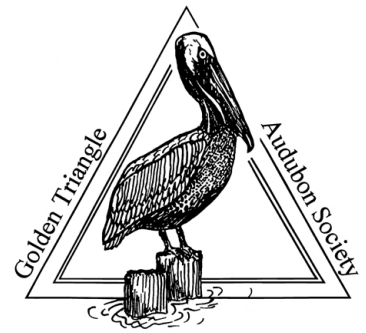


The Brown Pelican



The Newsletter of the Golden Triangle Audubon Society

Vol. 19 No. 1

January 2012

Membership Meeting
Thursday, January 19, 2012
7:00 PM
Garden Center, Tyrrell Park, Beaumont
Between Triumph and Tragedy:
Across New Zealand in Search of the Kiwis
By Stephan Lorenz

One cannot travel and bird in New Zealand without a certain sadness of what has been lost. The tragedy of human caused extinction common to many isolated islands has not bypassed this beautiful country. While the unique ecosystems of New Zealand face continued threats from habitat destruction and especially introduced species, much of the recent conservation work has been a triumph. Some bird species have been saved from the brink of extinction and other species are recovering, reclaiming former haunts on the main islands. Despite the extirpation of Moas and Haast Eagles, New Zealand still harbors many unique birds, including five endemic families. The kiwi represents one of the most famous and well-known birds native to the country and a search for it offers a great backdrop to the spectacular landscapes and birds found there.

Stephan Lorenz spent one month traveling from Auckland on the North Island, through the South Island, and onto Stewart Island in search of all five species of kiwi. Due to their nocturnal habits and shy demeanor, Kiwis are hard to observe and photograph, thus the presentation will be filled with pictures of mountains, seascapes, and many other natural features, and of course plenty of birds. From flightless to some of the greatest flyers on earth, kiwi to albatross, from plain Fernbirds to colorful Stitchbirds, come enjoy an evening in search of the kiwi(s). The presentation will feature many original photographs, highlight the birds and birding opportunities of New Zealand, and touch briefly on logistics for an independent visit.

Currently Stephan Lorenz teaches biology at San Jacinto College and devotes the rest of his time to birding, photography, and writing. He has published numerous magazine articles on traveling and birds, including in *Bird Watcher's Digest*, *WildBird*, and *Birder's World*. He worked for several years as a field biologist and bird guide throughout North America. His most recent trip took him to northern Colombia.

We will plan on having the doors open by about 6:00 p.m. and the program will start at 7:00 p.m. sharp.

The Brown Pelican

Vol. 18, No.1 January 2012
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Golden Triangle
Audubon Society

Web Site for more information
www.goldentriangleaudubon.org

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Calendar of Events

Thursday January 19, 2012.
Membership Meeting. Details on p. 1.

Saturday January 21, 2012. Field Trip.
This trip will be to Anahuac National Wildlife Refuge and nearby Chambers County, looking primarily for waterfowl but also raptors and sparrows. The refuge is recovering nicely from the recent hurricanes, although, like the rest of the area, it is very dry.

As this is written, ongoing road construction in the refuge is resulting in various roads being closed at short notice. Consequently, we do not know exactly where we will go on this Field Trip. Currently, the Skillern Tract has some of the best birding, including Cinnamon Teal, Say's Phoebe, Least Grebe and Vermilion Flycatcher, but we may visit the Teal Slough/Deep Marsh area if there are reports of concentrations of birds there. There are several Bald Eagles, adults and immatures around, and a Golden Eagle has been seen at least twice. Also, there are numerous hawks, mostly Red-tailed Hawks, in a number of different color morphs. The area also has a good population of Crested Caracaras. We may also bird some of the rice field areas in Chambers County mostly north of IH-10. We ran this trip last year, and it was spectacularly successful in finding more than 35,000 geese, seven Bald Eagles and one Golden Eagle among other species.

We plan to meet at the temporary Visitor Information Station just beyond the entrance at 8:00 a.m. Harris's Sparrows have been reported from this area again this year. It is anticipated that this field trip will require very minimal walking, and all roads that we will be allowed to use will be easily passable in ordinary vehicles.

To reach Anahuac NWR from Winnie, take Highway 124 south to FM1985. (It is 11.0 miles from IH-10 and half a mile less from Highway 73.) Turn right (west) on FM1985 and proceed another 11.0 miles to the well marked Anahuac NWR Access Road on the left (south). The entrance to the Refuge is just over three miles down the access road.

Thursday February 16, 2011.
Membership Meeting. Details in future issues.

Saturday February 18, 2011. Field Trip.
Details in future issues.

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 2012 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.

Hummingbird Mini Field Trip Friday January 20

We will have an impromptu mini field trip to several people's houses to view their winter hummers on Friday, January 20th. The trip will start at the Whittle's house in Nederland at 8:00 AM. Please let us know if you live in the Golden Triangle and have winter hummers that are easy for others to view. We will have more information about which houses we will go to at our meeting on Thursday, January 19th. Call or email me if you have any questions. janafw@aol.com 722-4193. Thank you.

Jana Whittle

Great Backyard Bird Count Perfect for New Birders

15th annual count takes place Feb. 17-20

December 2011-The annual Great Backyard Bird Count is the perfect opportunity. The event is hosted by Audubon, the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, and Canadian partner Bird Studies Canada. The results provide a snapshot of the whereabouts of more than 600 bird species.

