



The Newsletter of the Golden Triangle Audubon Society

Vol. 16 No. 12

December 2010

## Sea Rim State Park Christmas Bird Count Monday January 3, 2011 Meet in Sabine Pass at 7:00 a.m.

at the intersection of Highway 87 and FM3322 in Sabine Pass. This is at the stop sign in Sabine Pass, where Highway 87 turns west.

Countdown dinner at 6:00 p.m., location to be confirmed.

Please contact John Whittle at johnawhittle@aol.com or 409-722-4193 (H), and let us know you plan to attend so we can make the best possible area assignments.

## Orange County Christmas Bird Count Saturday January 1, 2011 Meet in Orange at 7:00 a.m.

at the Service Station at the intersection of Highway 105 and FM1442.

Contact Ken Sztraky 409-385-2835 (H) or berrysheepfarm@att.net.

Please join us for what we hope will be two enjoyable birding days. All are invited, even if you are not an experienced birder or are only able to bird for part of the day. Feeder watchers are welcome to participate. Let us know in advance and we will find a suitable group for you to join. The more pairs of eyes in a group, the more birds will be seen.

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Other local counts which will welcome your participation include the Turkey Creek Count (in the Big Thicket north of Kountze) on Saturday, December 18 (contact Dave Roemer, Big Thicket NP at 409-951-6820, Dave\_Roemer@nps.gov or John Whittle at johnawhittle@aol.com), the Bolivar Peninsula Count on Wednesday December 22 (contact Bill Graber 409-866-5452), the Johnson Bayou count on Monday December 27 (contact Ken Sztraky, 409-385-2835, berrysheepfarm@att.net) and the Beech Creek Count (in the Steinhagen Lake area) on Wednesday December 29 (contacts as for Turkey Creek). More details and other counts on page 3.

# The Brown Pelican

Vol. 16, No.12 December 2010 Issue number 169

## Golden Triangle Audubon Society

Web Site for more information www.goldentriangleaudubon. org

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### The Brown Pelican is

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# **Calendar of Events**

Saturday December 18. Turkey Creek Christmas Count. See page 3 for details.

**Wednesday December 22. Bolivar Peninsula Christmas Count.** See page 3 for details.

Wednesday December 29. Beech Creek Christmas Count. See page 3 for details.

Saturday January 1, 2011. Orange County Christmas Bird Count. Our traditional way to celebrate the New Year. See the full details on page 3 or contact Ken Sztraky (409-385-2835 or berrysheepfarm@att.net) for more information.

Monday January 3, 2011. Sea Rim Christmas Bird Count. Contact John Whittle (409 -722-4193 or johnawhittle @aol.com or see page 3 for full details. This count includes Sabine Pass, Sea Rim State Park, Sabine Woods, Texas Point NWR and parts of Murphree WMA and McFaddin NWR. This count is sponsored by Golden Triangle Audubon and, absent hurricanes in the months immediately prior, records over 150 species.

Thursday January 20, 2011. Membership Meeting. Details in next month's issue.

**Saturday January 22, 2011. Field Trip.** Tentatively, this trip will be to Anahuac National Wildlife Refuge and nearby Chambers County, looking primarily for waterfowl but also raptors and sparrows. As this is written, there are good numbers of ducks and geese in the area around Teal Slough in Anahuac NWR, although they tend to be somewhat distant from the road. We plan to meet at the Visitor Information Station just beyond the entrance at 8:00 a.m. Full details and driving directions in next month's issue.

We last ran this trip in 2005 (pre hurricanes!). As an alternative, we could go to the nearby areas of Calcasieu and Cameron parishes in Louisiana, but we have no recent reports of birding in this area. If you have any suggestions for other locations, please let us know. Thursday February 17, 2011. Membership Meeting. Details in a future issue.

**Saturday February 19, 2011. Field Trip.** Tentatively Sheldon Lake State Park. Alternate suggestions welcome.

### Refreshments

Each month, we rely on volunteers to provide the refreshments at our membership meeting. We need volunteers to bring items for all the spring 2011 meetings. Please do not wait until the last minute to volunteer! We do not expect one person to bring everything, but please call so we can coordinate! Even if you would like to bring drinks and cookies or something similar, please call Jennifer Armacost at (409) 790-7222 (or email her at armacostj@yahoo.com) as far in advance as possible. Please help if you can!

### Subscription Renewal Reminder

Please check the mailing label on this issue. If the date on your label NOT prefixed by "AU" has passed, or there is no other date, please remit your contribution of \$15 to Golden Triangle Audubon Society at P.O. Box 1292, Nederland, Texas 77627-1292. Although this contribution towards the cost of the Brown Pelican is voluntary for National Audubon Society members living in the official chapter territory, we will appreciate your support. Our official chapter territory is defined by zip codes, but is basically Jefferson, Hardin and Orange Counties and one or two localities close to those Counties.



EarthShare of Texas represents Audubon Foundation of Texas and the National Audubon Society in payroll contribution programs in workplaces throughout Texas. For more information about how you can support Audubon Foundation of Texas and the National Audubon Society at your workplace, call 1-800-GREENTX, or visit www.earthshare-texas.org.

