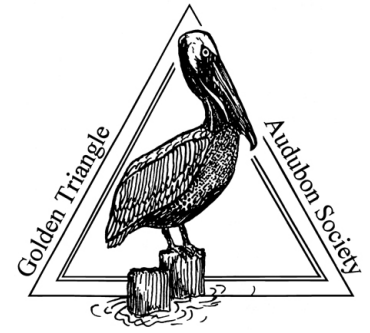


The Brown Pelican



The Newsletter of the Golden Triangle Audubon Society

Vol. 19 No. 3

March 2013

**Membership Meeting
Thursday March 21, 2013
Garden Center, Tyrrell Park, Beaumont 7:00 p.m.**

**Birds of Sabine Woods
John Haynes
Photographs by Harlan Stewart**

Birds of Sabine Woods will be presented by John Haynes. Harlan Stewart compiled pictures of birds taken over the last two years. Who would have imagined last year that in April a Tropical Mockingbird would have shown up at Sabine Woods, and then a few weeks later a Golden-fronted Woodpecker? Who would have imagined that over one thousand birders would come to this sanctuary that is owned by Texas Ornithological Society as it is a very long way out of the way for people who live in the greater Houston area, but Sabine Woods is an amazing place to watch migration happen. You will get to see pictures of 36 warblers which will wet all of our appetites for spring migration next month.

We will plan on having the doors open by 6:00 p.m. and the program will start at 7:00 p.m. sharp. A light supper will be available from 6:15 p.m.

The Upcoming Spring Season

Spring is arguably the most anticipated birding season on the Upper Texas Coast. We have a special relationship with Texas Ornithological Society in respect of one of the very best migrant stopover birding locations on the entire Gulf Coast of the United States. We maintain the TOS Sabine Woods Sanctuary for the birds and the birders who come from all over the nation and the world. (If you are reading this in time, you may help us on the Work Day on March 9!) Your membership in Golden Triangle Audubon carries with it free entry to Sabine Woods. We invite you to visit often to enjoy spring migration birding at its very best. Sabine Woods is 4.1 miles west of Sabine Pass on Highway 87.

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Issue number 194

Golden Triangle Audubon Society

Web Site for more information
www.goldentriangleaudubon.org

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Calendar of Events

Important Note: Field Trip notices published here should always be regarded as needing confirmation just before the date. We want to be able to take advantage of any good concentrations of interesting birds and to adjust in cases where access has changed. Changes will always be posted on the web site at www.goldentriangleaudubon.org. Confirmation of the location will also normally be available at the Membership Meeting that is usually, but not always, two days prior to each trip, or by contacting Field Trip Committee chair, Steve Mayes at 409-722-5807 or sgmayes@hotmail.com

Saturday March 16. Field Trip to Bolivar Flats. This is the Saturday BEFORE the Membership Meeting.

Important Note: Galveston County operates a parking permit program on the Bolivar Peninsula. Any one can drive on the beach for free. But if you park on the beach except for a few short stretches, you must have a parking permit on your windshield. The fee for the permit is \$10.00 a year and permits are obtainable from most merchants on the Bolivar Peninsula. In addition, we will probably want to bird at Rollover Pass, and the Gilchrist Community Association will be operating a parking pass system for non-members. Passes (\$5 for a one day pass) will be available from all merchants in Gilchrist. See www.rolloverpasstexas.com for more details.

This trip will occur as spring shorebird migration is getting well under way, but while the wintering birds are mostly still present. Bolivar Flats is an important shore-bird location. We know that a lot of birders are intimidated by shorebirds, but they are not nearly as difficult to identify as is sometimes alleged! This trip offers an opportunity to compare many of the "true" shorebirds with lots of help in identifying them.

Meet at the vehicle barrier at 8:30 a.m. From Winnie, take TX 124 south to High Island. At the shoreline, turn right (west) on TX 87 and proceed through

Gilchrist and Crystal Beach until you reach the intersection where Loop 108 turns right (north). Turn left (the opposite way to Loop 108) along Rettilon Road. At the beach, if conditions permit, turn right (west) about 1/2 mile to the vehicle barrier. It takes at least one and a half hours to drive from the Golden Triangle; more if you bird on the way! We will leave the vehicle barrier at about 8:45 a.m., although the group will be visually obvious on the flats should you be a few minutes later than that.

Some walking is necessary on this field trip. How much depends on how much mud flat is exposed, and this depends on both the tide and the winds that have prevailed over the previous day or so. There is a low tide on March 16 at 6:01 AM and a high tide as 12:58 PM. Usually we stay on dry or moist sand, but sometimes we might want to cross shallow channels.

Depending on the mud flat conditions, we may visit to the North Jetty to view the birds from that side.

We normally stop at Fort Travis park to eat lunch and use the facilities. We expect to stop at Rollover Pass and, perhaps if there is time, at High Island on the way back. We will check in High Island for any "very early" Neotropical songbird migrants. Bring drinks and lunch (or buy locally), sunscreen and insect repellent.

Refreshments

Each month, we rely on volunteers to provide the refreshments at our membership meeting. We thank the following for bringing refreshments in February: Carol Lynn and Andy Loker, Lu Skillern Keeler, Sherry Gibson, Denise and Gary Kelley, and Mary Beth and Herb Stafford. Our apologies to anyone we have omitted. **We need volunteers to bring items for all remaining spring 2013 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 Jana Whittle at (409) 722-4193 (or email her at janafw@aol.com) **as far in advance as possible.** Please help if you can!

Saturday March 23. Marsh Madness at McFaddin National Wildlife Refuge; 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Activities will include Kayaking, fishing, duck calling, duck ID, dogs retrieving, seining and much more, all free. McFaddin NWR is on Highway 87 12 miles west of Sabine Pass, just beyond Sea Rim State Park.