Anyone can participate in this free event and no registration is needed. Watch and count birds for at least 15 minutes on any day of the count, February 17-20, 2012. Enter your results at www.birdcount.org, where you can watch as the tallies grow across the continent. The four-day count typically records more than 10 million observations.

"When thousands of people all tell us what they're seeing, we can detect patterns in how birds are faring from year to year," said Janis Dickinson, director of Citizen Science at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. "

The Great Backyard Bird Count is a perfect example of Citizen Science," says Audubon Chief Scientist, Gary Langham. "Like Audubon's Christmas Bird Count, volunteers help us with data year after year, providing scientific support that is the envy of many institutions. It's also a lot of fun."

"We're finding that more people are taking part in our bird count programs every year--and the more that take part, the better it is for the birds," says Richard Cannings, Senior Projects Officer for Bird Studies Canada.

The 2011 GBBC brought in more than 92,000 bird checklists submitted by participants from across the United States and Canada. Altogether, bird watchers identified 596 species with 11.4 million bird observations. Results from the 2011 GBBC included:

- Increased reports of Evening Grosbeaks, a species that has been declining;
- A modest seasonal movement of winter finches farther south in their search for food;
- The Eurasian Collared-Dove was reported from Alaska for the first time, more evidence of an introduced species rapidly expanding its range.

Although it's called the Great "Backyard" Bird Count, the count extends well beyond backyards. Lots of participants choose to head for national parks, nature centers, urban parks, nature trails, or nearby sanctuaries. For more information,

including bird-ID tips, instructions, and past results, visit www.birdcount.org.

The count also includes a photo contest and a prize drawing for participants who enter their bird checklists online.

Important Notice

The very favorable arrangement for printing the *Brown Pelican* that we enjoyed for some time has not been available to us since September. We have made alternative arrangements, but our costs have increased substantially. The Board discussed this issue at a recent meeting, and decided that the time has come to offer electronic delivery of the *Brown Pelican* in lieu of hard copy. **Please be assured that at this time, there is no plan or intent to discontinue mailing hard copies to those members who want to receive the printed *Brown Pelican*.** However, we now offer three alternatives to hard copy. If you are willing to use one of the electronic options, please let us know by emailing us at GTAudubon@aol.com Please include your name and address as it currently appears on your mailing label.

Options:

1. To receive an email each month with a link to the latest issue of the *Brown Pelican* on the web site (www.goldentriangleaudubon.org)
2. To receive an email with a pdf file of the *Brown Pelican* attached. (The file size is typically under 350 KB)
3. To check the website yourself monthly and not receive either a mailed copy or an email.

New Officers of Golden Triangle Audubon

As those of you who were at the Annual Meeting in November will recall, Gerald Duhon was elected President for the 2012-13 term. Gary Kelley was elected Vice-President for 2012. The other officers and Board members were all re-elected as shown on the masthead on page 2. Jim Armacost, outgoing President, continues on the Board of Directors as an at-large member.

Other Christmas Bird Count Reports

This issue contains a detailed report on the Sea Rim State Park Christmas Bird Count, sponsored by Golden Triangle Audubon. This report and reports from other local counts will be posted on the Golden Triangle Audubon web site at www.goldentriangleaudubon.org as final results become available. We will, space permitting, include some details on other counts in next month's *Brown Pelican*.

Results at Turkey Creek on December 17 saw a rather modest 62 species in a count circle that suffered extensive fire damage in mid-year, and which contains little permanent water. At the other Big Thicket count, Beech Creek, which includes Steinhagen Lake, on December 28, the species count was a high 97, perhaps reflecting birds being drawn to areas where there is water. Provisional species totals at other counts were as follows: Bolivar Peninsula on December 21, 185 species; Johnson Bayou (LA) on December 30, 127 species; and Orange County on January 1, 131 species.

Sea Rim Christmas Bird Count – 3 January 2012

This year's count attracted significantly fewer participants than has been normal in recent years. Coverage of the area was much as in previous years, however, but several groups had one person fewer. The road to the Sabine Lighthouse became available to us this year, and added to our coverage in the small arc of the circle that is in Louisiana. Erosion of the beach near Texas Point has greatly altered the habitat in the two or three miles immediately west of the Point itself, such that there is no beach there now, just dying vegetation, and this could not be covered. As best we could tell from a distance, there were not significant numbers of birds along that stretch.

Events of the year, however, may have influenced the count in a number of ways. First and foremost, although the drought began to ease after September, water levels in most of the normally fresh water ponds and marshes were far below normal. The effects on the vegetation were likely quite subtle, and although it seems to have recovered during the fall, the food supplies for many species may well have been poor in amount and/or quality. A large area of Texas Point refuge burned in a fire in mid-June. Again, although the area greened back up quickly after the rains came, the fire may well have killed off invertebrate populations that will take much longer to return to normal.

The morning of the count was close to the coldest of the winter so far, and this seems to have influenced the locations of many of the bird species. Shorebirds that we would normally find mostly along the beach were not there, but seemingly were on the (this year) extensive mud flats within the Texas Point refuge. Extensive habitat improvement work within Murphree Wildlife Management Area has temporarily changed and reduced the available habitat for ducks and other species in the parts of that area within the count circle. As has been the case with other local counts, most passerine species were just not moving around as much as usual, and were more difficult to find.