# Southeast Texas Christmas Bird Counts – 2010-2011

Further information on the counts shown in abbreviated form below is available on the Houston Audubon Web Site **www.houstonaudubon.org** – click on the button in the lower part of the right hand panel.

#### Galveston: Tuesday, December 14, 2010

Dwight Peake (dpeake1@att.net)

#### Mad Island Marsh: Tuesday, December 14, 2010

Brent Ortego (brentortego@hotmail.com).. More information on Brent Ortego's website (www.ortegobirds.com).

#### San Bernard NWR: Friday, December 17, 2010

You can join us by contacting either of the co-compilers below or by showing up at the refuge headquarters on CR306 at 0630 hours the morning of December 17th. Co-compilers **Ron Weeks** (ronweeks@sbcglobal.net or phone evenings 979-299-0066) and **Jennifer Wilson** (Jennifer\_wilson@fws.gov or phone daytime 979-964-4011).

#### Armand Bayou Nature Center: Saturday, December 18, 2010

Please contact Martha Hood at 281-286-6746 or **lazuli007@yahoo.com**, to register, get signed up for an area and for further details.

#### Brazos Bend: Saturday, December 18, 2010

Contact compiler Bill Godley at 281-341-6684 (email: fribbish@msn.com) for details.

#### Spring Creek: Saturday, December 18, 2010

This count covers a 15-mile diameter circle that is roughly centered in The Woodlands at I-45 and Rayford-Sawdust road. Contact compiler **Al Barr**, albbarr@comcast.net or 281-443-6629, for more information.

#### Turkey Creek: Saturday, December 18, 2010

This count in Hardin and Tyler Counties includes the Turkey Creek and Hickory Creek Savannah Units of the Big Thicket National Preserve. Meet at the Big Thicket Visitor Center on US69 at FM420, about 7 miles north of Kountze at 6:30 AM. Sponsored by the Big Thicket National Preserve. Contact **Dave Roemer** (dave\_roemer@nps.gov or 409-951-6820)or **John Whittle** (johnawhittle@aol.com or 409-722-4193) for more information.

#### Freeport: Sunday, December 19, 2010

The Freeport Christmas Bird Count works through its co-compilers and ten area leaders. First-time participants should contact co-compiler Mike Austin by e-mail (**MAUSTI5@hotmail.com** or by telephone, 281-992-8888).

#### Bolivar Peninsula: Wednesday, December 22, 2010

The count circle in Chambers County includes High Island and Anahuac NWR. Newcomers are welcome to join! Please contact compiler **Bill Graber** at 409-866-5452 to participate. This is Bill's 49th year to lead the count.

#### Attwater Prairie Chicken NWR: Wednesday, December 22, 2010

If you are interested in participating, please contact (Sumita Prasad) at sumita@alumni.utexas.net, 832-453-4374.

#### Trinity River: Tuesday, December 28, 2010

Areas to be counted include the Trinity River NWR, Tarkington Prairie, and Gaylor Lake. We will meet at 7:00am at the Valero Gas station located at the intersection of Hwy 105 and Hwy 321, about 6 miles southeast of Cleveland. Contact Stuart Marcus at 936-336-3610 (h), 936-336-9786 (w) or stuartma@sbcglobal.net.

#### Johnson Bayou - Southwest Louisiana: Monday December 27 2010

Johnson Bayou CBC has a rich history beginning in 1976 to present. While much of the area is private, local land owners have allowed access to their property for this count, areas rarely birded and normally inaccessible to birders at other times offering a good chance for oddities. We have permission from the land owners *i.e.* Gray Estate and Crain Brothers to be on their properties. Areas covered include beach, costal cheniers, marsh and grasslands. Johnson Bayou is located off Hwy 82 in Louisiana just across from Pleasure Island, TX (east of Sabine Pass). From Port Arthur take Hwy 82 east for about 15 miles into LA. The school sits between a store and the Head-of-the-Hallow Cemetery. Meet at 7:00 AM at the Johnson Bayou school. This count has great potential with enough observers. We always need more birders on this count and this is a great chance to find a "one-of-a-kind" bird for a CBC. Please contact **Ken Sztraky** (berrysheepfarm@att.net or 409-385-2835), for more information, assignments and directions.

#### Beech Creek: Wednesday, December 29, 2010

This count takes places in Tyler and Jasper Counties and includes Steinhagen Lake, the Beech Creek unit of Big Thicket National Preserve and Martin Dies State Park. Meet at the Corps of Engineers Picnic Area on FM92 immediately north of the intersection with FM1746 in Town Bluff at 6:30 AM. Sponsored by the Big Thicket National Preserve. Contact **Dave Roemer** (dave\_roemer@nps.gov or 409-951-6820)or **John Whittle** (johnawhittle@aol.com or 409-722-4193) for more information.

#### Old River: Thursday, December 30, 2010

The count covers all points within 7.5 miles of Lake Charlotte. Compiler **Harry Elliott**, harry\_s\_elliot@comcast.net or 832-444-0965.

#### Orange County: Saturday, January 1, 2011

Habitat covers marsh, woodlands, and the Cow Bayou watershed. Meet in Orange at 7:00 AM at the Service Station at the intersection of Highway 105 and FM 1442. All are invited, even if you are not an experienced birder or are only able to bird for part of the day. Feeder watchers are welcome to participate. Let us know in advance and we will find a suitable group for you to join. The more pairs of eyes in a group, the more birds will be seen. Contact **Ken Sztraky**, berrysheepfarm@attnet, telephone 409-385-2835, for more information.