March-April: Yellow Rail Walks at Anahuac NWR. Join birding expert David Sarkozi for a chance to view yellow rails in addition to other rails and species. Meet at the Visitor Information Station just inside the gate at the Refuge. Boots and insect repellent strongly advised.

Sunday March 24; 7 am and 4 pm

Saturday April 7; 7 am and 4 pm

Saturday April 13; 7 am and 4 pm

Sunday April 14; 7 am and 4 pm

Saturday April 20; 7 am and 4 pm

Sunday April 21; 7 am and 4 pm

Thursday April 18. Membership Meeting. John Park on Birds of the Rio Grande Valley.

Saturday April 20. Field Trip to Sabine Woods and Sabine Pass Area.

This trip will look for Neotropical migrants, and does not necessitate extensive walking.

We will assemble at Sabine Woods at 7:30 a.m. While we may go to Pilot Station Road or the Sea Rim and McFaddin areas, we are likely to be in Sabine Woods for at least the first couple of hours, and you should be able to find the group if you are late.

At Sabine Woods, there is a small parking area, with additional parking is improvised using the roadside verges.

Sabine Woods is on the north side of Highway 87, 4.1 miles west of the stop sign in Sabine Pass. Take Highway 87 from Port Arthur to Sabine Pass, turn right at the stop sign, and go 4.1 miles.

Fuller details of this trip will be published in the April Brown Pelican.

Saturday May 11. Jefferson County Migrations Count. Contact John Whittle (johnawhittle@aol.com or (409) 722-4193) for details of or offers to help with this county-wide count.

Thursday May 16. Membership Meeting. Details in next month's issue.



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.

Field Trip to Southwest Louisiana – 23 February 2013

The Golden Triangle Audubon Society has field trips most months of the year. Many of these trips go to traditional spots like Sabine Woods or Bolivar Flats and these spots are visited every year. But every now and then it's nice to go somewhere different, somewhere the group hasn't birded for a while. With this in mind, the February field trip was to southwestern Louisiana, a location not visited by GTAS for some time. It turned out to be a good decision.

Despite its close location to our little corner of Texas, southwestern Louisiana does not get birded all that much by local birders. It's true that most of the birds you can get there are the same ones you can get here so some would say, "why bother?" Of course one must realize that good birding is good birding and there is plenty of habitat in southwestern Louisiana that deserves more coverage by local birders. A good example of that was the welcome station on I-10. This rest area just barely across the border from Orange County holds a wetland area and bird walk that can produce some nice birds. On this date, a chilly start did not keep the birds away. A single American White Pelican was obvious as it cruised around the water. It took a little more looking to spot the Wood Ducks around the lakes perimeter but eventually several were located including beautiful drakes. Great Blue Herons stalked the waters margins while an American Kestrel zipped overhead. The highlight of this spot (and one of the highlights of the trip) came when an adult Bald Eagle flew over the backside of the lake. I've said it before but it bears repeating, any field trip that includes a Bald Eagle has to be a good one! This was

likely a bird that was nesting in the area and this has been a traditional nesting spot for these spectacular raptors for years.

Winding through the back roads south of I-10 takes one through several different habitats including mixed pine/hard wood forest, grassy pastures, swamp, marsh and finally beach as the coast is reached. The wooded areas were hit first and they produced plenty of birds. American Robins were around in good numbers, mostly seen flying overhead. One spot produced almost all of the available woodpeckers including Red-bellied, Downy, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Northern Flicker and Pileated Woodpecker. A female Red-bellied Woodpecker was busy preparing a nest hole in a dead tree, shoveling out beak full after beak full of saw dust from the hole she was working on. Other woodland birds also cooperated. Hermit Thrushes responded to screech-owl imitations while Carolina Chickadees fussed and scolded from the background. White-eyed Vireos called from the deep brush while a Gray Catbird actually popped out for a look. Orange-crowned Warblers were seen by some while Yellow-rumped Warblers were seen by all. A Lincoln's Sparrow played hide and seek in the brush while the Ruby-crowned Kinglets were more cooperative.

Pasture edges and grassy right of ways produced a different set of birds. Eastern Meadowlarks jumped up from the fields while Savannah Sparrows perched on barbed wire fences. Vesper Sparrows were particularly easy to find early on and the group got great views of these robust little birds. The bold outer tail feathers, the obvious eye ring and even the often hidden rusty shoulder patch were all easily seen on several cooperative Vespers. Song Sparrows and Swamp Sparrows popped up a few times while Red-tailed Hawks were easily visible. One distant

Red-tail proved to be a “Harlan’s Hawk”. This distinctive race of the Red-tail is often very black in coloration with little or none of the reddish tail color that the species is named for! In fact, some raptor experts believe that Harlan’s Hawk may be a distinct species from the Red-tail but more research is needed before any definite conclusions can be drawn. Another beautiful raptor, a White-tailed Kite, was seen demonstrating its well-known “kiting” flight over a field. Loggerhead Shrikes perched on telephone wires looking for small prey on the ground while Blue and white Tree Swallows zoomed after airborne insects. An oak tree by one farm house held a nice surprise, a male Vermilion Flycatcher! This red and black beauty is a welcome addition to any birding outing.

As the group headed south, Sabine National Wildlife Refuge came into view along with its miles of coastal marshes. Common Gallinules swam in the marshes while an Eastern Phoebe stuck to an area of trees and brush. Belted Kingfishers searched for small fish while Neotropical and Double-crested Cormorants went after larger game. A Common Loon swam in a shallow lake while Willets, Yellowlegs and Dowitchers flew by the birders. A raft of Horned Grebes was spotted out on the water along with a few Red-breasted Mergansers.