We were probably lucky that the fire in the McFaddin refuge that broke out the previous day did not hinder our access to the count circle or the ability of the refuge to provide us with essential transportation to cover large areas of Texas Point refuge and the extreme eastern part of McFaddin that is in the circle. This fire caused extensive damage to the middle section of the refuge. This is the second significant wildfire in the area this year, and circumstances tend to indicate that these fires were likely deliberately started. While controlled fire can be a useful tool in promoting regeneration of marshes, it is essential such fires be authorized, well planned, and with standby personnel with the capability to protect all neighboring property on site.

The number of individuals recorded was the lowest since the count was reinstated in 1995. However, too much should probably not be read into that, as the number is very variable, and highly dependent on how many geese are seen during the day, and also on how many of the fairly large duck flocks are in the circle on count day. The number of species seen, at 152, was a little lower than the 10-year average of 156, but no single group of species or factor jumps out at us as the reason.

Many of the local geese were apparently elsewhere on count day, and duck numbers and variety were somewhat disappointing, although few regular species were missed. It was disappointing not to find any scoters again this year, although viewing conditions outwards on the Gulf were not good.

White Pelican numbers were low, but Brown Pelicans were there. Cormorant numbers were on the low side, likely a result of low water levels. We failed to find any American Bitterns this year, and most heron and egret species were on the low side, except for Great Blue Herons, the number of which was the second highest on record. White Ibis numbers in the circle vary greatly from year to year, and this year showed a return to near normal after a very large number last year. Similarly, dark ibis (*Plegadis* species) were low.

Nobody who has driven along Highway 87 this fall and winter will be surprised that we saw the highest ever number of Red-tailed Hawks, exceeding last year's previous record by a significant margin. Equally encouraging was the resurgence in numbers of White-tailed Kites, although there is great difficulty in knowing whether some of these fairly wide-ranging birds are being double counted. However, that is a problem every year there are a good number of them.

In general, rails were very scarce this year. Clapper and King Rail were in the usually wetter areas in very small numbers, but we failed to find Sora or Virginia Rail. This was likely a by-product of both the Texas Point fire and the dry conditions. A Yellow Rail was found in an unusual location in the marshes between Sabine Woods and Backridge Road.

As noted above, shorebirds were not in their normal locations. There were very few on the Sea Rim beach, but reasonably good numbers of the small plovers on the beach further east, while there were lots of peeps in the mud flats in the interior of Texas Point NWR. In addition, there were dowitchers as well as the Stilt Sandpipers that are there if they are anywhere. The beach is not there where we have found the Whimbrel in recent years, but one was seen on Backridge Road, while Long-billed Curlews were on the beach that is there and on Pilot Station Road. Marbled Godwits were in Texas Point Refuge and, in good numbers, over in Louisiana.

Ring-billed Gulls were plentiful, but Laughing and Bonaparte's Gulls were not, although present. Forster's and Royal Tern numbers were normal, but Caspian Terns were unusually few. We rarely find many Gull-billed Terns but this year, 17 were found in three areas.

The count circle is not a stronghold for doves and was not for pigeons until very recently, and numbers were normal.

We have come to rely on Great Horned and Barn Owls being in Sabine Woods, and they were there. Ominously, a pile of Barn Owl feathers in the woods suggests that a Barn Owl may have succumbed to a Great Horned Owl recently. Interestingly, we again found Barn Owls in Texas Point refuge far from any trees or structures, and, this year, one in McFaddin refuge. A Short-eared Owl was seen over the marshes on Backridge Road in the early morning.

For the third year in a row, we found a male Vermilion Flycatcher in the Sabine Pass cemetery. A Least Flycatcher,

seen near the drip at Sabine Woods was the only new species for the count this year.

Loggerhead Shrikes continued their comeback from a January 2009 post-hurricane low with the second highest ever total.

Wren numbers were mostly unremarkable, except that two Carolina Wrens at Sabine Woods were the only ones seen. Sedge Wrens seemed unaffected by the Texas Point fire and were normally numerous there. Blue-gray Gnatcatchers were down somewhat, although still healthy, while Golden-crowned Kinglets, while still present in habitat at Sabine Woods distinctly atypical for the species, were not as numerous as in the two previous years.

American Robins are sometimes hard to find in the count circle until a little further into the winter, but not this year. Large flocks were roaming the wooded areas. Brown Thrasher numbers returned towards pre-hurricane numbers, suggesting that the underbrush is recovering.

Orange-crowned Warblers are present in good numbers this year, while it was no surprise that at least one of the numerous Wilson's Warblers seen at Sabine Woods this fall was still present.

Ten years ago, this count was the only one on the Texas Coast to record Green-tailed Towhee. This year, there has been an irruption of the species from the west all the way into central Louisiana. Not only did we find one at Sabine Woods, present there for several months, but two more in the woods north of Sabine Woods. This has shaped up as a good sparrow year. Field Sparrows have been especially common, and it was nice to get both Vesper Sparrow, also numerous this year, and Grasshopper Sparrow.

Perhaps reflecting drier than usual conditions, the number of meadowlarks was a new count high. Blackbirds and grackles were not very plentiful.

