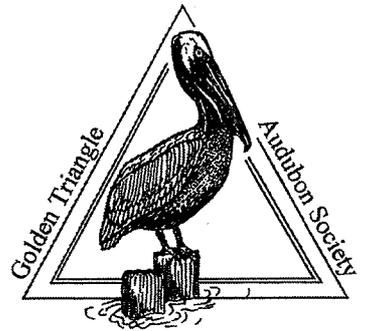


The Brown Pelican



The Newsletter of the Golden Triangle Audubon Society

Vol. 24 No. 7/8

July/August 2018

Membership Meeting
Thursday August 16, 2018 7:00 p.m.
Garden Center, Tyrrell Park, Beaumont

The Nature Conservancy's Forest Program in East Texas
Wendy Jo Ledbetter

Wendy is the Forest Program Manager for the Texas Chapter of The Nature Conservancy. Wendy received an A.A.S in Fish & Wildlife Technology from the State University of New York in Cobleskill in 1978 and a Bachelor of Science in Wildlife Biology from Colorado State University in Ft. Collins, Colorado in 1981.

Wendy has over 25 years of work experience with The Nature Conservancy. She was hired as the first Preserve Manager of the Colorado Chapter for Phantom Canyon Preserve in the foothills near Ft. Collins. She worked for the Conservancy's National Fire Management Program on wiregrass and longleaf pine ecosystem restoration. With a move to Texas in 1993, Wendy has worked in various roles on east Texas preserves with the Conservancy.

She currently works with public and private partners for protection and conservation of land and water resources of the state including nine preserves and associated conservation easements from Caddo Lake to Beaumont, Texas. Her career has focused on the restoration and management of longleaf pine forests and associated ecosystems, prescribed fire application, and rare species. She served on prescribed burn and wildfire suppression operations for twenty-two years and continues to review fire operation plans. She serves on the Steering Committee of the Northeast Texas Conservation Delivery Network, the Texas Longleaf Implementation Team, and is the Sub-Committee Chairperson for the Herbaceous Understory Committee of Team. Recognized as the 2008 recipient of the R.E. Jackson Conservation Award by The Big Thicket Association, Wendy is currently serving as Secretary of the Big Thicket Association.

Wendy's interests include promoting the arts and humanities (she is the former Hardin County representative for Southeast Texas Arts Council Board. When not busy with work she creates recycled/repurposed jewelry under the name Gas Station Chicken. Her favorite bird is Teal, her 27-year-old daughter.

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.

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Golden Triangle Audubon Society

Web Site for more information
www.goldentriangleaudubon.org

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The Brown Pelican is published monthly except July by the Golden Triangle Audubon Society, P. O. Box 1292, Nederland, Texas 77627-1292

Calendar of Events

Important Note: Field Trip notices published here should always be regarded as needing confirmation just before the date. 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 August 11. Field Trip to Liberty-Dayton Area.

During the first half of August in recent years, Swallow-tailed Kites have congregated in the Trinity River bottomlands between Liberty and Dayton for two or three weeks before they migrate south for the winter.

We will meet at 8:00 AM at the McDonalds at 1923 Highway 90 in Liberty. This is on the north side of the Highway at the intersection with Travis Street, one block west of Main St/Highway 227. Carpooling is highly desirable on this trip. The part of the trip looking for kites does not **necessitate** extensive walking, although those who want will probably do quite a bit on the trails. The trip will probably not last much beyond noon. Bring water or other drinks as it could be quite warm. Insect repellent is advised. Traditionally, many participants proceed to JAX Hamburgers in Liberty for lunch.

We will check the area along Highway 90 between Liberty and Dayton, perhaps several times, and also the Liberty Municipal Park area. There have been trail improvements and a new boardwalk has been constructed so that a section of the Trinity River NWR can be easily accessed from the Park. We will check that area for early southbound migrants and a few other songbirds that may well nest in that area. In addition to the Swallow-tailed Kites, there will be Mississippi Kites flying low in the residential areas of Liberty north of US 90. Depending on how wet the area is, there may be other birds characteristic of bottomlands.

For more information, contact Steve Mayes (sgmayes@hotmail.com).

Thursday August 16, 2018.
Membership Meeting. Full details on page 1.

Refreshments

Each month, we rely on volunteers to provide the refreshments at our membership meeting. We thank all those who brought refreshments over the last few meetings. **We need volunteers to bring items for all remaining fall meetings.** Pick the meeting at which you want to help. We do not expect one person to bring everything, but please call so we can coordinate. Even if you can just 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 August 18, 2018. Field Trip to Bolivar Flats. Note the change in date from that shown in the June Brown Pelican. Meet the leaders at the vehicle barrier at Bolivar Flats at 8:30 a.m. Take Highway 124 south from Winnie about 20 miles through High Island. At the shoreline, turn right along Highway 87 and proceed approximately 25 miles through Gilchrist and Crystal Beach until you come to the intersection with Loop 108. At that intersection, turn left (south – the opposite direction from Loop 108) on Rettilon Road to the beach. If conditions permit, drive onto the sand and turn right to the vehicle barrier (about 1/2 mile). It is about a 90-minute drive, with no allowance for stops, from Beaumont or mid-County to the Flats.

Usually, after birding the flats, the group proceeds to Fort Travis to use the facilities and eat lunch. Most participants will bring their lunch, as options to purchase locally are limited.