Hitting the coast, the beaches of Cameron Parish were not exactly over run with birds but it was nice to see this area bouncing back from the devastation of Hurricanes Rita and Ike. A Northern Harrier flew low over the roadside marsh looking for an easy meal. Forster’s and Royal Terns cruised over the surf while huge Brown Pelicans plunged head first into it. The rocky break waters installed in the area hosted groups of Ruddy Turnstones and a couple of apparent Common Terns showing obvious dark carpal bars. Flocks of Scaup (probably Lesser for the most part) swam in the surf around the break waters. While looking at these diving ducks, another, more sought after species was spotted: Surf Scoter! An adult male Surf Scoter eventually came out into the open beyond the rocks to give the birders a nice showing of its black and white plumage and odd facial/bill pattern – definitely a distinctive looking duck! Surf is the most common scoter in our part of the world but seeing any scoter this close to shore is always a treat.

A quick stop at Peveto Woods added a few more species for the trip. Blue-gray Gnatcatchers gave their mewing calls from the trees while White-throated Sparrows called from below. This coastal woodlot has been ravaged by recent hurricanes but the Baton Rouge Audubon Society and other volunteers are working hard to bring it back to its former state. In the spring, the large Live Oak trees in the refuge are the first landing spot for migrants coming in off the gulf in this area and they can be loaded with warblers, vireos and other birds. On this day, the woods were a bit slow and the group was a little rushed to get to the last stop of the day. A return in April would, no doubt, produce many more species than this brief stop!

The day was wrapped up back in Texas at another excellent birding location, Pleasure Island. This spoil island is a magnet for many types of water birds and waders and is a favorite hot spot for local birders. One of our locals, Gerald Duhon, birding this spot the day before happened

across an excellent bird: Pacific Loon! This is a smaller species than the Common Loon normally seen in our waters with neat black and white plumage. This is the first record of this species in Jefferson County in the memory of any of the participating birders. On the day of its discovery, the Pacific Loon was relatively easy to see as it cruised the waters just off of the beginning of the north levee road in the company of a raft of Horned Grebes. On this date, viewing the bird took a little more work! Perhaps because of increased fishing activities, the Pacific Loon had relocated to the very end of the north levee road and was associated with a Common Loon. It may have taken a while to find this bird but having it with the Common Loon allowed for great comparisons of the two species. It was a great treat to end the day with such a nice, cooperative rarity!

There are many great birding opportunities in southeast Texas. Whether looking for migrants in Sabine Woods and High Island, or shorebirds on the Bolivar Peninsula or searching for breeding warblers up in the Big Thicket, our home area has something for every birder. But, while birding this area never forget that there is another excellent birding region just across the river. As this field trip showed, southwestern Louisiana has its own share of great birding spots full of colorful species waiting to delight birders. So make the short drive across the Sabine, I think you will find the birding is well worth the trip!

The following species were recorded: Wood Duck (12); Gadwall (38); American Wigeon (2); Mallard (15); Mottled Duck (7); Blue-winged Teal (16); Northern Shoveler (110); Northern Pintail (6); Green-winged Teal (39); Lesser Scaup (36); Scaup species (70); Surf Scoter (1); Hooded Merganser (6); Red-breasted Merganser (6); Ruddy Duck (50); Common Loon (11); Pacific Loon (1); Pied-billed Grebe (8); Horned Grebe (72); Neotropical Cormorant (36); Double-crested Cormorant (6); Cormorant species (5); American White Pelican (51); Brown Pelican (15); Great Blue Heron (11); Great Egret (26); Snowy Egret (41); Little Blue Heron (2); Black-crowned Night-Heron (1); White Ibis (25); White-faced Ibis (1); Plegadis species Ibis (203); Roseate Spoonbill (5); Black Vulture (3); Turkey Vulture (9); Osprey (2); White-tailed Kite (2); Bald Eagle (1); Northern Harrier (7); Cooper’s Hawk (1); Red-shouldered Hawk (1); Red-tailed Hawk (77); Red-tailed (Harlan’s) Hawk (1); Red-tail (Krider’s) Hawk (1); American Kestrel (16); Common Moorhen (14); American Coot (84); Black-bellied Plover (1); Killdeer (8); Black-necked Stilt (17); American Avocet (102); Spotted Sandpiper (7); Greater Yellowlegs (4); Willet (4); Lesser Yellowlegs (15); Ruddy Turnstone (17); Sanderling (5); Dowitcher species (15); Bonaparte’s Gull (12); Laughing Gull (7); Ring-billed Gull (13); Herring Gull (8); Common Tern (2); Forster’s Tern (40); Royal Tern (3); Rock Pigeon (18); Mourning Dove (21); Belted Kingfisher (8); Red-bellied Woodpecker (2); Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (1); Downy Woodpecker (2); Northern Flicker (1); Pileated Woodpecker (1); Eastern Phoebe (1); Vermilion Flycatcher (1); Loggerhead Shrike (14); White-eyed Vireo (1); Blue Jay (3); Fish Crow (2); Crow species (2); Purple Martin (2); Tree Swallow (102); Carolina Chickadee (1); Carolina Wren (3); Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (3); Ruby-crowned Kinglet (2); Eastern Bluebird (4); Hermit Thrush (3); American Robin (35); Gray Catbird (1); Northern Mockingbird (9); European Starling (11); Orange-crowned Warbler (2); Pine Warbler (2); Yellow-rumped Warbler (92); Chipping Sparrow (15); Vesper Sparrow (8); Savannah Sparrow (6); Song Sparrow (2); Lincoln’s Sparrow (2); Swamp Sparrow (1); White-throated Sparrow (7); White-crowned Sparrow (1); Northern Cardinal (4); Red-winged Blackbird (216); Eastern Meadowlark (8); Common Grackle (26); Boat-tailed Grackle (9); Great-tailed Grackle (95); Great/Boat-tailed Grackle (21); Brown-headed Cowbird (150); 105 species

Steve Mayes

Bird Sightings – January 2013

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. Lots of birds to report this month, thanks in large part to two of the most productive Christmas Counts being conducted early in January.