Species seen on count (numbers are provisional): WHISTLING-DUCK, Black-bellied (97); GOOSE, Greater White-fronted (146); GOOSE, Snow (1599); GOOSE, Ross's (3); GADWALL (1014); WIGEON, American (21); DUCK, Mottled (60); TEAL, Blue-winged (43); SHOVELER, Northern (57); PINTAIL, Northern (124); TEAL, Green-winged (1553); CANVASBACK (44); DUCK, Ring-necked (4); SCAUP, Greater (2); SCAUP, Lesser (20); SCAUP, Species (95); BUFFLEHEAD (10); MERGANSER, Hooded (15); MERGANSER, Red-breasted (15); DUCK, Ruddy (106); LOON, Common (1); GREBE, Pied-billed (43); GREBE, Eared (1); PELICAN, American White (322); PELICAN, Brown (119); CORMORANT, Neotropic (242); CORMORANT, Double-crested (83); ANHINGA (1); HERON, Great Blue (138); EGRET, Great (124); EGRET, Snowy (138); HERON, Little Blue (33); HERON, Tricolored (29); EGRET, Reddish (1); HERON, Green (1); NIGHT-HERON, Black-crowned (37); IBIS, White (226); IBIS, Plegadis species (182); SPOONBILL, Roseate (61); VULTURE, Black (11); VULTURE, Turkey (118); OSPREY (6); KITE, White-tailed (13); HARRIER, Northern (52); HAWK, Sharp-shinned (4); HAWK, Cooper's (3); HAWK, Red-shouldered (7); HAWK, Red-tailed (106); CARACARA, Crested (1); KESTREL, American (27); MERLIN (5); FALCON, Peregrine (2); RAIL, Yellow (1); RAIL, Clapper (11); RAIL, King (1); MOORHEN, Common (11); COOT, American (243); PLOVER, Black-bellied (58); PLOVER,

Snowy (34); PLOVER, Semipalmated (40); PLOVER, Piping (15); KILLDEER (71); STILT, Black-necked (34); AVOCET, American (598); SANDPIPER, Spotted (2); YELLOWLEGS, Greater (74); WILLET (54); YELLOWLEGS, Lesser (10); WHIMBREL (1); CURLEW, Long-billed (4); GODWIT, Marbled (22); TURNSTONE, Ruddy (7); SANDERLING (163); SANDPIPER, Western (591); SANDPIPER, Least (554); DUNLIN (315); SANDPIPER, Stilt (22); DOWITCHER, Short-billed (78); DOWITCHER, Long-billed (8); DOWITCHER, species (153); SNIPE, Wilson's (2); GULL, Laughing (168); GULL, Bonaparte's (6); GULL, Ring-billed (719); GULL, Herring (15); TERN, Gull-billed (17); TERN, Caspian (3); TERN, Forster's (268); TERN, Royal (83); PIGEON, Rock (74); COLLARED-DOVE, Eurasian (1); DOVE, White-winged (13); DOVE, Mourning (35); OWL, Barn (6); OWL, Great Horned (6); OWL, Short-eared (1); KINGFISHER, Belted (20); WOODPECKER, Red-bellied (5); SAPSUCKER, Yellow-bellied (4); WOODPECKER, Downy (22); FLICKER, Northern (3); FLYCATCHER, Least (1); PHOEBE, Eastern (40); FLYCATCHER, Vermilion (1); SHRIKE, Loggerhead (65); VIREO, White-eyed (2); VIREO, Blue-headed (4); JAY, Blue (2); SWALLOW, Tree (83); CHICKADEE, Carolina (10); CREEPER, Brown (1); WREN, Carolina (2); WREN, House (20); WREN, Winter (1); WREN, Sedge (56); WREN, Marsh (3); KINGLET, Golden-crowned (8); KINGLET, Ruby-crowned (85); GNATCATCHER, Blue-gray (17); THRUSH, Hermit (15); ROBIN, American (442); CATBIRD, Gray (8); MOCKINGBIRD, Northern (58); THRASHER, Brown (18); STARLING, European (233); PIPIT, American (11); WAXWING, Cedar (25); WARBLER, Orange-crowned (62); WARBLER, Yellow-rumped (138); WARBLER, Palm (7); YELLOWTHROAT, Common (20); WARBLER, Wilson's (2); TOWHEE, Green-tailed (3); SPARROW, Field (27); SPARROW, Vesper (2); SPARROW, Savannah (416); SPARROW, Grasshopper (1); SPARROW, LeConte's (6); SPARROW, Nelson's (5); SPARROW, Seaside (16); SPARROW, Song (13); SPARROW, Lincoln's (3); SPARROW, Swamp (69); SPARROW, White-throated (79); SPARROW, White-crowned (87); CARDINAL, Northern (35); BLACKBIRD, Red-winged (530); MEADOW-LARK, Eastern (145); GRACKLE, Common (20); GRACKLE, Boat-tailed (254); GRACKLE, Great-tailed (110); COWBIRD, Brown-headed (55); GOLDFINCH, American (26); SPARROW, House (16); SPECIES, total (152); INDIVIDUALS, total (15147); Observers (18); Parties (9); Party-hours total (58.00); Party-miles total (139.87); Party-hours on foot (26.25); Party-miles on foot (15.37); Party-hours by car (24.25); Party-miles by car (71.00); Party-hours by airboat (4.50); Party-miles by airboat (50.00); Party-hours by 4-wheeler (2.00); Party-miles by 4-wheeler (3.50); Party-hours stationary (1.00).

Participants: Howard Davis, Terry Ferguson, Nancy Fisher, Bill Graber, John Haynes, Gary Kelley, Carol Lynn and Andy Loker, Art Mackinnon, Steve Mayes. Karen McCormick, Sherrie Roden, Jenny Shuffield, Harlan Stewart, Ken Sztraky, Patrick Walther, Jana and John Whittle.

Thanks are due to the McFadden and Texas Point National Wildlife Refuges, and especially Patrick Walther, Sea Rim State Park (Tracy Ferguson) and Murphree Wildlife Management Area (Jim Sutherland) for assisting with access to these areas.

