 4 and 5 July, East Ship I., WCW (perhaps first record for offshore islands, although species nests on Deer I.).
- WHITE-EYED VIREO -- 1, 21 Mar., Noxubee NWR, WCW (A); 1, 25 Mar., Jackson, WHT (A); 1, 30 Mar., Kosciusko, JS (A).
- YELLOW-THROATED VIREO -- 1, 26 Mar., Noxubee NWR, JAJ (A); 3, 28 and 29 Mar., Holmes & Yazoo Cos., WHT (A).
- RED-EYED VIREO -- 1, 4 Apr., Ocean Springs, WCW (A); 2 (pr), m fed f on nest 15' up in dogwood, 6 June, N of Bovina, WHT.
- WARBLING VIREO -- 2 (pr), m singing on nest, 14 May, Collins Camp, Albemarle L., WHT, JAS.
- BLACK-AND WHITE WARBLER -- 1, 15 Mar., Hancock Co., JT (A); 1, 20 Mar., Noxubee NWR, PR (A).
- PROTHONOTARY WARBLER -- 1, 15 Mar., Hancock Co., JT (A).
- SWAINSON'S WARBLER -- 1, 17 May, Hattiesburg, LJJ, WCW; 2 (pr) with nest containing 2 young, 23 May, near Bovina, WHT; 3 m, 28 May, Noxubee NWR, WCW; 1 m singing, 20 to 22 June, Merrill, WCW, RPR (R); ad. incubating 2 eggs, 27 June, Clark Cr. (Wilkinson Co.), WHT, JHP, JH, BQ (see note, this issue).
- WORM-EATING WARBLER -- Many, 27 Apr., Archer I., Ark., NH; 2, 29 Apr., Gulfport, JT; 1 m singing, 4 and 6 June, N of Bovina, WHT, MG (R).
- BLUE-WINGED WARBLER -- 1, 24 Apr., Noxubee NWR, WCW (A); 1, 29 Apr., Gulfport, JT.
- TENNESSEE WARBLER -- 2, 24 Apr., Noxubee NWR, WCW (A); few, 27 Apr., Archer I., Ark., NH; 1, 8 May, 3 mi. S of Bolton, WHT.
- ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER -- 1, 10 Apr., Ocean Springs, WCW (D).
- NORTHERN PARULA WARBLER -- 2, 21 Mar., Noxubee NWR, WCW (A); 11, 22 Mar., Hancock Co., JT; 2, 25 Mar., Jackson, WHT, JHP (A); 2 pr nest-building, 29 Mar., Holmes & Yazoo Cos., WHT, JHP; common, 30 Mar., Noxubee NWR, JAJ; 1 m, 9 Mar., East Ship I., WCW (A).
- YELLOW WARBLER -- 2, 16 Apr., Noxubee NWR, WCW; 2, 11 May, Gulfport, JT.