The group may stop at Rollover Pass and will probably visit High Island on the way home, checking there for early southbound migrants

To park on the beach, you will need a Galveston County Beach Parking Permit, obtainable for \$10 from most merchants on the Peninsula. (The Big Store opens at 7:00 a.m.)

Wetlands Education Center at Cattail Marsh Grand Opening

Members are invited to the Grand Opening of the Wetlands Education Center at Cattail Marsh in Tyrrell Park in Beaumont at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday October 16. The Cattail Marsh parking lot is accessed from the loop road round the main picnic areas in Tyrrell Park.

Deepwater Horizon RESTORE Bucket 1 and Natural Resource Damages Act grants.

In June 2017 hundreds of Jefferson County area organizations, business associations, Non-Government Organizations and individuals sent support letters for a \$10 million Deepwater Horizon RESTORE Bucket 1 grant and a \$15.8 million Natural Resource Damages Act grant.

Both grants were successful and will help fund 100-years' worth of sand on the county's beaches and dunes. The county's Salt Bayou Watershed is the critical feature of Texas' largest coast marsh supporting world class fish and wildlife species productivity, outdoor recreation, and crucial hurricane storm surge protection for thousands of homes and businesses as well as nationally vital energy and national defense assets in Jefferson County.

A Texas Parks and Wildlife Department television show featuring Jefferson County's progress in restoring the beach and dune system recently aired on Houston's Channel 8 KUHT. However KUHT programming doesn't reach most county residents. YouTube versions of TPWD's show and the 2016 PBS "This American Land" segment 'Protecting the Chenier Plain' are posted on Jefferson County's website home page at <http://www.co.jefferson.tx.us/> (at the bottom of the page).

Enjoy and share these YouTube shows about an important local conservation success. And thanks to all the support letter writers for our successful support of Jefferson County's Deepwater Horizon's restoration efforts.

Carolyn Worsham

Purple Martin Roosts

Kelly Sampeck recently posted on Golden Triangle Audubon Facebook page video of Purple Martins taken at the Wellness Center on North Street in Beaumont in 2010. Thanks to Kelley Sampeck for sharing her video.

Purple Martins start roosting in various places during the last part of this month through the last part of August. In the 1990s, the first martin roost that I observed almost on a daily basis during August, was at the KMart parking lot in Port Arthur, Texas. It was amazing to watch thousands of Purple Martins congregate and then fly down into a few oak trees. People would bring lawn chairs, or sit on tailgates to watch the birds roost there every night. The store manager said that he could not keep things in stock because so many people who were watching the martins would come in and purchase items. He said it helped out the store business. They only were there a few years, then we found them at the Market Basket parking lot on Phelan Boulevard in Beaumont. After that, they were at the trees in the Gateway Shopping Center in Beaumont for one or two years. The last place I can recall, was them being at the Wellness Center on North Street. They were there for at least four years. It was a problem for them being there, because the trees were where people walked on a track. So there were complaints from the members. But I took friends in the evening and it was so much fun to watch them and think about how many people had put up houses for them to nest in and that many of them were immatures that were about to leave for South America. For the last five or six years, I have driven around Beaumont to see if I can find even small roosts, but cannot find any. Please let us know if you find any this year. Often, small groups, anything from 10 to 25 birds are seen as August approaches, but the birds slowly consolidate into larger roosts.

There are active roosts in Houston if you are interested. Two are near the Spring, Texas area, Willowbrook Mall and the Kroger Champion Forest locations. Another is near Sugarland, and that is at Fountain Lake Forest. Austin has one at Highland Mall.

Jana Whittle

Swallow-tailed Kites

Several Swallow-tailed Kite reports were received in June and July. We have had several reports from Nederland over the Avenue H and 27th Street intersection, in Beaumont near a church that was having VBS, So, especially if you hear a hawk like sound, we all need to look straight up and hopefully we will see one too.

Here are other local reports of kites in June and July from eBird.

June 12 Groves (1) Howard Davis

Jun 23 Neches River just south of Collier's Ferry Park (2) Sheila Hebert

June 12 Groves (1) Howard Davis

June 23 Neches River just south of Collier's Ferry Park (2) Sheila Hebert

June 30 Bridge City (1) Ron Weeks, Brad Lirette

July 12 IH10 in Vidor (1) Stephen Gast

July 15 Oak Manor (1) Denise Kelley

Jana Whittle

Wood Storks and other roosting just off Hwy 90

On July 21, John and I went to Highway 90 between Nome and Devers (and just inside Jefferson County) to see if birds were coming in to the trees to roost. There appears to be a pond just a little west of the roost trees. It takes us about 30 minutes to drive there. We arrived at 7:15 p.m. and watched birds steadily come into the trees until 8:15. There were a few (about 5) Wood Storks, but many Cattle Egrets, a few Snowy and Great Egrets, and a surprising number of Little Blue Herons. I found out tonight that even though you are a little further away from the birds, the safest place to park is on the north side of the highway because there is a little shell driveway that leads to the railroad track.

On July 23 at 10:00 a.m. I drove out to Highway 90 between Nome and Devers, and saw 15 Wood Storks perched very high in two pine trees.

Another evening trip on July 28 saw only one Wood Stork. As usual, the Cattle Egrets were the first to arrive. Then some Little Blue Herons arrived. It was beginning to get dark when large flights of White Ibis started arriving.