Bird Sightings – November 2011

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: Star birds of the month were undoubtedly the two Long-eared Owls that were a one day wonder at Sabine Woods on November 11. One of the birds was located roosting in a readily observable tree and was seen by many local observers, but was not found the following day. One of the Green-tailed Towhees located in October was seen occasionally during the month. This year has been an unprecedented irruption year for the species, which is being seen all the way east into central Louisiana. Harris's Sparrows have also irrupted much east of their normal winter range, and three were seen at Sea Rim State Park late in the month. A Say's Phoebe was seen at Sea Rim during the month. This was a good fall for lingering warblers and for wintering sparrows.

WHISTLING-DUCK, Black-bell (12-27)	JEF 2 reps(28)	HAWK, Cooper's	(9-29)	HAI 1 rep(1); JEF 6
GOOSE, White-fronted	(1-19) JEF 3 reps(680)	reps(6)		
GOOSE, Snow	(9-21) HAI 1 rep(40); JEF 4	ACCIPITER species	(13-13)	JEF 11/13(1) SRJW
reps(2843)		HAWK, Red-shouldered	(6-30)	JEF 16 reps(32)
GOOSE, White	(19-19) JEF 11/19(2500) FTWJ	HAWK, Red-tailed	(1-30)	ANG 1 rep(1); JEF 23
GOOSE, Ross's	(9-19) JEF-SW 11/9(8) JHW; JEF	reps(312)		
11/13(7) SRJW; JEF-SW 11/17(6) JHW; JEF 11/19(20) FTWJ		CARACARA, Crested	(8-19)	JEF 11/8(4) JAW; JEF-
GOOSE, Cackling	(27-27) ANG 11/27(1) LD	TX87 11/12(2) SG; JEF 11/13(1) SRJW; JEF 11/19(1) FTWJ		
GADWALL	(11-30) ANG 11/27(75) LD; JEF-PI	KESTREL, American	(1-30)	ANG 1 rep(1); HAI 2
11/06(2) SM; JEF 11/19(200) FTWJ; JEF 11/30(16) JAW		reps(2); JEF 21 reps(173)		
WIGEON, American	(27-27) ANG 11/27(50) LD	MERLIN	(8-27)	JEF 11/8(1) JAW; JEF-SW
MALLARD	(19-30) ANG 11/27(2) LD; JEF	11/10(1) JHW; JEF-SW 11/11(1) MHW; JEF-SW 11/16(1) JAW;		JEF 11/19(4) FTWJ; JEF-SW 11/27(1) JAW
11/19(4) FTWJ; JEF 11/30(6) JAW		RAIL, Clapper	(17-17)	JEF-SW 11/17(1) JHW
DUCK, Mottled	(11-19) JEF 3 reps(120)	GALLINULE, Common	(8-8)	JEF 11/8(1) JAW
TEAL, Blue-winged	(13-19) JEF 2 reps(10)	COOT, American	(8-30)	ANG 1 rep(2500); JEF 5
SHOVELER, Northern	(11-30) ANG 1 rep(250); JEF 5	reps(86)		
reps(810)		CRANE, Sandhill	(11-23)	JEF 11/06(80) SM; JEF
PINTAIL, Northern	(19-30) JEF 2 reps(2040)	11/13(200) SRJW; JEF 11/19(508) FTWJ; JEF 11/23(60) CSL		
TEAL, Green-winged	(11-30) JEF 4 reps(429)	PLOVER, Black-bellied	(13-13)	JEF 11/13(1) SRJW
CANVASBACK	(27-27) ANG 11/27(45) LD	KILLDEER	(8-30)	ANG 1 rep(1); JEF 9
REDHEAD	(27-27) ANG 11/27(100) LD	reps(150)		
DUCK, Ring-necked	(27-27) ANG 11/27(150) LD	STILT, Black-necked	(12-19)	JEF 11/12(1) JAW; JEF
SCAUP, Lesser	(27-27) JEF-MCFW 11/27(2) JAW	11/19(2) FSWW		
BUFFLEHEAD	(27-27) ANG 11/27(5) LD	AVOCET, American	(11-12)	JEF-PI 11/06(190) SM;
DUCK, Ruddy	(11-27) ANG 11/27(8) LD; JEF-PI	JEF 11/12(2) JAW; JEF-PI 11/12(100) JAW		
11/06(5) SM; JEF-PI 11/12(16) JAW; JEF 11/19(1) FTWJ		YELLOWLEGS, Greater	(8-30)	JEF 5 reps(30)
BOBWHITE, Northern	(16-16) JEF-SW 11/16(1) JAW	WILLET	(10-27)	JEF 6 reps(47)
LOON, Common	(9-9) JEF 11/9(2) CSL	YELLOWLEGS, Lesser	(8-30)	JEF 5 reps(84)
GREBE, Pied-billed	(13-27) ANG 11/27(100) LD; JEF	YELLOWLEGS species	(3-19)	JEF 2 reps(51)
11/13(7) SRJW; JEF 11/19(1) FTWJ		CURLEW, Long-billed	(19-19)	JEF 11/19(8) FTWJ
CORMORANT, Neotropic	(9-29) JEF 10 reps(86)	SANDPIPER, Western	(11-13)	JEF 2 reps(5)
CORMORANT, Double-crest.	(12-27) ANG 1 rep(150); JEF 3	SANDPIPER, Least	(11-19)	JEF 2 reps(11)
reps(10)		SANDPIPER, Peep	(8-13)	JEF 2 reps(22)
PELICAN, Amer. White	(10-19) JEF 4 reps(161)	SANDPIPER, Pectoral	(11-11)	JEF 11/06(1) SM
PELICAN, Brown	(9-29) JEF 10 reps(69)	DUNLIN	(8-19)	JEF 4 reps(26)
HERON, Great Blue	(8-30) JEF 11 reps(31)	SANDPIPER, Stilt	(13-30)	JEF 11/13(2) SRJW; JEF
EGRET, Great	(1-30) JEF 15 reps(69)	11/30(14) JAW		
EGRET, Snowy	(8-27) JEF 7 reps(40)	DOWITCHER, Long-billed	(8-30)	JEF 5 reps(115)
HERON, Little Blue	(12-12) JEF-PI 11/12(1) JAW	DOWITCHER species	(12-30)	JEF 3 reps(253)
HERON, Tricolored	(10-12) JEF 2 reps(3)	SNIFE, Wilson's	(8-30)	JEF 6 reps(43)
EGRET, Cattle	(1-8) JEF 11/1(12) CSL; JEF	GULL, Bonaparte's	(27-27)	ANG 11/27(5) LD
11/8(21) JAW		GULL, Laughing	(8-27)	JEF 7 reps(262)
NIGHT-HERON, Black-crown.	(11-11) JEF-TX87 11/11(2) JAW	GULL, Ring-billed	(12-27)	ANG 11/27(5) LD; JEF-
IBIS, White	(8-30) JEF 10 reps(406)	TX87 11/12(5) JAW; JEF-TX87 11/27(2) JAW		
IBIS, White-faced	(8-13) JEF 2 reps(104)	TERN, Gull-billed	(13-13)	JEF 11/13(3) SRJW
IBIS, Plegadis	(8-30) JEF 5 reps(3167)	TERN, Caspian	(9-10)	JEF 2 reps(2)
SPOONBILL, Roseate	(8-19) JEF 3 reps(7)	TERN, Forster's	(10-27)	JEF 3 reps(53)
VULTURE, Black	(8-29) HAI 1 rep(14); JEF 6	PIGEON, Rock	(9-29)	HAI 1 rep(180); JEF 8
reps(17)		reps(82)		
VULTURE, Turkey	(8-30) ANG 1 rep(2); HAI 1	COLLARED-DOVE, Eurasian	(8-19)	JEF 4 reps(45)
rep(7); JEF 12 reps(65)		DOVE, White-winged	(7-30)	HAI 3 reps(18); JEF 15
OSPREY	(10-12) JEF 2 reps(2)	reps(203)		
KITE, White-tailed	(10-29) JEF-SRSP 11/10(1) JAW;	DOVE, Mourning	(1-30)	HAI 2 reps(26); JEF 17
JEF-TX87 11/10(1) JAW; JEF-SW 11/11(1) MHW; JEF 11/19(1)		reps(648)		
FTWJ; JEF-MCFW 11/27(1) JAW; JEF-TX87 11/29(1) JAW		DOVE, Inca	(19-28)	JEF 2 reps(5)
KITE, White-tailed	(10-29) JEF 5 reps(6)	GROUND-DOVE, Common	(19-19)	JEF 11/19(5) FTWJ
EAGLE, Bald	(9-30) ANG 11/27(5) LD; JEF	OWL, Barn	(5-27)	JEF 6 reps(22)
11/13(3) SRJW; JEF-BMT 11/27(1) RHJ; JEF 11/30(3) JAW;		OWL, Great Horned	(1-29)	JEF 6 reps(8)
ORA 11/9(2) CSL; ORA 11/12(2) CSL; ORA-TX87 11/28(1)		OWL, Long-Eared	(11-11)	JEF-SW 11/11(2) MHW
SBE		HUMMINGBIRD, Buff-bellied	(7-7)	JEF-NEDR 11/7(1) JAW
HARRIER, Northern	(1-30) JEF 18 reps(146)	HUMMINGBIRD, Ruby-throat.	(7-8)	JEF-NEDR 11/7(1) JAW;
HAWK, Sharp-shinned	(8-19) JEF 9 reps(16)	JEF-NEDR 11/8(1) JAW		