- MAGNOLIA WARBLER -- 1, 7 Apr., Mississippi State Univ., MW; (Number?), 29 Apr., Gulfport, JT; 2 m, 10 May, East Ship I., WCW.
- CAPE MAY WARBLER -- 1 m, 10 May, East Ship I., WCW (R); 1 m, 25 May, East Ship I., RPR (R,L).
- AUDUBON'S (YELLOW-RUMPED) WARBLER -- 1 m (with about 40 Myrtle Warblers at feeder), late Feb. to 20 Mar., Gulfport, JT (also JAJ, WCW, etc.) (R).
- MYRTLE (YELLOW-RUMPED) WARBLER -- 5, 24 Apr., Noxubee NWR, WCW (D); 1, 26 Apr., Waukomis L., near CoFinth, REP (D); many, 27 Apr., Archer I., Ark., NH (D).
- BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER -- 1 m, 27 Mar., Choctaw L., WCW (A); 3, 29 Apr., Gulfport, JT; 3 m, 10 May, East Ship I., WCW.
- BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER -- 1 m, 13 May, Gulfport, JT.
- YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER -- 1, 9 Mar., East Ship I., WCW (A); 4, 21 Mar., Noxubee NWR, WCW (A).
- CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER -- 1, 20 May, Noxubee NWR, AC (WOS field trip) (D).
- BAY-BREASTED WARBLER -- 10 to 12 May (max. 4 on 11 May), East Ship I., WCW; 1 m, 22 May, Noxubee NWR, BBC, DP, MWi (WOS field trip).
- BLACKPOLL WARBLER -- 1 m, 26 Apr., Starkville, WCW (A); 1, 27 Apr., Archer I., Ark., NH (A); 6, 29 Apr., Gulfport, JT; 1 m, 10 May, East Ship I., WCW; 1 m, 15 May, Buccaneer State Park, JT, WCW.
- PRAIRIE WARBLER -- 1, 3 Apr., near Ocean Springs, WCW (A); common in southern Jackson Co. (14 on Fontainebleau BBS route, up from 10 in 1976), although did not breed in area in 1940's, WCW.
- PALM WARBLER -- several, 24 Mar., Hancock Co., JT; 5, 16 Apr., Noxubee NWR, WCW.
- NORTHERN WATERTHRUSH -- 1, 10 and 11 May, East Ship I., WCW.
- LOUISIANA WATERTHRUSH -- 3, 21 Mar., Noxubee NWR, WCW (A); 1, 29 Mar., Kosciusko, JS (A).
- KENTUCKY WARBLER -- 1, 15 Apr., Kosciusko, JS (A); 3, 16 Apr., Noxubee NWR, WCW (A); 2 (pr) with nest containing 4 newly-hatched young, 23 May, Bovina, WHT.
- YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT -- 1, 21 Apr., Kosciusko, JS (A); 6, 23 Apr., Dorman L., WCW (A).
- HOODED WARBLER -- 1 m, 15 Mar., Hancock Co., JT (A); 2, 29 Mar., Yazoo Co., WHT (A).
- AMERICAN REDSTART -- 5, 24 Apr., Noxubee NWR, JAJ, WCW (A); 2 singing m, 22 June, Merrill, WCW (R).
- HOUSE SPARROW -- May, pr apparently nesting for 2nd year in a row in revolving service station sign, Starkville, WCW (see Mississippi Kite 6:7-8, 1976).
- BOBOLINK -- several, 20 Apr., Scott Plantation, Bolivar Co., NH (A); 1 m, 27 Apr., Starkville, WCW (A); 10, 28 Apr., Miss. State Univ. South Farm, WCW; hundreds, 5 May, Lyman, SH (N); 100+, 7 May, Starkville, JAJ.
- ORCHARD ORIOLE -- 6, 15 Mar., Hancock Co., JT (A); 1, 3 Apr., Jackson, WHT (A); 1, 12 Apr., Starkville, WCW (A); 1, 20 Apr., Kosciusko, JS (A); 2 (pr) with nest 10' up on pecan limb, 4 June, Eagle L., WHT, MG.
- NORTHERN ORIOLE -- 1, 3 Apr., Jackson, WHT (E); 1, 20 Apr., Kosciusko, JS (A); 1, 23 Apr., Dorman L., WCW (A); numerous, 3 active nests seen, 14 May, Eagle and Albemarle L. areas, WHT, JAS; 2 (pr)