Jana Whittle

Bird Sightings – June and July 2018

For this column, we review, looking for rare and very rare species, all credible eBird and other records for the Texas counties we have always covered – Angelina, Hardin, Jasper, Jefferson, Newton, Orange, Sabine, San Augustine and Tyler. We also review records for Chambers, Galveston, Harris and Liberty Counties in Texas, and Calcasieu and Cameron Parishes in Louisiana.

Seen in our Core Counties (listed above)

Ringed Teal	Jun 1-Jul 18	JEF-Cattail Marsh (1) HS et al
Gadwall	Jun 1-Jul 2	JEF-TP (1 fem) HS et al
Green-winged Teal	Jun 1-Jul 25	JEF-TP (2 m) HS et al
Swallow-tailed Kite	See article on page 3	
Bald Eagle	Jul 27	JEF-IH10 at Major Dr (2) Christine Sliva
White-tailed Hawk	Jul 8	JEF-US90 just east of China (1) Gary Kelley
Black Rail	Jul 7	JEF-SRSP (1) J. Berner (heard only)
Greater Roadrunner	Jul 19	ORA-Vidor (1) M.J.Brush
Crested Caracara	Jun 26	HAI-Old Sour Lk Rd (1) John Mariani
Yellow-green Vireo	Jul 24	JEF-SW (1) JHH
N Rough-wing. Swallow	Jun 1-30	JEF-TP (up to 147) HS
Tree Swallow	Jun 8-30	JEF-TP (up to 2) HS, JAW et al
Bank Swallow	Jun 2-6, Jul 24-28	JEF-TP (up to 3) HS,SH
Cave Swallow	Jun 23	SAA-TX147 Causeway (1) J. Berner, Bill Wright
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	Jun 4	JEF-BTNP-Edgewater (1) JHH
	Jun 11	ORA-BTNP-Four Oaks RR (1) SH
	Jul 10	JEF-Beaumont-Tram Road (1) SH
Gray Catbird	Jul 27	ORA-Northway Pk (2) Byron Stone
Prairie Warbler	Jul 8	JEF-Beaumont-Tram Road (1) SH
	Jul 25,28	JEF-SW (1) SH, SM
White-throated Sparrow	Jul 13	SAB-Hemphill (1) David Bell

Nearby Counties

Gadwall	Jun 4	CHA-ANWR-Willows Trail (2) Brad Peebles
	Jun 23-Jul 5	CHA-ANWR-Shoveler Pond (1) Kyle Jones, Rob Pendergast, Trey McCuen et al
Ring-necked Duck	Jul 1-23	CHA-ANWR-Shoveler Pond (1) Rob Pendergast, Trey McCuen et al
Long-tailed Duck	Jun 15	CAM-Rutherford Beach (1) continuing bird
Red-breasted Merganser	Jun 2-27	GAL-Moody Gardens (1) Greg Whitaker
	Jun 18-Jul 16	GAL-Texas City Dike (1) Brian Berry, Sarah and Michael Kuzio
Common Loon	Jun 4	GAL-Texas City Dike (1) Stennie Meadours
	Jun 16	GAL-Bolivar 17th St Jetty (1) William Hischer, Tobias Yoder
Brown Booby	Jun 24	HAS-Morgan's Point (1) Mark Kulstad, Chris Hammond, Drew Dickert
	Jun 30	GAL-Gulf of Mexico (1) Jared Roberts
Double-crest. Cormorant	Jun 13,24	HAS-Morgan's Point (1) Nina Rach, Janet Rathjen
American Bittern	Jun 30	CHA-ANWR-Willows Trail (1) Tim Young
Glossy Ibis	Jun 1-Jul 5	CHA-ANWR Shoveler Pond (1) Continuing bird.
	Jun 15	CHA-FM1985 (2) Alice McDonell
	Jul 20	GAL-Anderson Way (1) Paul Randall

The format of the listing is Species – Date – County-and brief location information if available – (number) – Observer(s). If more precise location information is needed, it can often be obtained by using the bird species map feature to find the sighting in eBird, opening the checklist, and using the map function to display the location as precisely as the observer provided.