HUMMINGBIRD, Black-chin. (3-30) JEF-BMT 11/3(1) RHJ;
JEF-BMT 11/4(1) RHJ; JEF-BMT 11/5(1) RHJ; JEF-NEDR
11/6(1) JJW; JEF-BMT 11/9(1) RHJ; JEF-BMT 11/10(1) RHJ;
JEF-BMT 11/13(1) RHJ; JEF-BMT 11/14(1) RHJ; JEF-BMT
11/18(1) RHJ; JEF-NEDR 11/30(1) JAW

HUMMINGBIRD, Archilochus (11-11) JEF-SW 11/11(1) HS

HUMMINGBIRD, Calliope (28-29) JEF-BMT 11/28(1) RHJ;
JEF-BMT 11/29(1) RHJ

HUMMINGBIRD, Broad-tailed (6-8) JEF-NEDR 11/6(1) JJW;
JEF-BMT 11/8(1) RHJ

HUMMINGBIRD, Rufous (6-30) JEF 16 reps(19)

HUMMINGBIRD species (1-29) JEF 19 reps(35)

KINGFISHER, Belted (9-30) JEF 8 reps(17)

WOODPECKER, Red-headed (13-13) JEF 11/13(1) SRJW

WOODPECKER, Red-bellied (3-30) HAI 2 reps(3); JEF 11
reps(15)