#### Buffalo Bayou: Sunday, January 2, 2011

The count circle is centered at the Houston Audubon's Edith L. Moore Sanctuary. It extends from Memorial Park on the east to beyond Hwy 6 on the west; from the Southwest Freeway at West Belt on the south to FM 529 near Jersey Village on the north. Contact co-compilers **Michael Williams** (preferably by email txbfcbc@houstonarboretum.org or via phone at 832-723-0653) or **Adam Wood** (birdsondabrain@earthlink.net or 713-515-1692)

#### Sea Rim State Park: Monday, January 3, 2011

This count in Jefferson County includes Sea Rim SP, Texas Point NWR and Sabine Pass area. Sponsored by **Golden Triangle Audubon Society**. Contact **John Whittle** at johnawhittle@aol.com or 409-722-4193 for details.

### **November Program – Snakes of Southeast Texas**

Report by Jana Whittle

Cody Conway and Kelley Sampeck presented a very informative and entertaining program about snakes at our November meeting, the last regular meeting in 2010. Cody began by warning people not to pick up snakes unless they know for sure what they are and if they are venomous or not. Cody is a reptile expert who started handling snakes at the young age of 16. He has done work with and for several local organizations including Shangri-La Nature Center in Orange, Texas Master Naturalists, Texas Parks and Wildlife, and he is also a nature photographer. When he was younger he even handled a Western Diamondback Rattlesnake. Kelley graduated from the University of Texas and has Biology degree. She has banded birds and is also a nature photographer and excellent birder.

There are 250 species of snakes in the United States but only 22 species are venomous. Only four of the 22 venomous snakes are common in the Golden Triangle area: copperhead, cottonmouth (water moccasin), rattlesnake, and coral snake. In the US in 2008 there was only one recorded death of a person as a result of a snake bite. There were 1,268 people bitten by a copperhead, 1,130 people bitten by a rattlesnake 511 by an unknown species, 185 by a cottonmouth, and 98 by a coral snake. The one person that died was bitten by a rattlesnake.

There are four very useful functions of snakes: They are the top predator of rodents, they are important for agriculture, they control the spread of diseases, and there are important medical uses of their venom. Snakes are very important to the food chain, especially in eating rats. Venom from the Wagler's viper is used in anti wrinkle cream. It is so expensive that mostly only movie stars use it. A different viper's venom is used as an anti-clotting agent in cardiac patients. The last use of venom that Cody spoke about is breast cancer treatment. This is used in Indonesia and the venom seems to suppress the tumor growth. This is a very controversial usage.

To determine if a snake in our area of the US is venomous or not, you need to see the eyes. Round eyed snake generally are not. The exception is the coral snake. Most venomous snakes have a slit in their pupils. Cody warned the audience that that simple scheme does not work in other parts of the US and particularly does not work in other parts of the world. To determine is a road-killed snake was poisonous or not, lift up the tail and if there is a transition under it. If there is not a transition in the pattern under it, it is (was) venomous. It is a myth that all snakes with triangular shaped heads are venomous. That is not true. After explaining how to identify venomous snakes, he discussed lots of other different kinds of snakes, what they like to eat, and their habits.

Cody suggested two snake field guide books: *Lone Star Field Guide for Texas Snakes*, and *Texas Snakes* by Dixon. Kelley carried around a Nelson's milk snake and Cody carried around a ball python. They brought a western diamondback rattlesnake, an eastern cottonmouth and a copperhead for people to observe. Cody indicated that the snakes they had were captive reared and were not wild-caught snakes. Thank you Cody and Kelley for a wonderful program.

## Field Trip West Jefferson County November 20, 2010

A fantastic turnout of eager birders gave a great start to the Golden Triangle Audubon's November trip to western Jefferson County. Would the trip live up the expectations of the group? Would there be flocks of Sandhill Cranes? Hundreds of sparrows dotting the fields and fence lines? Raptors perched on the utility poles and soaring over the open country? Thousands of waterfowl in flooded fields? There was only one way to find out: start birding!

The starting point for this trip has traditionally been the field at the corner of FM 365 and Johnson Road. This area has, in the past, been a great spot for the reclusive LeConte's Sparrow among other birds. Alas, development has reduced the "birdiness" of this area considerably. No LeConte's were found but there were plenty of chattering Sedge Wrens and singing Song Sparrows. A small flock of Snow Geese flew overhead complete with one smaller Ross's Goose tagging along. A little hunting on the opposite side of 365 produced Lincoln's, Swamp and Field Sparrows as well as some of the numerous Eastern Phoebes that would be found on the day.

Moving further down Johnson Road toward League Road, a few more birds made appearances. A Northern Harrier cruised low over the fields watching and listening for rodent prey. Harrier's faces are actually structured like those of owls and designed to funnel sound toward the ears much like a parabolic microphone – making them as much hunters by ear as by eye. Calling Eastern Meadowlarks were abundant in the same fields, no doubt keeping a sharp eye on that harrier!