Pride of place, however, must go to the Red Crossbill found by Laurie Baker in Claiborne West Park in Orange. It is many years since a Crossbill was seen in Southeast Texas, and on that occasion, the birds were 75 miles further north.

It is not many years since any eagle seen south of the lakes (Steinhagen, Toledo Bend and Sam Rayburn) was unusual to say the least, and Crested Caracaras were something rare north of Corpus Christi. Now, there are at least two pairs of Bald Eagles nesting in Orange and Jefferson

Counties, and Crested Caracaras are seen in almost every non-urban part of Jefferson County.

Least Grebes seem now to be resident in Cattail Marsh, while Cinnamon Teal were fairly easy to find there this winter. A Cave Swallow seen there on the January field trip may have been a bird wintering locally. The species normally winters from Northern Mexico southward.

The Red-breasted Nuthatch irruption continued with birds reported all the way to the coast. A Rusty Blackbird continued in Sabine Woods into January, and the Golden-fronted Woodpeckers are also still there. Harris's Sparrows normally winter well west of us, but one bird was at Sabine Woods, and another at Tyrrell Park. Yet another will be in next month's report in Nederland. A Clay-colored Sparrow in January is very unusual — most winter further south, but the species is hard to distinguish from Chipping Sparrow, or a lightly streaked Savannah Sparrow.

This has been an amazing winter for hummingbirds, both in number and variety of species. At least two Buff-bellied Hummingbirds are wintering in Nederland. In most past winters, any small hummingbird wintering in the area was likely to be a Rufous Hummingbird. This winter has been very different. Black-chinned and Broad-tailed Hummingbirds have been well represented. Ruby-throated Hummingbirds do not normally overwinter, but at least one has this year. Rufous and Allen's Hummingbirds have been represented, along with a number that observers have not been able to distinguish between these two exceptionally similar species. We have presented the Hummingbird sightings in the "short form."

WHISTLING-DUCK, Blk-bell (2-18)	JEF 7 reps(143)	GREBE, Least (11-19)	JEF-TP 1/11(2) JHH; JEF-TP 1/17(3) JHH; JEF-TP 1/18(2) JHH; JEF-TP 1/19(1) FTTP
GOOSE, White-fronted (3-19)	JEF 5 reps(229)	GREBE, Pied-billed (1-18)	JEF 12 reps(91); ORA 1 rep(14)
GOOSE, Snow (1-19)	JEF 7 reps(1312)	GREBE, Eared (3-3)	JEF-PI 1/3(11) SR01; JEF-PI 1/3(11) SR01
GOOSE, Ross's (3-19)	JEF-SW 1/3(1) SR08; JEF-TP 1/19(4) FTTP	CORMORANT, Neotropic (1-18)	JEF 16 reps(469); ORA 2 reps(323)
DUCK, Wood (1-17)	JEF-ORG 1/1(12) OCCBC; JEF-TP 1/17(2) JHH	CORMORANT, Double-cr. (1-19)	JEF 11 reps(117); ORA 1 rep(26)
GADWALL (1-19)	JEF 12 reps(529); ORA 1 rep(12)	ANHINGA (1-24)	JEF 8 reps(9)
WIGEON, American (3-19)	JEF 6 reps(76)	PELICAN, Amer. White (1-19)	JEF 12 reps(1265); ORA 1 rep(22)
MALLARD (3-19)	JEF 7 reps(71)	PELICAN, Brown (1-28)	JEF 14 reps(121); ORA 1 rep(65)
DUCK, Mottled (3-19)	JEF 13 reps(82)	BITTERN, American (3-3)	JEF 1/3(1) SR07M; JEF-MCFW 1/3(1) SR12
TEAL, Blue-winged (1-19)	JEF 9 reps(555); ORA 1 rep(7)	HERON, Great Blue (1-28)	JEF 22 reps(123); ORA 1 rep(9)
TEAL, Cinnamon (6-19)	JEF-TP 1/6(1) JAW; JEF-TP 1/11(1) JHH; JEF-TP 1/17(1) JAW; JEF-TP 1/17(1) JHH; JEF-TP 1/18(7) JHH; JEF-TP 1/19(2) FTTP	EGRET, Great (1-27)	JEF 26 reps(275); ORA 3 reps(27)
SHOVELER, Northern (1-19)	JEF 11 reps(967); ORA 1 rep(10)	EGRET, Snowy (1-18)	JEF 22 reps(286); ORA 3 reps(76)
PINTAIL, Northern (3-19)	JEF 9 reps(336)	HERON, Little Blue (1-19)	JEF 9 reps(22); ORA 1 rep(2)
TEAL, Green-winged (1-19)	JEF 13 reps(2490)	HERON, Tricolored (1-18)	JEF 11 reps(64); ORA 1 rep(4)
CANVASBACK (3-11)	JEF-MCFW 1/3(9) SR12; JEF-MURW 1/3(770) SR04; JEF-TP 1/11(1) JHH	EGRET, Cattle (27-27)	JEF 1/27(1) JAW
REDHEAD (6-11)	JEF-TP 1/6(1) JAW; JEF-TP 1/11(2) JHH	HERON, Green (3-7)	JEF-MURW 1/3(1) SR04; JEF-MURW 1/7(1) JA
DUCK, Ring-necked (1-19)	JEF 6 reps(310)	NIGHT-HERON, Black-cr. (1-19)	JEF 10 reps(228); ORA 3 reps(165)
SCAUP, Greater (1-18)	JEF 6 reps(22); ORA 1 rep(3)	IBIS, White (1-28)	JEF 13 reps(954)
SCAUP, Lesser (1-19)	JEF 12 reps(1069); ORA 1 rep(148)	IBIS, Glossy (11-11)	JEF-TP 1/11(1) JHH
SCAUP species (3-3)	JEF 3 reps(581)	IBIS, White-faced (1-19)	JEF 7 reps(155)
BUFFLEHEAD (3-11)	JEF 4 reps(24)	IBIS, Plegadis (1-27)	JEF 7 reps(1148); ORA 1 rep(2)
MERGANSE, Hooded (1-7)	JEF 1/3(4) SR07M; JEF-MCFW 1/3(1) SR12; JEF-MURW 1/3(8) SR04; JEF-TXPT 1/3(8) SR06; JEF-MURW 1/7(1) JA; ORA-TX87 1/1(38) OC10	SPOONBILL, Roseate (1-18)	JEF 9 reps(49); ORA 1 rep(4)
MERGANSE, Red-breast. (1-3)	JEF 2 reps(44); ORA 1 rep(2)	VULTURE, Black (1-24)	JEF 13 reps(105); ORA 1 rep(10)
DUCK, Ruddy (1-19)	JEF 9 reps(902); ORA 1 rep(20)		
LOON, Common (1-3)	JEF-PI 1/3(4) SR01; JEF-PI 1/3(4) SR01; ORA 1/1(2) OC10		