SAPSUCKER, Yellow-bellied (4-19) JEF 6 reps(12)

WOODPECKER, Downy (2-30) HAI 1 rep(1); JEF 11
reps(17)

FLICKER, Northern (4-11) JEF 4 reps(4)

WOODPECKER, Pileated (25-25) HAI-SILS 11/25(1) MG

WOOD-PEWEE, Eastern (4-8) JEF-SW 11/4(2) JHH;
JEF-SW 11/5(2) JHH; JEF-SW 11/8(1) JHH

PHOEBE, Eastern (4-30) ANG 1 rep(1); HAI 2
reps(2); JEF 20 reps(146)

PHOEBE, Say's (9-9) JEF-SRSP 11/9(1) TF

FLYCATCHER, Vermilion (11-27) JEF 11/06(1) SM; JEF
11/13(2) SRJW; JEF 11/19(2) FTWJ; JEF 11/27(1) JAW

FLYCATCHER, Gt. Crested (11-11) JEF-SW 11/11(1) MHW

FLYCATCHER, Scissor-tailed (10-29) JEF-TX87 11/10(1) JAW;
JEF-TX87 11/29(1) JAW

SHRIKE, Loggerhead (8-30) JEF 16 reps(164)

VIREO, White-eyed (4-29) JEF 4 reps(5)

VIREO, Blue-headed (4-27) JEF 7 reps(11)

JAY, Blue (9-30) JEF 7 reps(12)

CROW, American (8-30) HAI 2 reps(16); JEF 4
reps(23)

CROW, species (13-13) JEF 11/13(3) SRJW

SWALLOW, Tree (7-30) JEF 7 reps(443)

SWALLOW, Barn (8-10) JEF-TX87 11/8(1) JAW;
JEF-TX87 11/10(1) JAW

CHICKADEE, Carolina (4-30) HAI 4 reps(9); JEF 9
reps(16)

NUTHATCH, Red-breasted (10-10) JEF-SW 11/10(1) JHW

CREEPER, Brown (4-23) JEF 9 reps(21)

WREN, Carolina (9-30) HAI 3 reps(6); JEF 4
reps(4)

WREN, House (9-27) JEF 7 reps(14)

WREN, Sedge (19-19) JEF 11/19(2) FTWJ

GNATCATCHER, Blue-gray (4-29) JEF 12 reps(45)

KINGLET, Golden-crowned (4-30) JEF 14 reps(81)

KINGLET, Ruby-crowned (4-30) JEF 14 reps(91)

BLUEBIRD, Eastern (4-30) HAI 3 reps(8); JEF 7
reps(38)

THRUSH, Hermit (4-29) JEF 9 reps(34)

THRUSH, Wood (10-12) JEF-SW 11/10(1) JHW;
JEF-SW 11/11(1) MHW; JEF-SW 11/12(1) JAW

ROBIN, American (4-30) JEF 14 reps(123)

CATBIRD, Gray (4-17) JEF 7 reps(20)

MOCKINGBIRD, Northern (1-30) HAI 2 reps(8); JEF 19
reps(120)

THRASHER, Brown (4-29) JEF 13 reps(49)

STARLING, European (1-30) HAI 5 reps(465); JEF 10
reps(1589)

PIPIP, American (8-30) JEF 3 reps(7)

WAXWING, Cedar (11-11) JEF-SW 11/11(1) MHW

OVENBIRD (5-18) JEF 11/5(1) FHM; JEF-SW
11/5(1) JHH; JEF-SW 11/12(1) AW; JEF-SW 11/18(1) HF

WARBLER, Black-and-white (18-18) JEF-SW 11/18(1) HF

WARBLER, Tennessee (8-8) JEF-SW 11/8(1) JHH

WARBLER, Orange-crowned (4-30) HAI 4 reps(4); JEF 18
reps(109)

WARBLER, Nashville (4-11) JEF-SW 11/4(1) JHH; JEF
11/5(1) FHM; JEF-SW 11/8(1) JHH; JEF-SW 11/10(1) JHW;
JEF-SW 11/11(1) SM

YELLOWTHROAT, Common (4-29) JEF 14 reps(20)

REDSTART, American (4-16) JEF-SW 11/4(2) JHH; JEF
11/5(1) FHM; JEF-SW 11/5(4) JHH; JEF-SW 11/6(1) HS; JEF-
SW 11/8(4) JHH; JEF-SW 11/9(2) JHW; JEF-SW 11/16(1) JAW

PARULA, Northern (5-8) JEF 11/5(1) FHM; JEF-SW
11/6(1) HS; JEF-SW 11/8(1) JHH

WARBLER, Magnolia (6-9) JEF-SW 11/6(1) HS; JEF-
SW 11/8(1) JHH; JEF-SW 11/9(1) JHW

WARBLER, Palm (8-23) JEF-SW 11/8(1) JHH;
JEF-SW 11/10(1) JHW; JEF-SW 11/11(1) JFW; JEF-SW

11/23(1) HF

WARBLER, Pine (3-17) JEF 7 reps(16)

WARBLER, Yellow-rumped (4-30) HAI 2 reps(4); JEF 16
reps(74)

WARBLER, Black-thr. Green (5-8) JEF 11/5(1) FHM; JEF-SW
11/5(4) JHH; JEF-SW 11/6(1) HS; JEF-SW 11/8(2) JHH

WARBLER, Wilson's (4-29) JEF 15 reps(38)