At the intersection of League Road and Johnson Road there is a small wooded area that has produced many interesting birds in the past such as Eastern Screech-Owl, Golden-crowned Kinglet and Pine Siskin. The woods came through with several aggressive Red-bellied Woodpeckers defending their territories against all comers including a couple of Northern Flickers (of the eastern, "Yellow-shafted" race). Brown Thrashers were heard by all but only seen by a few as they lurked deep in the bushes. The first American Goldfinches of the season called from high in the trees and a few Pine Warblers put in a brief appearance.

Sandhill Cranes are one of the main target birds of this field trip and it would be a great disappointment to miss them. Luckily, scouting from earlier in the week had pinpointed the location of a wintering flock and the group headed in that direction. Sure enough, it was not long before small groups of these tall, elegant birds were seen flying over the fields. Stopping to admire them, their odd, bugling calls were heard by the birders. Although most in the group managed decent looks of flying birds, the cranes on the ground were less cooperative. The main flock was quite distant from any road and could only be barely seen as they milled around a herd of cattle. Well, a distant look is better than no look at all!

Raptors are another focus of this trip and there were plenty to be seen. Colorful American Kestrels perched on telephone wires and looked for small prey in the fields. More Northern Harriers were seen as they were flying over or sitting in almost every pasture! Both of our common *Accipiters* (Sharp-shinned and Cooper's Hawks) were seen by at least some of the birders. Handsome Crested Caracaras were also seen by some but Red-tailed Hawks were seen by all (and often). Always the most common large raptor in southeast Texas, Red-tails were everywhere – sitting on poles and trees, soaring over fields and stooping for prey. If you have trouble identifying Red-tails this is the place to go and sort them out!

While heading toward some staked out waterfowl, the most anticipated raptor of the trip was located – Bald Eagle. The first birds seen were two immature eagles perched on a levee. They soon took to the air as the birders approached giving good looks. As the group enjoyed the young birds, a magnificent adult Bald Eagle soared into view! It flew over the road several times giving all great looks before eventually drifting off. But that would not be the last eagle seen! At least one additional Bald Eagle (possibly two) was seen flying over the fields a little down the road. The birders could not have asked for a better showing of these spectacular raptors!

But even more birds were seen on the day. There are still the waterfowl to talk about! Although, western Jefferson county does not seem to host the numbers of ducks that it used to, some were located. A few Northern Shovelers flew out of a flooded field accompanied by Green-winged Teal. Another mixed flock included both Northern Pintail and American Wigeon. A small group of American Coots swam along the shoreline while a single Pied-billed Grebe was located in small wet area. Numerous Greater White-fronted Geese flew overhead and a large flock of distant Snow Geese (at least one thousand strong) was stirred up by a passing raptor. Somewhat disturbing was the absence of any Mottled Ducks in the area.

The group wrapped up the day traveling FM 365, McDermand and South China Roads. A few more nice birds were located including a flock of Brewer's Blackbirds and some cooperative White-crowned Sparrows. But all trips must end eventually and this one wrapped up right back where it started on FM 365. The birders went their separate ways at this point but all could agree it was a great trip. But you don't have to miss out if you couldn't make the trip as most of these species reported here (Bald Eagle, Sandhill Crane, Snow Goose, etc.) will be hanging out in western Jefferson œunty all winter, so get out there and bird!

Birds reported to leaders: Greater White-fronted Goose (92); Snow Goose (1015); Ross's Goose (2); American Wigeon (3); Northern Shoveler (25); Northern Pintail (20); Green-winged Teal (10); Piedbilled Grebe (1); Great Blue Heron (4); Great Egret (9); Cattle Egret (22); White Ibis (8); Plegadis species Ibis (100); Turkey Vulture (19): Bald Eagle (4); Northern Harrier (17); Sharp-shinned Hawk (1); Cooper's Hawk (3); Red-shouldered Hawk (1); Red-tailed Hawk (35); Crested Caracara (2); American Kestrel (11); American Coot (20); Sandhill Crane (130); Killdeer (25); Wilson's Snipe (2); Eurasian Collared-Dove (16); Mourning Dove (12); Belted Kingfisher (2); Red-bellied Woodpecker (4); Northern Flicker (2); Eastern Phoebe (9); Loggerhead Shrike (11); American Crow (2); Tree Swallow (519); Carolina Chickadee (1); Sedge Wren (5); Rubycrowned Kinglet (1); Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (1); Gray Catbird (1); Northern Mockingbird (4); Brown Thrasher (2); European Starling (37); American Pipit (30); Yellow-rumped Warbler (3); Pine Warbler (2); Field Sparrow(5); Savannah Sparrow (17); Song Sparrow (3); Lincoln's Sparrow (1); Swamp Sparrow (2); White-crowned Sparrow (8); Red-winged Blackbird (5); Eastern Meadowlark (6); Meadowlark species (2); Brewer's Blackbird (50); Great-tailed Grackle (72); Brown-headed Cowbird (75); American Goldfinch (3); Steve Mayes House Sparrow (12); Species(60).