VULTURE, Turkey	(1-31)	HAI 7 reps(31); JEF 23 reps(171); ORA 3 reps(10)		WOODCOCK, American	(1-1)	JEF-ORG 1/1(1) OCCBC
OSPREY	(1-23)	JEF 9 reps(16); ORA 1 rep(4)		GULL, Bonaparte's	(1-19)	JEF 3 reps(11); ORA 1 rep(3)
KITE, White-tailed	(1-11)	JEF 7 reps(45)		GULL, Laughing	(1-28)	JEF 17 reps(830); ORA 1
EAGLE, Bald	(1-19)	JEF-ORG 1/1(1) OCCBC; JEF-TP 1/6(1) JAW; JEF-TP 1/11(2) JHH; JEF-TP 1/17(2) JAW; JEF-TP 1/17(2) JHH; JEF-TP 1/18(1) JHH; JEF-TP 1/19(2) FTTP; ORA 1/4(1) SBE		GULL, Ring-billed	(1-24)	JEF 14 reps(1531); ORA 1 rep(12)
HARRIER, Northern	(1-23)	JEF 21 reps(79)		GULL, Herring	(1-19)	JEF 7 reps(35); ORA 1 rep(4)
HAWK, Sharp-shinned	(1-19)	JEF 5 reps(7)		GULL, Lsr. Black-backed	(1-1)	ORA 1/1(1) OC10
HAWK, Cooper's	(3-19)	JEF 5 reps(5)		TERN, Gull-billed	(3-12)	JEF-PI 1/3(1) SR01; JEF-PI 1/3(1) SR01; JEF-SW 1/3(1) SR08; JEF 1/12(10) JAW
HAWK, Red-shouldered	(1-23)	HAI 1 rep(1); JEF 6 reps(20)		TERN, Caspian	(1-28)	JEF 7 reps(32); ORA 1 rep(2)
HAWK, Red-tailed	(1-28)	HAI 1 rep(1); JEF 30 reps(279); ORA 2 reps(4)		TERN, Forster's	(1-27)	JEF 17 reps(241); ORA 1 rep(33)
HAWK, Red-tail (Kriger's)	(12-12)	JEF 1/12(1) JAW		TERN, Royal	(1-3)	JEF 3 reps(37); ORA 1 rep(6)
CARACARA, Crested	(3-23)	JEF-SW 1/3(2) SR08; JEF 1/12(1) JAW; JEF 1/13(1) CSL; JEF 1/16(2) JJW; JEF 1/23(1) JAW		SKIMMER, Black	(3-3)	JEF 1/3(4) SR05
KESTREL, American	(1-28)	JEF 29 reps(161); ORA 3 reps(7)		PIGEON, Rock	(1-30)	HAI 4 reps(72); JEF 11 reps(279); ORA 1 rep(33)
MERLIN	(3-16)	JEF 1/3(1) SR07B; JEF-PI 1/3(1) SR01; JEF-PI 1/3(1) SR01; JEF-TXPT 1/3(1) SR06; JEF 1/16(1) JJW		COLLARED-DOVE, Euras.	(1-28)	JEF 11 reps(61); ORA 2 reps(15)
FALCON, Peregrine	(3-16)	JEF 1/3(3) SR07B; JEF- MURW 1/3(1) SR04; JEF-SRSP 1/3(1) SR10; JEF-SW 1/3(1) SR08; JEF 1/16(1) JJW		DOVE, White-winged	(1-31)	HAI 8 reps(120); JEF 15 reps(60); ORA 1 rep(1)
RAIL, Clapper	(3-3)	JEF 1/3(4) SR05A; JEF 1/3(1) SR07M		DOVE, Mourning	(1-29)	HAI 15 reps(100); JEF 19 reps(416); ORA 4 reps(85)
RAIL, King	(1-18)	JEF 6 reps(11)		DOVE, Inca	(16-16)	JEF 1/16(3) JJW
RAIL, Virginia	(3-19)	JEF 1/3(1) SR07M; JEF-SW 1/3(1) SR08; JEF-TP 1/18(2) JHH; JEF-TP 1/19(1) FTTP		OWL, Barn	(3-13)	JEF 5 reps(14)
SORA	(3-19)	JEF 6 reps(13)		OWL, Great Horned	(2-31)	JEF 11 reps(16)
GALLINULE, Common	(1-27)	JEF 15 reps(153)		OWL, Barred	(1-1)	JEF-ORG 1/1(1) OCCBC
COOT, American	(3-23)	JEF 14 reps(1573); ORA 1 rep(20)		HUMMINGBIRD, Buff-bell.	(1-31)	JEF-NEDR 1/4 thru 31(1) JJW; JEF-NEDR 1/1 thru 31 (1) HS
CRANE, Sandhill	(12-18)	JEF 1/12(603) JAW; JEF-TP 1/18(24) JHH		HUMMINGBIRD, Ruby-thr.	(1-31)	JEF-ORG 1/1(1) OCCBC; JEF-NEDR 1/24 thru 1/31(1 fem) JJW
PLOVER, Black-bellied	(3-23)	JEF 8 reps(106)		HUMMINGBIRD, Black-ch.	(2-29)	JEF-NEDR 1/2 thru 1/29 (at least 3,1 ad fem, 2 im males) JJW; JEF-NEDR 1/27(1 male) HS
PLOVER, Snowy	(3-3)	JEF 1/3(8) SR07B; JEF- SRSP 1/3(3) SR10		HUMMINGBIRD, Archiloch.	(26-26)	HAI 1/26(1) HBFT
PLOVER, Wilson's	(3-3)	JEF 1/3(3) SR05		HUMMINGBIRD, Anna's	(4-4)	JEF-NEDR 1/4(1 probable) JJW