Buff-breasted Sandpiper	Jul 29	HAS-FM2100 3.5 miles N of US90 in Crosby (120) Nina Rach
Sharp-shinned Hawk	Jun 30	CHA-ANWR-Willows Trail (1) Tim Young
	Jul 29	HAS-Sheldon Lk SP (1) Erik Wolf
Yellow Rail	Jun 24	HAS-Sheldon Lake SP (1) Mark Kulstad, Chris Hammond (heard only)
Whimbrel	Jul 11,14	GAL-Bolivar Flats (1) Nicholas DeMaio et al
Spotted Sandpiper	Jun 11	CHA-ANWR-Shoveler Pond (1) Brenda Gonzales
	Jul 15	CHA-Smith Point Robbins Park (1) J. Berner, David Sarkozi
Lsr Black-backed Gull	Jun 23	HAS-Morgan's Point (2) Ron Weeks
Common Tern	Jun 3-Jul 7	HAS-Morgan's Pt (up to 4) Greg Page et al
	Jun 19-23	HAS-Sylvan Beach Park (up to 22) multiple observers.
Long-tailed Jaeger	Jul 10	CAM- east of Holly Beach (1) Sam Saunders
Great Kiskadee	Jul 2-11	CAM-CHA-TriCity Beach Rd (2) Carl Poldrack
	Jul 27	CAM-Hwy 82 w of Grand Chenier (2) Sarah Bolinger, Sam Saunders
Fish Crow	Jul 15-17	CHA-Wallisville (up to 4) J. Berner, et al
White-breasted Nuthatch	Jun 11, Jul 16	HAS-N of Hwy 99, W of Tomball (2) Megan Ahlgren (cont)
	Jul 27	HAS-Kingwood (2) Bonnie de Grood
Sedge Wren	Jul 6	GAL-nr IH45/FM2004?FM1764 junction (1) Andy Newman
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	Jun 27	HAS-Armand Bayou Nature Ctr area (1) Brandan Robertson
Veery	Jun 4	HAS-nr. Bear Creek Pk (1) Ken Hartman (heard only)
Swainson's Thrush	Jun 4	HAS-nr. Bear Creek Pk (1) Ken Hartman
Brown Thrasher	Jun 5-27	HAS-Cy-Fair Park (2) Drew Dickert, Barrett Riess
Black-thr. Green Warbler	Jul 27-29	HAS-Memorial (1 m) Sue Orwig
Lapland Longspur	Jun 13	CAM-Rutherford Beach (1) David Booth
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	Jun 15-20	CHA-FM565 (1 fem) Paul Fagala
Baltimore Oriole	Jul 14	HAS-Morgan's Point (1) Greg Page

Abbreviations used: ANG – Angelina County; ANWR – Anahuac NWR; BF – Bolivar Flats; BTNP – Big Thicket National Preserve; CAL – Calcasieu Parish; CAM – Cameron Parish; CHA – Chambers County; GAL – Galveston County; HAI – Hardin County; HAS – Harris County; HS – Harlan Stewart; JAS – Jasper County; JAW – John Whittle; JEF – Jefferson County; JHH – John Haynes; JJW – Jana and John Whittle; LIB – Liberty County; MC – Michael Cooper; NEDR – Nederland; ORA – Orange County; PI – Pleasure Is, Port Arthur; RL – Randy Lewis; SAA – San Augustine Co.; SAB – Sabine County; SH – Sheila Hebert; SM – Steve Mayes, SRSP – Sea Rim State Park; SW – Sabine Woods; TH – Thomas Hellweg; TP – Tyrrell Park including Cattail Marsh; TXPT – Texas Point NWR; TYL – Tyler County; WJC – West Jefferson Co..

Spring 2017 Migration – Sabine Woods

We present here our annual review of spring migration. In recent years, we have focused exclusively on Sabine Woods as the only coastal location that, post the 2005 and 2008 hurricanes, has attracted enough migrants to be birded often enough to make meaningful review and analysis possible.

Overall Summary

Spring 2018 will be remembered for a long time, for the birder at least, as one of the best spring migration seasons ever. The numbers of migrants seen in the Woods, especially in the first half of April, were so much above average, it is difficult to adequately describe. A frontal passage on March 29 disappointed birders, as the associated rain shield apparently swept migrants crossing the Gulf well to the east. However, a front which passed the coast early on April 4 produced a delayed reaction on April 5 and 6, and set up five memorable days April 7-11 as a reinforcing front on April 7 did not move very far offshore and the associated north winds induced large numbers of additional migrants to stop and remain in coastal areas, many of them for several days. April 8 was the peak day for most species, producing numbers for many early migrating species that have rarely if ever been seen before. Total numbers of migrants for these days were more like the highest recorded around April 25 in years when a front causes a grounding around that date. It may be unfair to single out only a few species, but the numbers of Hooded Warblers, Northern Parula, Black-and-white Warblers and Indigo Buntings were truly amazing. We would be remiss if we did not also note that the Swainson's Warbler count on April 8 was 19, absolutely shattering previous one-day records.

A front in the early hours of April 14 disappointed birders as southerly winds likely caused migrants to decide to continue inland. Adverse winds in the southern Gulf then apparently held migrants in the Yucatan until the night of April 17-18, and resulted in good numbers, particularly of larger passerines, in the Woods in the afternoon of April 18. The flight arriving April 19 encountered adverse winds over a large part of the Gulf and seemingly arrived after dark, leading to excellent birding of both larger passerines and warblers on April 20. A complex weather situation on April 21 resolved into a frontal passage on April 22 that in turn led to three more days of high warbler activity, and high thrush and catbird numbers.

The flight on April 26 arrived late in the day after battling north winds across the Gulf behind the front that cleared the coast the previous evening. Although not the heaviest of flights, many of those migrants that did arrive descended just inside the entrance and fed on the ground oblivious to the relatively small number of birders still at the Woods. This included Blackburnians, Bay-breasted, Chestnut-sided and even Golden-winged Warblers. The season that had been so exciting in its early stages went out with only a whimper. An outflow boundary and front on May 4 produced good birding that day and the following two days, but the front forecast for May 7 dissipated before reaching the coast, and the season was essentially over. The absence of significant grounding events during the first half of May, with so many of the migrants apparently overflying during that period, made comparison of season totals for late season migrants less impressive because of the large number of drop ins in May 2017..

The Birds by Species Groups

One species that was conspicuously reduced in number from normal was the Yellow-billed Cuckoo, with totals well below normal, and even below 2017's low totals. Black-billed Cuckoos were similarly scarce, with only three perhaps four plausible reports, including one, however, that apparently stayed for three days.