CHAT, Yellow-breasted (4-4) JEF-SW 11/4(1) JHH

TOWHEE, Green-tailed (4-14) JEF-SW 11/4(1) TJF; JEF-
SW 11/5(1) FHM; JEF-SW 11/5(1) JHH; JEF-SW 11/9(1) JHW;
JEF-SW 11/10(1) CK; JEF-SW 11/14(1) CC

TOWHEE, Eastern (4-17) JEF-SW 11/4(2) JHH;
JEF-SW 11/4(1) TJF; JEF-SW 11/10(2) JHW; JEF-SW 11/11(1)
MHW; JEF-SW 11/17(1) JHW

SPARROW, Chipping (4-30) HAI 6 reps(95); JEF 11
reps(34)

SPARROW, Clay-colored (5-5) JEF-SW 11/5(2) JHH

SPARROW, Field (4-29) JEF 14 reps(187)

SPARROW, Vesper (5-30) JEF 7 reps(37)

SPARROW, Savannah (4-30) ANG 1 rep(2); JEF 14
reps(407)

SPARROW, Grasshopper (5-19) JEF 5 reps(8)

SPARROW, Nelson's (4-4) JEF-TXPT 11/4(2) TJF

SPARROW, Seaside (5-5) JEF-TXPT 11/5(1) FHM

SPARROW, Song (4-29) JEF 8 reps(14)

SPARROW, Lincoln's (4-17) JEF 8 reps(33)

SPARROW, Swamp (4-27) JEF 11 reps(45)

SPARROW, White-throated (4-29) HAI 2 reps(5); JEF 20
reps(846)

SPARROW, Harris's (28-29) JEF-SRSP 11/28(1) TF;
JEF-SRSP 11/29(3) TF; JEF-SRSP 11/29(3) JAW

SPARROW, White-crowned (4-30) JEF 11 reps(47)

JUNCO, Dark-eyed (4-29) JEF 11 reps(51)

TANAGER, Western (4-4) JEF-SW 11/4(1) JHH

CARDINAL, Northern (11-30) HAI 3 reps(42); JEF 4
reps(11)

GROSBEAK, Rose-breasted (4-17) JEF-SW 11/4(1) JHH;
JEF-SW 11/5(1) JHH; JEF-SW 11/16(1) JAW; JEF-SW 11/17(1)
JHW

GROSBEAK, Blue (10-10) JEF-SW 11/10(1) JHW

BUNTING, Indigo (4-17) JEF 6 reps(30)

BUNTING, Painted (4-5) JEF-SW 11/4(1) JHH;

BLACKBIRD, Red-winged (3-30) ANG 1 rep(15); JEF 13
reps(1301)

MEADOWLARK, Eastern (8-30) JEF 7 reps(95)

MEADOWLARK species (1-30) JEF 7 reps(134)

BLACKBIRD, Brewer's (13-29) JEF 11/13(60) SRJW; JEF
11/19(550) FTWJ; JEF-SRSP 11/29(1) JAW

GRACKLE, Common (8-30) JEF 5 reps(1167)

GRACKLE, Boat-tailed (9-29) JEF 9 reps(826)

GRACKLE, Great-tailed (7-30) JEF 13 reps(412)

GRACKLE, Gt./Boat Tl. (10-17) JEF 5 reps(341)

COWBIRD, Bronzed (30-30) JEF 11/30(1) JAW

COWBIRD, Brown-headed (8-30) JEF 6 reps(9397)

ORIOLE, Bullock's (4-4) JEF-SW 11/4(1) JHH

ORIOLE, Baltimore (18-18) JEF-SW 11/18(1) HF

FINCH, House (5-8) JEF-BMT 11/5(1) RHJ;
JEF 11/8(1) JAW

GOLDFINCH, American (19-27) JEF 11/19(3) FTWJ; JEF-
SW 11/27(10) JAW

SPARROW, House (10-30) JEF 3 reps(19)

Number of Species 191
Number of Individuals 84566

County Abbreviations:

ANG — Angelina; HAI — Hardin; JEF — Jefferson; ORA — Orange

Location Codes:

BMT — Beaumont; MCFW — McFaddin NWR; NEDR — Nederland;
PI — Pleasure Island, Port Arthur; 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

AW — Adam Wood et al; CC — Cody Conway; CK — Cody Conway
and Kelley Sameck; CSL — Christine Sliva; FHM — Terry Ferguson,
John Haynes, Steve Mayes; FSWW — T Ferguson, H Stewart, Jana &
John Whittle; FTWJ — Field Trip to West Jefferson County; HF —
Terry Ferguson and John Haynes; HS — Harlan Stewart; JAW — John
Whittle; JFW — Jana Whittle; JHH — John H. Haynes; JHW — John
Haynes and John Whittle; JJW — John and Jana Whittle; LD — Louis
Debetaz; MG — Melanie Goetsell; MHW — John Haynes, Steve
Mayes and John Whittle; RHJ — Rose Ann and Harrison Jordan; SBE
— Sheri Bethard; SG — Sherry Gibson; SM — Steve Mayes; SRJW —
Sherrie Roden, John Whittle; TF — Terry Ferguson; TJF — Thomas J.
Finnie.

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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 listserv. Archives of the listserv are at <http://lists.texbirds.org/texbirds.html> It is not necessary to subscribe to the listserv to view the archives, which include postings up to the most recent.

Transcriptions of many current and recent email alerts are available on the Siler's Birding on the Net at <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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