## **Bird Sightings – October 2010**

**Coverage**: Jefferson, Orange, Hardin, Tyler, Jasper, Newton, Angelina, San Augustine and Sabine counties. Send Reports to: John Whittle, 3015 Nashville Avenue, Nederland, Texas 77627-6749 by the 10th of the month after or e-mail to johnawhittle@aol.com or call (409) 722-4193. For "very rare" birds, or very much out-of-season species, please submit a brief account of your sighting, including a description of the bird (unless unmistakable), brief details of what it was doing, and where it was seen (if on publicly accessible property). Format: "Common" to "abundant" birds are shown in the fashion "JEF 4 reps(25)" which means four reports in Jefferson County totaling 25 birds. Less than "common", as JEF-SW 7/5(2) ABC", which means seen in Jefferson County (JEF) at Sabine Woods (SW) on the 5th of July, two (2) birds, reported by observer "ABC." The range of dates for which the species was reported is shown in parentheses in a column before the sighting details or report summaries.

**Commentary**: An interesting month with over 180 species reported, but no vagrants, just several species either in unusually high or low numbers and a few early and late arrivals and last seen dates. A prolonged stay by a Clay-colored Sparrow is noteworthy. As always, reports are attributed to the reporter; in many cases multiple observers helped confirm the identity of an unusual species!