Nor was it a particularly good spring for flycatchers. However, most spring flycatcher migration is concentrated towards the end of the season, which lacked many weather events that might have made for more sightings. Eastern Wood-Pewee and Acadian Flycatchers, the earliest migrants in the group were reasonably relatively normal within the high overall migrant numbers, with perhaps more Acadians confirmed than usual, as more were heard calling, possibly because there were more of them competing for the limited area of the Woods. Apart from the Acadian and Least Flycatchers, other members of the *Empidonax* genus present serious identification challenges and cannot be safely identified except by call, which they rarely do on migration. An Alder Flycatcher was reported (with call) on April 27 and a Willow Flycatcher (with call) the following day.

Among the Vireos, Yellow-throated Vireos were prominent throughout the season, as is normal given their wide migration window, and total numbers were good. We have become accustomed to Blue-headed Vireos passing through in two phases, with the second phase birds, presumably of a more northerly nesting population, extending through to nearly the end of April. This year however, not only were numbers elevated as with most neotropical

migrants, but there was no discernable hiatus in early April. An apparent Black-whiskered Vireo was photographed on April 20, but not identified until the photo was reviewed that evening, and was not seen by any other observer.

Not all observers pay attention to the numerous swallows passing overhead, but it is clear that Tree Swallows and Northern Rough-winged Swallows were more numerous than in past years. Tree Swallow is presumed to be a circum-Gulf migrant and therefore less subject to the vagaries of winds and weather. Northern Rough-winged Swallows are outstandingly strong fliers in a family of strong fliers, and may well be trans-Gulf migrant or at least prone to cutting the corner from the northwestern Gulf coast of Mexico.

Blue-gray Gnatcatchers have usually been plentiful during the middle part of March and less common thereafter. This season, numbers were relatively low, with none seen on many days after early April. Ruby-crowned Kinglets, a winter resident locally, were reasonably normal during March, but more plentiful in the first part of April.

Thrush and catbird migration peaks during the last ten days of April, and for some species, especially Wood Thrush, was particularly light in 2017. This year, Wood Thrushes and Swainson's Thrushes were very numerous during the last 10 days of April. Gray-cheeked Thrushes were again also in good numbers. We are not sure whether that species is increasing or whether many were passed off as lightly marked Swainson's Thrushes in years past. Swainson's Thrushes are quite variable, with several sub-species involved. As usual, there were days when Gray Catbirds were everywhere.

This was the year for warbler aficionados. With the heavy groundings on April 5 through 12 and April 20 through 27, the total numbers of many warbler species were astonishing. Perhaps this can be best illustrated by a review of Hooded Warbler numbers. Neither 2017 nor 2016 were "good" migration years with 94 and 127 respectively recorded during April. In April 2015, perhaps a more normal season, 318 were reported. In April 2018, 879 were reported. On the peak day, April 8, the highest number quoted by one of our regular observers was 125. We suspect that the greater the number present, the greater the tendency to be more conservative, and many observers have a great reluctance to report large numbers. If we consider the wooded area of Sabine Woods to be about 12 acres, 125 represents only just over 10 per acre. In that context, I don't think anyone who was present that day will consider the number to be unreasonable. There are a very few observers whose numbers, whether low or high, are so much greater than anyone else's for most species on a specific day that we choose to disregard them. Nevertheless, we do think the higher the number present, the more likely observers are to underreport.

There were relatively few species that were not seen in high numbers this season, but some stood out more than others. Worm-eating Warblers were certainly easy to find, particularly in the early part of the season. Louisiana Waterthrushes are a special case. Many years, they are all through by about April 10. But every year, there continue to be reports on through most of the rest of April. Most of these are Northern Waterthrushes misidentified. It is essential to observe as many of the seven or eight plumage, structural and body movement characteristics and not rely on one single characteristic. However, in several recent years, including this year, one Louisiana Waterthrush has lingered for about 10 days beyond the usual cut-off, possibly considering the area as a breeding location. The breeding range does extend to very close to the coast. Thirty Golden-winged Warblers, concentrated in the second half of April, was an outstanding showing for this much sought after species. Blue-winged Warbler numbers were also good for this largely early season migrant. Only one Brewster's Warbler was seen (on March 19). There were several sightings of Blue-winged Warblers with yellow wing bars, suggesting some Golden-winged genes remaining from a hybridization in their ancestry.

Black-and-white Warblers are always seen throughout spring migration, but the high numbers during both major April groundings were truly remarkable. Prothonotary Warblers are among the earliest migrants, apparently migrating in large groups, and most were probably already on breeding territories north of the coastal areas before the grounding in the first 10 days of April, so numbers were not particularly high, although there were perhaps more stragglers later in April than usual.

What can we say about Swainson's Warblers? This has always been a highly sought after but very skulking and secretive species. Over the last three or four years, our expertise in detecting the species has undoubtedly developed greatly. We can more effectively identify the microhabitat favored by the species. This winter, the occurrence of several freezes all the way to the coast top killed a lot of the underbrush, and made seeing the birds easier. Whether the overall population has also increased is very difficult to tell, but anecdotal evidence from the southern Big Thicket area suggests the population is probably stable or perhaps increasing slightly. This notwithstanding, spring 2018 will go down as a fantastic Swainson's season. Accurate determination of the numbers present is aided by the tendency of the species to stay in a very small area when pausing, sometimes for multiple days. Reports on

successive days from a favored location may refer to the same bird. The best gauge, therefore, is the number of birds reported on a single day. The 19 confirmed on April 8 this year for a species for which in most years only one or two are normally detected in a day blew previous norms to smithereens. The highest plausible report for 2017 was two, for 2016 ten, for 2015 six, and for years prior to that two or three. The overall season total of sightings for 2018 was 128, compared to only 19 in 2017, 59 in 2016 and 40 in 2015. An incidental byproduct of this season with its unusual heavy grounding around April 8, is further support for the proposition that this date represents the peak of spring Swainson's migration.