PLOVER, Semipalmated	(1-3)	JEF 5 reps(27); ORA 1 rep(5)		HUMMINGBIRD, Broad-tail.	(2-31)	JEF-NEDR 1/2 thru 31(at least two imm male) JJW; JEF-BMT 1/20 thru 1/27(1) RHJ;
PLOVER, Piping	(3-3)	JEF 1/3(3) SR07B; JEF- SRSP 1/3(17) SR10		HUMMINGBIRD, Rufous	(1-31)	JEF-BMT 1/1 thru 30(1, 2 on 1/11) RHJ; JEF-NEDR 1/2 thru 1/31(1 ad male) JJW; JEF- NEDR 1/1 thru 1/31(1 imm male) HS
KILLDEER	(1-23)	JEF 19 reps(561); ORA 1 rep(250)		HUMMINGBIRD, Rufous/All.	(24-31)	HAI 1/26(2) HBFT; JEF- NEDR 1/24 thru 1/31(1) JJW; JEF-NEDR 1/15 thru 1/17(1 fem) HS; JEF-NEDR 1/18 thru 1/20(1 imm male) HS; JEF-NEDR 1/26 (1 fem; 1 imm male) HBFT; JEF-BMT 1/26(3) HBFT
OYSTERCATCHER, Amer.	(3-3)	JEF 1/3(3) SR05		HUMMINGBIRD species	(3-29)	JEF-BMT 1/3(1) RHJ; JEF- BMT 1/5(1) RHJ; JEF 1/13(1) CSL; JEF-BMT 1/26(1) RHJ; JEF-BMT 1/28(1) RHJ; JEF-BMT 1/29(1) RHJ
STILT, Black-necked	(3-18)	JEF 7 reps(132)		KINGFISHER, Belted	(1-28)	JEF 19 reps(60); ORA 2 reps(6)
AVOCET, American	(3-3)	JEF 6 reps(1096)		WOODPECKER, Red-head.	(1-28)	JEF 3 reps(12); ORA 3 reps(7)
SANDPIPER, Spotted	(1-3)	JEF 2 reps(3); ORA 1 rep(3)		WOODPECKER, Golden-fr.	(2-11)	JEF-SW 1/2(2) JAW; JEF-SW 1/3(1) SR08; JEF-SW 1/11(1) JHH
YELLOWLEGS, Greater	(1-17)	JEF 9 reps(116)		WOODPECKER, Red-bell.	(1-31)	HAI 9 reps(11); JEF 10 reps(41); ORA 2 reps(7)
WILLET	(1-3)	JEF 4 reps(162); ORA 1 rep(1)		SAPSUCKER, Yellow-bell.	(1-26)	HAI 1 rep(1); JEF 7 reps(11); ORA 1 rep(1)
YELLOWLEGS, Lesser	(1-23)	JEF 5 reps(329)		WOODPECKER, Downy	(1-21)	JEF 13 reps(44); ORA 1 rep(1)
YELLOWLEGS species	(1-3)	JEF 2 reps(58)		WOODPECKER, Hairy	(3-3)	JEF 1/3(1) SR05A
WHIMBREL	(3-3)	JEF 1/3(2) SR07B		FLICKER, Northern	(1-19)	JEF 10 reps(23); ORA 2 reps(7)
CURLEW, Long-billed	(3-3)	JEF 1/3(2) SR07M		FLICKER, N. (Red-shafted)	(16-16)	JEF-TP 1/16(2) JJW
GODWIT, Marbled	(3-3)	JEF 1/3(3) SR07B; JEF 1/3(19) SR07M; JEF-PI 1/3(8) SR02; JEF-SRSP 1/3(1) SR10E; JEF-SRSP 1/3(4) SR10		WOODPECKER, Pileated	(1-29)	HAI 11 reps(12); JEF 2 reps(6); ORA 1 rep(1)
TURNSTONE, Ruddy	(3-3)	JEF 3 reps(28)		PHOEBE, Eastern	(1-31)	HAI 5 reps(5); JEF 19 reps(118)
SANDERLING	(3-3)	JEF 3 reps(52)		FLYCATCHER, Vermilion	(3-3)	JEF 1/3(1) SR05A; JEF-SW 1/3(2) SR08
SANDPIPER, Western	(3-3)	JEF 7 reps(1233)		KINGBIRD, Couch's	(17-17)	JEF-BMT 1/17(1) CLL
SANDPIPER, Least	(1-3)	JEF 5 reps(131); ORA 1 rep(2)		SHRIKE, Loggerhead	(1-28)	HAI 2 reps(2); JEF 25 reps(190); ORA 2 reps(11)
SANDPIPER, Peep	(3-23)	JEF 2 reps(655)		VIREO, White-eyed	(1-3)	JEF-GROV 1/1(1) OC11; JEF-ORG 1/1(1) OCCBC; JEF-MURW 1/3(1) SR04; JEF-SW 1/3(1) SR08
DUNLIN	(3-23)	JEF 8 reps(1744)				
SANDPIPER, Stilt	(3-3)	JEF 1/3(4) SR07M				
DOWITCHER, Short-billed	(3-3)	JEF 1/3(1) SR05A; JEF 1/3(5) SR07B; JEF 1/3(75) SR07M				
DOWITCHER, Long-billed	(3-12)	JEF 1/3(1) SR05A; JEF 1/3(2) SR07M; JEF 1/12(1050) JAW				
DOWITCHER species	(3-3)	JEF-MURW 1/3(10) SR04				
SNIPE, Wilson's	(1-12)	JEF-ORG 1/1(12) OCCBC; JEF 1/3(4) SR05A; JEF 1/12(6) JAW				