WHISTLING-DUCK, Bik-bell. GADWALL	(3-23) (31-31)	JEF 2 reps(55) JEF-MCFW 10/31(1) JAW;	TURNSTONE, Ruddy SANDERLING	(16-23) (9-31)	JEF 2 reps(5) JEF 4 reps(104)	
JEF-SRSP 10/31(1) JAW	· /		SANDPIPER, Western	(9-31)	JEF 4 reps(130)	
DUCK, Mottled	(31-31)	JEF-MCFW 10/31(2) JAW	SANDPIPER, Least	(9-31)	JEF 3 reps(6)	
LOON, Common	(24-31)	JEF-SW 10/24(1) JÁW;	DUNLIN	(16-31)	JEF 3 reps(92)	
JEF-TXPT 10/30(2) SM; JE	EF-SRSP	10/31(1) JAW	DOWITCHER, Short-billed	(9-31)	JEF 4 reps(101)	
PELICAN, Brown	(9-31)	JEF 5 reps(342)	DOWITCHER, Long-billed	(23-31)	JEF 2 reps(79)	
CORMORANT, Neotropic	(9-31)	JEF 4 reps(15)	GULL, Laughing	(3-31)	JEF 6 reps(1035)	
CORMORANT, Double-crest.	(31-31)	JEF-SRSP 10/31(5) JAW	GULL, Franklin's	(23-31)	JEF-TX87 10/23(1) JAW;	
ANHINGA	(9-9)	JEF 10/9(1) JAW	JEF-SRSP 10/31(2) JAW			
BITTERN, American	(31-31)	JEF-TXPT 10/31(1) JAW	GULL, Ring-billed	(23-31)	JEF 2 reps(18)	
HERON, Great Blue	(16-31)	JEF 3 reps(5)	GULL, California	(23-23)	JEF-SRSP 10/23(1) JAW	
EGRET, Great	(2-31)	JEF 10 reps(162)	GULL, Herring	(23-31)	JEF 2 reps(3)	
EGRET, Snowy	(2-31)	JEF 6 reps(38)	TERN, Gull-billed	(16-16)	JEF-SRSP 10/16(17) JAW	
HERON, Tricolored	(9-24)	JEF 3 reps(4)	TERN, Caspian	(16-31)	JEF 3 reps(69)	
EGRET, Reddish	(9-31)	JEF 3 reps(7)	TERN, Common	(31-31)	JEF-SRSP 10/31(1) JAW	
EGRET, Cattle	(9-30)	JEF 5 reps(155)	TERN, Forster's	(9-31)	JEF 5 reps(293)	
NIGHT-HERON, Yellow-cr.	(9-23)	JEF 3 reps(7)	TERN, Royal	(9-31)	JEF 5 reps(278)	
IBIS, White	(2-31)	JEF 7 reps(96)	TERN, Sandwich	(23-23)	JEF-TX87 10/23(1) JAW	
IBIS, Plegadis	(30-30)	JEF-TX87 10/30(10) JAW	PIGEON, Rock	(3-31)	JEF 7 reps(280)	
VULTURE, Black	(2-28)	JEF 4 reps(4)	COLLARED-DOVE, Eurasian		HAI 1 rep(1)	
VULTURE, Turkey	(2-31)	HAI 4 reps(6); JEF 10	DOVE, White-winged	(16-31)	JEF 8 reps(90)	
reps(28)	<i></i>		DOVE, Mourning	(8-31)	HAI 2 reps(14); JEF 9	
OSPREY	(23-31)	JEF-SW 10/23(1) FTSW;	reps(62)	( <b>- -</b> 0		
JEF-SRSP 10/31(2) JAW	<i>(</i> )		DOVE, Inca	(3-24)	JEF-SW 10/3(1) JAW; JEF-	
KITE, White-tailed	(30-30)	JEF-SW 10/30(1) JAW	SW 10/23(2) FTSW; JEF-5			
HARRIER, Northern	(3-31)	JEF 10 reps(22)	CUCKOO, Yellow -billed	(9-9)	JEF-SW 10/9(1) JCA	
HAWK, Sharp-shinned	(9-31)	JEF 7 reps(9)	CUCKOO, species	(30-30)	JEF-SW 10/30(1) JAW	
HAWK, Cooper's	(2-31)	HAI 2 reps(2); JEF 5 reps(8)	OWL, Barn	(9-31)	JEF 8 reps(22)	
ACCIPITER species	(9-9)	JEF 1 rep(1)	OWL, Great Horned	(30-30)	JEF-SW 10/30(1) JAW	
HAWK, Red-shouldered	(9-31) (9-28)	JEF 5 reps(6) JEF 6 reps(8)		(23-23)	JEF-SW 10/23(3) FTSW	
HAWK, Broad-winged HAWK, Swainson's	(28-28)	JEF-SW 10/28(1) CC	WILL'S-WIDOW, Chuck - SW 10/9(1) JAW; JEF-SW	(2-23)	JEF-SW 10/2(1) JAW; JEF-	
HAWK, Red-tailed	(16-31)	HAI 2 reps(2); JEF 7	SWIFT, Chimney	(2-11)	JEF-NEDR 10/2(1) JAW;	
reps(19)	(10 01)	1, (12 10)0(2), 021 7	JEF-BMT 10/11(5) RHJ	(2 11)		
CARACARA, Crested	(9-31)	JEF 7 reps(16)	HUMMINGBIRD, Ruby-thr.	(1-30)	HAI 4 reps(8); JEF 31	
KESTREL, American	(9-31)	JEF 7 reps(19)	reps(208)	( /		
MERLIN	(16-28)	JEF 5 reps(5)	HUMMINGBIRD, Black-chin.	(8-18)	JEF-NEDR 10/8(1) JJW;	
FALCON, Peregrine	(9-28)	JEF-TX87 10/9(1) JAW;	JEF-NEDR 10/9(1) JFW; J	ÈF-NÉDF	R 10/10(1) JFW; JÈÉ-NEDR	
JEF-SW 10/24(1) JAW; JE	28(1) CC	10/11(1) JFW; JÈF-BMT 1	0/12(1) RI	HJ; JEF-NEDR 10/18(1) JJW		
RAIL, Clapper	(9-31)	JEF 4 reps(8)	HUMMINGBIRD, Broad-tailed	(24-24)	JEF-BMT 10/24(1) RHJ	
RAIL, King	(31-31)	JEF-MCFW 10/31(1) JAW	HUMMINGBIRD species	(16-16)	JEF 1 rep(2)	
PLOVER, Black-bellied	(9-31)	JEF 4 reps(69)	KINGFISHER, Belted	(3-31)	JEF 6 reps(13)	
PLOVER, Snowy	(9-31)	JEF 4 reps(104)	WOODPECKER, Red-bellied	(2-31)	HAI 3 reps(4); JEF 9	
PLOVER, Semipalmated	(9-31)	JEF 3 reps(17)	reps(10)	<i>(</i> <b>- - - )</b>		
PLOVER, Piping	(9-31)	JEF-SRSP 10/9(1) JAW;	SAPSUCKER, Yellow-bellied		HAI 2 reps(3); JEF 6 reps(6)	
JEF-SRSP 10/23(12) JAW			WOODPECKER, Downy	(2-31)	JEF 21 reps(31)	
	(9-31)	HAI 1 rep(1); JEF 5 reps(54)	FLICKER, Northern	(2-30)	HAI 1 rep(1); JEF 5 reps(6)	
STILT, Black -necked	(16-23)	JEF 2 reps(23)	WOOD PECKER, Pileated	(4-29)	HAI 2 reps(2); JEF 3 reps(3)	
AVOCET, American JEF-SRSP 10/16(1) JAW;	(9-31)	JEF-SRSP 10/9(2) JAW;	WOOD-PEWEE, Eastern FLYCATCHER, Yellow-bellied	(2-27)	JEF 8 reps(18)	
		JEF-MCFW 10/31(1) JAW		(2-17)	JEF-SW 10/2(1) JAW; JEF-	
SANDPIPER, Spotted YELLOWLEGS, Greater	(31-31) (9-31)	JEF-MCFW 10/31(1) JAW JEF 7 reps(28)	SW 10/17(1) JAW FLYCATCHER, Acadian	(4-4)	HAFSILS 10/4(1) MG	
WILLET	(3-31)	(9-31) JEF 5 reps(177)	FLYCATCHER, Traill's	(4-4)	JEF-SW 10/16(1) MHW;	
YELLOWLEGS, Lesser	(9-31)	JEF 2 reps(3)	JEF-SW 10/17(1) JAW	(10 17)		
CURLEW, Long-billed	(23-23)	JEF-SW 10/23(1) FTSW	FLYCATCHER, Least	(9-17)	JEF-SW 10/9(1) JAW; JEF-	
GODWIT, Marbled	(9-31)	JEF-SRSP 10/9(6) JAW;	SW 10/17(1) JAW	(•)		
JEF-SRSP 10/23(6) JAW;			EMPIDONAX species	(2-17)	JEF 5 reps(6)	