Tennessee Warblers are often seen in significant numbers late in April, but, although usually present, not earlier in April. This resulted in season numbers in 2018 below those of last year, one of the few species for which this was true. Migrant and wintering Orange-crowned Warblers have usually departed by the end of March. It is difficult to be sure that Orange-crowned reports in April are not misidentified Tennessee Warblers. Nashville Warblers are circum-Gulf migrants, and in common with all such migrant warblers, are very much rarer in the spring than in the fall, when they tend to stop off after reaching the Gulf and needing to turn further west.

Kentucky Warblers were definitely highly visible this year, and numbers were high, much higher than those in 2017, which was certainly a poor year for the species even allowing for the poor season overall. Hooded Warblers have already been discussed above. Late in any spring season, American Redstarts tend to become by far the most visible warbler. Only part of this is due to their behavior and movements drawing attention to their presence. Numbers in 2018 might even qualify as disappointing in the circumstances. A single male Cape May Warbler was well seen throughout most of April 19, but did not stay around.

Cerulean Warblers have typically exhibited a two peak migration pattern corresponding more or less to the peaks of the two major grounding events of 2018. Nevertheless, the 2018 sightings were only modestly higher than the 2017 ones, thus perhaps reinforcing widespread concern about the overall populations. Northern Parula is one of the very earliest migrants. In 2018, the very early (mid-March) migrants were relatively few, but, as might be expected, there were very high number April 7 to 11. On the other hand, Magnolia Warblers are one of the latest common migrants, and the first one was not seen until April 19. The passage in the second part of April was respectable, but without any significant grounding or near grounding events in early May, the overall totals for 2018 were lower than those for 2017.

As far as Bay-breasted Warblers are concerned, the prime memory will be that of several birds of the species feeding on the ground on April 26 a very few feet from observers on the grass just inside the entrance. We used to think this species had perhaps the sharpest peak in its migration window, with birds being common on only one or two days late in April. It is beginning to become clear that in fact the window extends well into May, when normally fewer of the migrants stop over to be detected. Numbers were good this year by comparison with 2017 notwithstanding the fact that a lot of 2017 birds were seen well into May. Blackburnian Warblers are another sought after late season migrants, for their striking colors as much as anything else. They participated in the April 26 event, and numbers were comparable to those of 2017 when May 2017 is taken into account. Yellow Warblers, among the most common North American warblers, are also late spring migrants. Few are detected before about April 20

Chestnut-sided Warblers were in good supply in the second half of April. After a miserable showing in 2017, Blackpoll Warblers were back to at least normal. Most markedly, examples of the species were very visible feeding uncharacteristically near the ground in the wet areas of the "moat" around the donut shaped pond in the northwest corner during the late April grounding event. These may have been birds remaining for much longer than normal in the face of the north winds of that event. Most years, a significant number of Palm Warblers, a species some of which winter locally, are seen most years. This year, there were only three reports, two of them not fully confirmed. Yellow rumped Warblers are mostly a wintering species, but with some birds presumably from areas not very much further south. Numbers at the Woods over the winter are somewhat variable, and were high during early March, with some stragglers, as usual, well into April. One of the Audubon's race was seen March 30. Yellow-throated Warblers, typically migrating over a wide time interval, were fairly well represented in 2018.

Prairie Warblers are circum-Gulf migrants. There were only four confirmed sightings in 2018, in the April 6 to 9 period and these may well have been of the same bird pausing a little longer than usual. Black-throated Green Warblers were seen in particularly low numbers in 2017, and 2018's reasonably good showing in the species' peak window of the last three weeks of April may reflect a return to normality more than anything else. It would not be expected that the numbers pausing during the early April event would be particularly high, but they were reported in double figure on the peak days of that event. Canada Warbler, a late spring circum-Gulf migrant is not found very often in the spring at the Woods (but can, in early fall be the commonest warbler present). In addition, a lightly

marked Magnolia Warbler can be mistaken as a Canada Warbler. The five birds plausibly identified was, nevertheless, a low total.

The taxonomy of the Yellow-breasted Chat is still a matter of debate, currently in a family of its own with an uncertainty as to its placement among related families. It may well be that it, along with the *Piranga* Tanagers, will be best placed with the cardinals. Rather than moving it to a placement after the sparrows, we will treat it here as has been for a long time, at the end of the warblers. More often heard than seen, this species is common on migration throughout April. This year's numbers were quite high.