VIREO, Blue-headed (1-19) JEF-GROV 1/1(1) OC11; JEF 1/3(1) SR05A; JEF-SW 1/3(2) SR08; JEF-TP 1/19(1) FTTP

JAY, Blue (1-27) HAI 5 reps(14); JEF 10 reps(104); ORA 2 reps(13)

CROW, American (1-1) JEF-ORG 1/1(11) OCCBC

CROW, species (1-28) JEF 1 rep(1); ORA 2 reps(3)

SWALLOW, Tree (1-19) JEF 10 reps(586); ORA 1 rep(172)

SWALLOW, Cave (19-19) JEF-TP 1/19(1) FTTP

CHICKADEE, Carolina (1-31) HAI 24 reps(49); JEF 8 reps(52); ORA 2 reps(2)

TITMOUSE, Tufted (1-31) HAI 30 reps(68); JEF 2 reps(8); ORA 2 reps(2)

NUTHATCH, Red-breasted (1-31) JEF-GROV 1/1(1) OC11; JEF-SW 1/2(1) JAW; JEF 1/3(2) SR05A; JEF-SW 1/3(4) SR08; JEF-NEDR 1/4(1) JJW; JEF-NEDR 1/6(1) JAW; JEF-NEDR 1/26(1) HBFT; JEF-NEDR 1/29(1) JJW; JEF-NEDR 1/30(1) JJW; JEF-NEDR 1/31(1) JJW

NUTHATCH, Brown-headed (1-30) HAI-SILS 1/30(2) MG; JEF-ORG 1/1(3) OCCBC

CREEPER, Brown (1-17) JEF-ORG 1/1(2) OCCBC; JEF 1/17(5) JHH

WREN, Carolina (1-31) HAI 20 reps(30); JEF 5 reps(17); ORA 1 rep(1)

WREN, House (1-17) JEF 6 reps(15)

WREN, Winter (17-17) JEF 1/17(1) JHH

WREN, Sedge (1-11) JEF 8 reps(110)

WREN, Marsh (3-11) JEF 3 reps(5)

GNATCATCHER, Blue-gray (1-19) JEF 10 reps(29)

KINGLET, Golden-crowned (1-17) JEF-ORG 1/1(6) OCCBC; JEF 1/3(1) SR05A; JEF-MURW 1/3(1) SR04; JEF-SW 1/3(8) SR08; JEF-SW 1/11(1) JHH; JEF 1/16(2) JJW; JEF 1/17(1) JHH

KINGLET, Ruby-crowned (1-25) HAI 2 reps(3); JEF 13 reps(117); ORA 1 rep(1)

BLUEBIRD, Eastern (1-31) HAI 7 reps(13); JEF 7 reps(42); ORA 4 reps(41)

THRUSH, Hermit (1-17) JEF 4 reps(7)

ROBIN, American (1-28) JEF 8 reps(182)

CATBIRD, Gray (1-21) HAI 1 rep(1); JEF 6 reps(13)

MOCKINGBIRD, Northern (1-31) HAI 8 reps(29); JEF 22 reps(191); ORA 2 reps(18)

THRASHER, Brown (1-28) HAI 3 reps(3); JEF 7 reps(20)

STARLING, European (1-31) HAI 6 reps(98); JEF 20 reps(968); ORA 2 reps(94)

PIPIT, American (1-23) JEF 12 reps(190)

WAXWING, Cedar (1-29) HAI 4 reps(93); JEF 3 reps(336); ORA 1 rep(63)

WATERTHRUSH, Northern (3-3) JEF 1/3(1) SR05A

WARBLER, Orange-crown (1-31) HAI 25 reps(25); JEF 20 reps(87)

YELLOWTHROAT, Common (1-11) JEF 7 reps(19)

WARBLER, Palm (3-3) JEF 1/3(2) SR05A

WARBLER, Pine (1-31) HAI 21 reps(30); JEF 18 reps(59); ORA 2 reps(16)

WARBLER, Yellow-rumped (1-30) HAI 3 reps(8); JEF 17 reps(902); ORA 2 reps(31)

WARBLER, Wilson's (2-11) JEF-SW 1/2(2) JAW; JEF 1/3(1) SR05A; JEF-SW 1/3(2) SR08; JEF-SW 1/11(3) JHH; JEF-TP 1/11(1) JHH

TOWHEE, Spotted (3-3) JEF-SW 1/3(2) SR08

TOWHEE, Eastern (2-3) JEF-SW 1/2(1) JAW; JEF-MURW 1/3(1) SR04; JEF-SW 1/3(1) SR08

SPARROW, Chipping (1-31) HAI 31 reps(1550); JEF 3 reps(47); ORA 3 reps(26)