PHOEBE, Eastern (2-31)HAI 2 reps(2); JEF 11 reps(24) FLYCATCHER, Gt. Crested JEF-SW 10/9(5) JCA; JEF-(9-16) SW 10/16(1) MHW FLYCATCHER. Scissor-tail. (9-31) JEF 8 reps(53) HAI 1 rep(1); JEF 8 reps(27) SHRIKE, Loggerhead (9-31) VIREO, White-eyed (2-27)HAI 1 rep(1); JEF 7 reps(9) VIREO, Yellow-throated (11-14) HAFSILS 10/11(1) MG; HAF SILS 10/14(2) MG VIREO, Blue-headed (16-30) JEF-SW 10/16(3) MHW; JEF-SW 10/17(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/30(1) JAW VIREO, Warbling (2-2) JEF-SW 10/2(1) JAW VIREO, Philadelphia (2-3) JEF-SW 10/2(1) JHH; JEF-SW 10/3(1) JAW VIREO, Red-eyed (2-5)JEF-SW 10/2(1) JHH; JEF-BMT 10/5(1) RHJ JAY. Blue (1-30) HAI 5 reps(36); JEF 9 reps(22) SWALLOW, Tree (16-31) JEF 8 reps(543) JEF 4 reps(264) SWALLOW, N. Rough-winged (16-31) SWALLOW species (17-17)JEF 1 rep(5) CHICKADEE, Carolina (1-31) HAI 16 reps(46); JEF 4 reps(6) (1-31) TITMOUSE, Tufted HAI 10 reps(21) JEF-SW 10/16(1) MHW NUTHATCH, Red-breasted (16-16)JEF-SW 10/30(2) JAW **CREEPER. Brown** (30-30)WREN, Carolina (2-31) HAI 7 reps(13); JEF 8 reps(10) WREN, House HAI 1 rep(1); JEF 9 reps(25) (2-31)WREN, Sedge (31-31) JEF-TXPT 10/31(1) JAW WREN, Marsh (30-31) JEF-TXPT 10/30(10) SM; JEF-TXPT 10/31(4) JAW KINGLET, Golden-crowned (16-31) JEF-SW 10/16(2) MHW; JEF-BMT 10/24(1) RHJ; JEF-SW 10/30(20) JAW; JEF-SW 10/31(3) JAW KINGLET, Ruby-crowned (2-31) HAI 4 reps(5); JEF 13 reps(213) **GNATCATCHER**, Blue-gray (1-31) HAI 1 rep(1); JEF 11 reps(122) BLUEBIRD, Eastern (1-3) HAI-SILS 10/1(2) MG; JEF-BMT 10/3(1) RHJ THRUSH, Swainson's (2-2) JEF-SW 10/2(1) JAW THRUSH, Hermit (30-30) JEF-SW 10/30(5) JAW THRUSH, Wood (2-2) JEF-SW 10/2(1) SM JEF 2 reps(3) **ROBIN, American** (7-31)CATBIRD, Gray (1-31) HAI 1 rep(3); JEF 12 reps(24)**MOCKINGBIRD**, Northern (3-31)HAI 5 reps(18); JEF 10 reps(26) THRASHER, Brown (2-30)HAI 3 reps(3); JEF 15 reps(63) STARLING, European (3-31) HAI 1 rep(18); JEF 8 reps(527) WARBLER, Tennessee (16-30)JEF 7 reps(30) WARBLER, Orange-crowned (16-31) JEF 9 reps(30) WARBLER, Nashville (3-30)JEF 8 reps(57) JEF 7 reps(22) PARULA, Northern (10-28)JEF-BMT 10/3(1) RHJ; JEF-WARBLER, Yellow (3-31) SW 10/27(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/31(2) JAW WARBLER, Magnolia (2-28) JEF 6 reps(18) WARBLER, Cape May (16-16) JEF-SW 10/16(1) MHW (2-2) WARBLER, Black-thr. Blue JEF-SW 10/2(1) JAW WARBLER, Yellow-rumped (16-31)HAI 4 reps(4); JEF 10 reps(65) WARBLER, Black-thr. Green (16-28) JEF 6 reps(12) JEF-SW 10/2(1) JAW; JEF-WARBLER, Yellow-throated (2-24) SW 10/23(1) FTSW; JEF-SW 10/24(1) GD WARBLER, Pine (24-31) JEF 3 reps(8) JEF-SW 10/17(8) JAW: WARBLER, Palm (17-31) JEF-SW 10/23(30) FTSW; JEF-SW 10/24(30) JAW; JEF-SW 10/27(30) JAW; JEF-SW 10/28(12) CC; JEF-SW 10/30(3) JAW; JEF-TXPT 10/31(2) JAW WARBLER, Black-and-white (2-24) JEF 4 reps(6) **REDSTART**, American HAI 1 rep(1); JEF 10 (2-27)reps(32)