Sparrows are mostly birds of open areas, and not amenable to analysis using checklist focused on the Woods. Tanagers, Grosbeaks, Buntings and Orioles all are attracted to soft fruits. The growth of many new mulberry trees in the eastern portion of the Woods has greatly increased the attractiveness of that area to birds of these families, so comparisons of numbers with prior years are not considered to be valid for meaningful analysis. Summer and Scarlet Tanagers were seen essentially every day of April after the first three days. A nice male Western Tanager hung around from April 15 to 23. Rose-breasted and Blue Grosbeaks were easily found in increasing numbers as April progressed. Indigo Buntings were often present in large numbers in the grassy areas of the Woods during April, with estimates of 100 on April 9 and 20. Painted Buntings were frequent during April. Orchard Orioles typically nest in some numbers in the Woods, and were around from the beginning of April. Baltimore Oriole migration is very episodic. This year, an estimated 100 passed through on April 16, with no other day exceeding 32.

Methodology

We employ a methodology unlike that used anywhere else that we are aware of, that attempts, to the extent practical, to exclude duplicate sightings of the same birds on the same day. Over the last few years, participation in eBird has increased to the extent that virtually all sightings by birders who keep records are entered into it. We therefore reviewed all plausible entries in eBird from March 1 to May 31 plausibly showing Sabine Woods as the location. For each day, we first enter the sightings of migratory species on checklists posted by our core group of local birders into our spreadsheet, entering only the highest number for any given species reported on any of their checklists. There are usually at least three such checklists, except on the fringes of the migration season. We then review all the other checklists in eBird for Sabine Woods for the date, looking for additional species and any numbers that are higher than those already on our spreadsheet. Any such potential additions are reviewed for plausibility, eliminating any from checklists that show numbers for all species that are in excess of those shown by other checklists for the date, and any from checklists that include species that are both highly unlikely in Sabine Woods for the date and not reported by any other birders. It should be noted that this methodology will count a bird present over several days once each day. No doubt there are many instances when birds remain overnight and are counted on two or more days, but we have no way of even estimating the "duplicate counting" that results.

We include "migratory" species, by which we mean birds that are not normally seen year round at Sabine Woods. This includes a few winter residents, true Neotropical migrants, and species breeding close to the coast, but departing in winter. We do not include species that do not frequent either the woodlot or nearby grassy areas at Sabine Woods. Some species are excluded because their normal foraging and migratory patterns make it unlikely that the sightings at Sabine Woods are consistent from day to day, week to week or season to season, or their appearances are in the nature of "casual" or "accidental" in the normal terminology of bird listings. We will almost always make mention of these rarities in the narrative accounts. While we do include a few grassland species such as buntings, we generally do not include in the spreadsheet waterfowl, hawks, shorebirds, gulls and terns, wrens or sparrows.

We have data for Sabine Woods going back to 1996, but our data sources have expanded significantly over the last few years. We believe that it is reasonably valid to look at first of season and last of season dates for the past four years or so, with some allowance for occasional sightings well outside the normal core migratory window as defined by sightings of multiple birds. Attempting to evaluate the numbers of any given species is much more difficult. First and foremost, sightings at Sabine Woods are highly influenced by local weather conditions that can materially increase or decrease the numbers of migrants electing to stop over. In our analysis, we do make mention of some comparisons of numbers, but usually based on numbers of related species seen during the same migration window. Mostly, these should be treated as anecdotal and not scientific.

Overall, the number of birds of the species we track seen in the spring 2018 season at Sabine Woods was more than two times the number in 2017, and about 120 percent of that of 2016. When we refer below to relative numbers, we are allowing for these reduced totals.

A number of species were seen in small numbers that do not justify including them in the table, although they are included in the overall totals. These were:

Swallow-tailed Kite	Mar 11 (1), Apr 3 (1)
Black-billed Cuckoo	Apr 20 (1), Apr 23 (1), Apr 26 (1), Apr 27 (1 unconf), Apr 28 (1)
Eastern Whip-poor-will	Mar 30 (1)
Red-headed Woodpecker	Apr 15 (1), Apr 23 (2)
Peregrine Falcon	Mar 6 (1), Mar 11 (1)
Olive-sided Flycatchers	Apr 23 (1), Apr 26 (1 unconf), Apr 27 (1 unconf), Apr 28 (1 unconf)
Alder Flycatcher	Apr 27 (1)
Willow Flycatcher (1)	Apr 28 (1)
Great Kiskadee	Apr 13 (1), Apr 19 (1), Apr 28 (1), May 5 (1)
Western Kingbird	Apr 23 (2); within the woods birds only!
Black-whiskered Vireo	Apr 20 (1)
Brown Creeper	Mar 7 (1), Mar 10 (1), Mar 11 (1), Mar 17 (1)
Golden-crowned Kinglet	Mar 2(1), Mar 3 (3), Mar 6 (6), Mar 7 (1), Mar 8 (1), Mar 10 (1), Mar 11 (1), Mar 13 (2)
Brewster's Warbler	Mar 19 (1)
Cape May Warbler	Apr 19 (1)
Audubon's Warbler	Mar 30 (1)
Palm Warbler	Apr 4 (1), Apr 7 (unconf), Apr 8 (unconf)
White-crowned Sparrow	Apr 9 (1), Apr 23 (1)
Bobolink	Apr 23 (1), Apr 26 (1), Apr 27 (1), Apr 28 (3), May 5 (16), May 7 (6)

As far as tanagers are concerned, it used to be normal for Summer Tanagers to arrive at least a week before Scarlet Tanagers. This year, as in recent years, both species have been arriving almost on the same day. In 2017, both were first reported on April 1, with heaviest migration in late April, about normal. Overall, relative numbers, especially of Scarlet Tanager, were higher than normal.