SPARROW, Clay-colored (3-3) JEF-SW 1/3(1) SR08

SPARROW, Field (1-1) JEF-ORG 1/1(2) OCCBC

SPARROW, Savannah (1-24) JEF 23 reps(847); ORA 1 rep(55)

SPARROW, LeConte's (3-3) JEF 1/3(10) SR07M; JEF-MCFW 1/3(1) SR11; JEF-MCFW 1/3(4) SR12

SPARROW, Seaside (3-7) JEF 1/3(16) SR07M; JEF-MCFW 1/3(2) SR11; JEF-MCFW 1/3(6) SR12; JEF-MURW 1/7(2) JA

SPARROW, Song (1-19) JEF 10 reps(74); ORA 1 rep(1)

SPARROW, Lincoln's (3-3) JEF-SW 1/3(4) SR08

SPARROW, Swamp (1-19) JEF 14 reps(127)

SPARROW, White-throated (1-31) HAI 11 reps(17); JEF 13 reps(121); ORA 1 rep(2)

SPARROW, Harris's (3-19) JEF-SW 1/3(1) SR08; JEF-TP 1/17(1) JAW; JEF-TP 1/17(1) JHH; JEF-TP 1/19(1) FTTP

SPARROW, White-crowned (1-19) HAI 9 reps(17); JEF 11 reps(191)

CARDINAL, Northern (1-31) HAI 29 reps(1160); JEF 17 reps(125); ORA 2 reps(6)

BLACKBIRD, Red-winged (1-31) HAI 1 rep(60); JEF 26 reps(2088); ORA 4 reps(52)

MEADOWLARK, Eastern (1-24) JEF 9 reps(161)

MEADOWLARK species (8-16) JEF 4 reps(19)

BLACKBIRD, Rusty (2-3) JEF-SW 1/2(1) JAW; JEF-SW 1/3(1) SR08

BLACKBIRD, Brewer's (8-23) JEF 1/8(10) JAW; JEF 1/12(5) JAW; JEF 1/23(10) JAW

GRACKLE, Common (1-23) JEF 11 reps(358); ORA 1 rep(1)

GRACKLE, Boat-tailed (1-19) JEF 9 reps(136)

GRACKLE, Great-tailed (1-28) HAI 1 rep(3); JEF 21 reps(1526); ORA 2 reps(105)

GRACKLE, Gt./Boat tailed (2-27) JEF 3 reps(11)

COWBIRD, Bronzed (23-23) JEF-GROV 1/23(2) HD

COWBIRD, Brown-headed (1-24) JEF 9 reps(442); ORA 1 rep(50)

BLACKBIRD species (12-24) JEF 3 reps(5599)

ORIOLE, Baltimore (19-19) JEF-TP 1/19(1) FTTP

FINCH, Purple (17-17) HAI-SILS 1/17(1) MG

FINCH, House (2-31) HAI 3 reps(4); JEF 13 reps(30)

CROSSBILL, Red (11-13) ORA 1/11(1) LBA; ORA 1/13(1) HM

SISKIN, Pine (1-17) HAI-SILS 1/10(6) MG; HAI-SILS 1/11(2) MG; JEF-ORG 1/1(2) OCCBC; JEF 1/17(1) JHH; ORA 1/13(1) HM

GOLDFINCH, American (1-31) HAI 24 reps(72); JEF 33 reps(569); ORA 3 reps(45)

SPARROW, House (1-31) JEF 13 reps(270)

Number of Species 208

Number of Individuals 108422

County Abbreviations:

HAI — Hardin; JEF — Jefferson; ORA — Orange

Location Codes

BC — Bridge City; BMT — Beaumont; GROV — Groves; MCFW — McFaddin NWR; MURW — J. D. Murphree WMA, west of Taylor Bayou; NEDR — Nederland; ORG — Orange; PI — Pleasure Island, Port Arthur; SILS — Silsbee; SRSP — Sea Rim State Park; SW — Sabine Woods; TP — Tyrrell Park incl. Cattail Marsh; TX87 — Texas 87 Pt. Arthur-Sabine Pass-Sea Rim SP; TXPT — Road to former Pilot Station at Texas Point

Observer Abbreviations

CLL — Carol Lynn Loker; CSL — Christine Sliva; FTTP — Field Trip to Tyrrell Park/Cattail Marsh; HBFT — Hummingbird Field Trip; HD — Howard Davis; HM — John Haynes and Steve Mayes; HS — Harlan Stewart; JA — Jim Armacost; JAW — John Whittle; JHH — John H. Haynes; JJW — John and Jana Whittle; LBA — Laurie Baker; MG — Melanie Goetsell; OC10 — Orange County CBC, Area 10; OC11 — Orange County CBC, Area 11; OCCBC — Orange County CBC Areas 1-9; RHJ — Rose Ann and Harrison Jordan; SBE — Sheri Bethard; SR01 — Sea Rim SP CBC Area 1; SR02 — Sea Rim SP CBC Area 2; SR04 — Sea Rim SP CBC Area 4; SR05 — Sea Rim SP CBC Area 5; SR06 — Sea Rim SP CBC Area 6; SR08 — Sea Rim SP CBC Area 8; SR10 — Sea Rim SP CBC Area 10; SR10E — Sea Rim SP CBC Area 10East; SR11 — Sea Rim SP CBC Area 11; SR12 — Sea Rim SP CBC Area 12; SR05A — Sea Rim SP CBC Area 05A; SR07B — Sea Rim SP CBC Area 07(Beach); SR07M — Sea Rim SP CBC Area 07(March);

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Brown Pelican

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RARE BIRD ALERTS

Unfortunately, almost all the local and regional telephone Rare Bird Alerts have been discontinued in favor of various Internet 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 www.freelists.org/archive/texbirds. It is not necessary to subscribe to the listserv to view the archives, which include all recent postings. Postings for the last two weeks are also available at <http://birding.aba.org/maillist/TX>.

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>.