WARBLER, Prothonotary (17 - 17)JEF-SW 10/17(1) JAW (2-2) JEF-SW 10/2(1) JHH OVENBIRD (24-24) JEF-BMT 10/24(1) RHJ WARBLER, Mourning YELLOWTHROAT, Common (2-31) JEF 9 reps(23) WARBLER, Hooded (2-27)JEF 6 reps(10) (3-17) JEF-SW 10/3(1) JAW; JEF-WARBLER, Wilson's SW 10/16(1) MHW; JEF-SW 10/17(1) JAW WARBLER, Canada JEF-SW 10/2(1) JAW; JEF-(2-23)SW 10/23(1) FTSW CHAT, Yellow-breasted (2-31)JEF-SW 10/2(2) JAW; JEF-SW 10/3(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/31(1) JAW TOWHEE, Spotted (16-16) JEF-SW 10/16(1) MHW TOWHEE, Eastern (30-30) JEF-SW 10/30(1) JAW SPARROW, Chipping (24-31)HAI-SILS 10/29(3) MG; HAI-SILS 10/31(2) MG; JEF-SW 10/24(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/30(5) JAW; JEF-SW 10/31(1) JAW; JEF-TXPT 10/31(1) JAW SPARROW, Clay-colored (27-30) JEF-SW 10/27(1) JAW; JEF-SW 10/28(1) CC; JEF-SW 10/30(1) JAW SPARROW, Field (30-30) JEF-SW 10/30(4) JAW SPARROW, Vesper (23-23) JEF-SW 10/23(1) FTSW SPARROW, Savannah (24-31) JEF 2 reps(21) SPARROW, Grasshopper (30-30) JEF-SW 10/30(1) JAW; JEF-TXPT 10/30(1) SM SPARROW, Nelson's (30-31)JEF 2 reps(30) SPARROW, Seaside (23-31)JEF 2 reps(17) SPARROW, Song (17-30) JEF 3 reps(4) (4-30) SPARROW, Lincoln's JEF 6 reps(17) SPARROW, Swamp SPARROW, White-throated (16-31) JEF 7 reps(28) (30-31)JEF 3 reps(16) SPARROW, White-crowned (23-30)JEF 2 reps(6) **TANAGER**, Summer (2-11)JEF-SW 10/2(1) JAW; JEF-BMT 10/11(1) RHJ (30-30) **TANAGER**, Scarlet JEF-SW 10/30(1) JAW (9-30) JEF-SW 10/9(1) JCA; JEF-**TANAGER**, Western SW 10/30(1) JAW CARDINAL, Northern (1-31)HAI 22 reps(926); JEF 7 reps(14) GROSBEAK, Rose-breasted JEF 4 reps(4) (16-27) **GROSBEAK**, Blue (2-27)JEF 2 reps(4) **BUNTING**, Indigo (2-31) HAI13 reps(16); JEF 11 reps(206) **BUNTING**, Painted (23-31) JEF 6 reps(10) DICKCISSEL (23-23) JEF-SW 10/23(1) FTSW **BLACKBIRD**, Red-winged (9-31) JEF 6 reps(164) (24-24) JEF 10/24(2) JAW MEADOWLARK, Eastern **MEADOWLARK** species (24-24) JEF 1 rep(4) GRACKLE, Common (1-23)JEF 3 reps(38) **GRACKLE**, Boat-tailed (3-31)JEF 8 reps(284) JEF 7 reps(221) **GRACKLE**, Great-tailed (9-31) GRACKLE, Gt./Boat-tailed (16-31) JEF 6 reps(357) COWBIRD, Brown-headed JEF 2 reps(575) (24-30)ORIOLE, Orchard (27-27)JEF-SW 10/27(1) JHH JEF-SW 10/23(1) FTSW; **ORIOLE**, Baltimore (23-30)JEF-SW 10/27(1) JHH; JEF-SW 10/30(2) JAW ORIOLE, Baltimore/Bullock's (16-16) JÈF-SW 10/16(1) MHW FINCH, House (2-14)HAI 6 reps(21); JEF 4 reps(20) SPARROW, House (17-31) JEF 2 reps(4) Number of Species 183 Number of Individuals 20752

**County Abbreviations:** 

HAI — Hardin; JEF — Jefferson

Location Codes:

BMT — Beaumont; MCFW — McFaddin NWR; NEDR — Nederland; SILS — Silsbee; SRSP — Sea Rim State Park; SW — Sabine Woods; TX87 — Texas 87 Pt. Arthur-Sabine Pass-Sea Rim SP, TXPT — Road to Pilot Station at Texas Point

**Observer Abbreviations**; CC — Cody Conway; FTSW — Field Trip to Sabine Woods; GD — Gerald Duhon; JAW — John Whittle; JCA — John C. Arvin; JFW — Jana Whittle; JHH — John H. Haynes; JJW — John and Jana Whittle; JM — John Mariani; MG — Melanie Goetsell; MHW — Steve Mayes, John Haynes, John Whittle; RHJ — Rose Ann and Harrison Jordan; SM — Steve Mayes

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Brown Pelican

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Unfortunately, almost all the local and regional telephone Rare Bird Alerts have been discontinued in favor of various Internet based means of distribution.

The Texas-wide Rare Bird Alert, maintained by Houston Audubon Society, is available on their web-site at http://www.houstonaudubon.org/ Email alerts are also available for a fee. Most rare bird sightings in Texas are posted on the TEXBIRDS listsery. Archives of the listserv are at http://lists.texbirds.org/texbirds.html It is not necessary to subscribe to the listsery to view the archives, which include postings up to the most recent..

Transcriptions of many current and recent email alerts are available on the Birding on the Net at Siler's http://birdingonthe.net/hotmail.html Detailed information (maps and text) on birding sites on the Upper Texas Coast is also available on the Web at http://www.texasbirding.net.

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