- with nest 20' up on cottonwood limb, 4 June, Eagle L., WHT.
- RUSTY BLACKBIRD -- 5, 4 Mar., Starkville, WCW (D).
- BREWER'S BLACKBIRD -- 1, 2 Mar., Barnett Res., Madison Co., WHT, JHP (D).
- SCARLET TANAGER -- 1 m, 8 Apr., Wall Doxey State Park, JHE (E); 5 m, (1 molting), 27 Apr., Archer I., Ark., NH (A); 1 f, 10 and 11 May, East Ship I., WCW; 1 m, 26 May, Jackson, WHT, JHP (D); 1 m, 11 June, 10 mi. W of Corinth, BBC, LCC (R).
- SUMMER TANAGER -- 2 m, 20 Mar., Gulfport, JT (E); 1 m, 15 Apr., Noxubee NWR, JAJ; 1 m, 29 Apr., near Rienzi, Alcorn Co., REP, BMDP.
- ROSE-BREADED GROSBEEK -- 1, 20 Apr., Starkville, WCW (A); 40, 29 Apr., Gulfport, JT (N); 5, 11 May, East Ship I., WCW.
- BLACK-HEADED GROSBEEK -- 1 m, 4 Apr., at feeder in Vicksburg, Mr. & Mrs. FRB, MBS; watched for 40 min., as close as 8 feet (C).
- BLUE GROSBEEK -- 1, 16 Apr., Monticello, CB (A); 1 m, 18 Apr., Starkville, WCW (A); 1, 24 Apr., Kosciusko, JS (A); Common in southern Jackson Co. (8 on Fontainebleau BBS route, 5 June), although did not breed there in 1940's, WCW; 1 m (straggler from mainland?), 15 June, East Ship I., WCW.
- INDIGO BUNTING -- 1, 16 Apr., Starkville, WCW (A); (number?), 18 Apr., Kosciusko, JS (A); numerous small flocks, 30 Apr., Hinds Co., WHT, ACT,
- PAINTED BUNTING -- 1 imm. m singing, nr. Clermont Harbor, 15 May, JT, WCW (R); 1 m singing, 3 June, Bellefontaine Pt., WCW (R).
- DICKCISSEL -- several, 20 Apr., Scott Plantation, Bolivar Co., NH (A); flocks of migrants in ryegrass pasture, 30 Apr., near Bolton, WHT (A); 1 m singing, 14 May, Eagle L., WHT, JAS; 3, 19 May, Tupelo fish hatchery, BBC, LCC; 5, 21 May, 7 mi E of Starkville, BBC, LCC; 8, 24 May, nr. Golden Triangle Regional Airport, WCW; 1, 10 June, Tupelo, BBC, LCC.
- PURPLE FINCH -- 1, 25 Mar., Starkville, WCW (D); 1, 25 Mar., Jackson, WHT (D).
- AMERICAN GOLDFINCH -- many, (several flocks), 27 Apr., Archer I., Ark., NH; 2, 20 May, Noxubee NWR, WCW (WOS field trip), (R in summer).
- SAVANNAH SPARROW -- 2, 30 Apr., near Bolton, WHT, ACT (D); 3, 8 May, Pascagoula R. marsh, WCW (D); 1, 12 May, East Ship I., WCW (D).
- VESPER SPARROW -- 1, 5 Apr., Noxubee NWR, JAJ.
- LARK SPARROW -- 1 m singing, 24 May, nr. Mayhew, WCW.
- BACHMAN'S SPARROW -- Common in De Soto Nat. For., N of Ocean Springs, June-July, WCW.
- DARK-EYED JUNCO -- (number?), 5 Apr., Monticello, CB (D); 2, 7 Apr., nr. Starkville, WCW (D); 1, 13 Apr., Gulfport, JT (L).
- WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW -- 1 ad., 23 Apr., Dorman L., WCW (D); 1, 30 Apr., nr. Clinton, WHT, ACT (D).
- WHITE-THROATED SPARROW -- (number?), 26 Apr., Kosciusko, JS (D); 5, 28 Apr., Noxubee NWR, WCW (D).
- FOX SPARROW -- 1, 7 Mar., Kosciusko, JS (D).
- SWAMP SPARROW -- 5, 16 Apr., Noxubee NWR, WCW (D); 1, 26 Apr., Kosciusko, JS (D).
- LAPLAND LONGSPUR -- 150, 20 Jan., Jonestown, JHa (N).

Key to Observers.-- AC = Alexander Cruz; ACT = Annie C. Turcotte; BBC = Ben B. Coffey, Jr.; BH = Bill Hughes; BMDP = Beulah M. D'Olive Price; BQ = Bill Quisenberry; CB = Carl Bauer; CBe = Christine Berry; CSR = Chandler S. Robbins; DMB = Donald M. Bradburn; DP = David Pitts; FRB = Fred R. Brown; FW = Frances Wills; JAJ = Jerome A. Jackson; JAS = Jackson Audubon Society; JH = Jack Herring; JHa = Jack Haynes; JHE = John H. Embury; JHL = John H. Laney; JHP = John H. Phares; JK = Jim Kisner; JP = Jarvis Parker; JS = James Sanders; JT = Judith Toups; JV = Jake Valentine; KCK = Katherine C. Koerner; KL = Kristie Link; LCC = Lula C. Coffey; LG = Leonard Glade; LJG = Larry J. Gates; MBS = Martha B. Skelton; MG = Michael Grabill; MH = Martha Hays; ML = Mark Lewis; MT = Melvin Tingle; MW = Martha Ward; MWi = Morris Williams; NH = Nona Herbert; NHu = Nellie Hughes; NP = Nell Powers; PR = Pat Ramey; RD = Ruth Downey; REP = Richard E. Price, Jr.; RPR = Robert P. Russell; SH = Sophie Hatten; SW = Sandy Whitacre; TK = Tommy Kisner; WCW = Wayne C. Weber; WHT = William H. Turcotte; WJW = Wendy J. Weber; WOS = Wilson Ornithological Society; WTW = W. T. Watson.

Key to Localities.-- Albemarle L., Issaquena Co.; Archer I., Chicot Co., Ark. (near Greenville, Miss.); Bay St. Louis, Hancock Co.; Bellefontaine Point, Jackson Co.; Biloxi, Harrison Co.; Bolton, Hinds Co.; Bovina, Warren Co.; Buccaneer State Park, Hancock Co.; Choctaw L., Choctaw Co.; Chotard Landing, Issaquena Co.; Clermont Harbor, Hancock Co.; Clinton, Hinds Co.; Columbus, Lowndes Co.; Corinth, Alcorn Co.; Deer I., Harrison Co.; De Soto Natl. Forest, Harrison and Jackson Cos.; D'Iberville, Harrison Co.; Dorman Lake, Oktibbeha Co.; Eagle Lake, Warren Co.; East Ship I., Harrison Co.; Fontainebleau BBS route, Jackson Co.; Golden Triangle Regional Airport, Lowndes Co.; Gulfport, Harrison Co.; Hattiesburg, Forrest Co.; Horn I., Jackson Co.; Jackson, Hinds Co.; Jonestown, Coahoma Co.; Kosciusko, Attala Co.; Lake Mary Crawford, Lawrence Co.; Long Beach, Harrison Co.; Lucedale, George Co.; Lyman, Harrison Co.; Mayhew, Lowndes Co.; Merrill, George Co.; Mississippi State Univ., Oktibbeha Co.; Monticello, Lawrence Co.; Newton, Newton Co.; Noxubee NWR, Oktibbeha, Noxubee, and Winston Cos.; Ocean Springs, Jackson Co.; Pascagoula R. marsh, Jackson Co.; Pass Christian, Harrison Co.; Pearl R. marsh, Hancock Co.; Pearl R. swamp, Hancock Co.; Petit Bois I., Jackson Co.; Raymond, Hinds Co.; Ross Barnett Reservoir, Madison and Rankin Cos.; Starkville, Oktibbeha Co.; Tennessee Bar, Issaquena Co.; Tupelo, Lee Co.; Vicksburg, Warren Co.; Wade, Jackson Co.; Wall Doxey State Park, Marshall Co.; Waukomis L., Alcorn Co.; Waveland, Hancock Co.; West Ship I., Harrison Co.

Note to Contributors: Please send the Editor your sightings for the fall migration (1 August to 30 November) and the winter season (1 December to 28 February) as soon as possible after the close of the respective season. If time permits, we will forward your more significant sightings to American Birds as well as publishing them in the Mississippi Kite. For all records, please specify the number of birds, date, exact locality, and observer(s). Good quality black-and-white photographs for use in the Mississippi Kite will be welcomed.

For unusual records (generally any species preceded by a "4" on

the Mississippi check-list, or out-of-season records of other species), supply as much detail as possible, including a detailed description of the bird(s) made before consulting a field guide, and the conditions of observation (e.g., bird watched through 10X binoculars for 20 min, at distances of 30 to 100 feet). If at all possible, such birds should be photographed or corroborated by other observers.

Not all records received can be published. Those of major interest are: arrival and departure dates for migrants, records of unusual species or unusual numbers of birds, or noteworthy breeding records. All breeding records, for any species of bird, are desired for our nest record card file.

Sincere thanks to all of you who sent in records for this issue. The increase in the number of observers sending in reports is gratifying, and we hope this trend will continue. We can only publish what you send us!

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Christmas Bird Counts.-- Would all compilers of Christmas Bird Counts please send us a complete copy of their results as soon as possible after making the count? Please send a complete photocopy of the form you send to American Birds, including field descriptions of any unusual species reported, or send us a written transcript thereof. We hope to make the Christmas Bird Count summary an annual feature of the Mississippi Kite, and your cooperation will be greatly appreciated.