Rose-breasted Grosbeaks can be relied on to arrive April 8 or 9, with an occasional earlier bird some years. This season was no different, and the overall relative totals were higher than normal. Although there were no early outliers this year, Blue Grosbeaks were plentiful from April 8, peaking markedly in the last week of the month. The total number reported was almost twice the previous year. Indigo Buntings frequent the grassy areas at Sabine Woods in large numbers. The first birds were quite late, April 5, as opposed to the normal last week in April, but numbers thereafter were high, totaling more than 700 over the seas, about half as many again as normal. Painted Buntings are a target bird for many birders and Sabine Woods is a good place to find them. The first birds on April 11 were only a day or so later than normal, and again season total was close to one and a half times what would normally have been expected.

Orchard Orioles breed in the Woods, so only arrival dates can be meaningfully reviewed. A report from March 16 is accompanied by a photograph that is unfortunately not clear enough to exclude it being the female Baltimore Oriole that had been present for several weeks and seen well March 4. Apart from these, Orchard Orioles arrived on schedule in late March, and higher than normal numbers were reported. The first regular migrant Baltimore Oriole was seen April 10, about a week later than normal, but overall, numbers exceeded those of 2016.

We are grateful to all those who entered their sightings into eBird. Our base numbers are compiled from the checklists of local birders who are able to bird the Woods frequently: Michael Cooper, John Haynes, Sheila Hebert, Thomas Hellweg, Steve Mayes, John Whittle. In addition, we reviewed checklist posted by the following: Ryan Abe, T. Jay Adams, John Allendorf, Kathleen Appelbaum, Bob and Bettina Arrigoni, Mike Austin, Dusty Ayala, Kelsey Baird, Laura Baker, Mike Baker, Terry Baldwin, William Barchet, Mary Ann Beauchemin, David Bell, Chris Bergmann, John Berner, Brian Berry, Gavin Bieber, Deborah Bifulco, Gary Binderim, Elizabeth Blue, Carol and Robert Blye, Dale Bonk, Justin Bosler, James Bozeman, Joanne Bradbury, Dave Brasser, Allison Britt, Craig Browning, Wes Browning, Jimmy Bryan, Babs Buck, Ted Buhl, Timothy Burkhardt, Steve Butterworth, Donna Cannon, Kris Cannon, Chuck Carlson, Blaine Carnes, Amber Carver, Katherine Cavazos, John Chapple, Dan Coleman, Dan Coleman, Carlton Collier, Fred Collins, Teresa Connell Connell, Greg Cook, Jeff Corcoran, Marline Coronado, Richard Crichton, Jim Crites, Charlie Curlee, Annette Daughdrill, Tripp Davenport, Bonnie de Grood, Nicholas DeMaio, Bill Denham, Cathryn Dippo, Wyatt Egelhoff, Shelli Ellerbe, Brian Elliott, Sue Elliott, Daniel Elting, Theodore Emery, Tiffany Erickson, George Exum, Darrell Fagal, Stephen Falick, Eric Faria, Paul Fenwick, Shannon Fitch, Steven Flexman, Ellen Freda, Bob Friedrichs, Penny Garsee, Sidney Gauthreaux, James Gil, Brenda

Gonzales, Caleb Gordon, Candyce Gribbin, Benjamin Griffith, Angie Grimm, Wink Gross, Susan Gruver , Allison Guggenheimer, Bradley Hacker, Martin Hagne, Alician Hall, Ken and Siew-Bee Hartman, Cathy Hay, Kristina Haycock, Tim Hebert , Rhandy Helton, Janie Henderson, Jodi Henricks, Kurt Hillman, Brittney Hoch, Donna Hoechlin, Lisa Holmes, Joseph Hood, Cynthia Hudson, Ron Huebner, Kenneth and Patricia Isaacson, Frank Izaguirre, Tom and Jackie Jackson, Tom Johnson, Glenda Jones, R. Bruce Jones, David and Jill Kaminski, Imre Karafiath, Glenda Keilstrup, Missy McAllister Kerr, Kendra Kocob, Nicole Koeltzow, Bernadette Kolb, Susan Kosons, Michael and Sarah Kuzio, Laurie Lawler, Dominic Le Croisette, Jason Leifester, Judy Lin, Gindler Linda, Glen Lindeman, Dwayne Litter, Laurie Looper, Stephan Lorenz, Eric Lutomski, Sharon Lynn, Steven Magneli, Robbin Mallett, Michael Martin, Linda Martin-Rust, Masters Marvin, Dan Maxwell, Nate McGowan, Conor McMahan, Candy McNamee, Anita Meagher, Janelle Medrano, Ryan Merrill, J & C Miles, Craig Miller, Jennifer Miller, Leo Miller, Tyler Miloy, Guiller Mina, Claire Moore, Bill Morrison, Bruce Morrison, Janet Neath, Ronald Newhouse, Michael Nicodemus, Glenn Olsen, Jeffrey Olsson, Matt O'Sullivan, Sally Pachulski, Ladan Paul, Carl Poldrack, Sumita Prasad, Gene Prejean, John Prentice, Pat Ravindran, Gene Revelas, Nancy Richmond, James Rieman, Melissa Roach, Tal Roberts, Philip Robinson, Mike Rogan, Michelle Rometry, Carole Rose, Carlos Ross , Todd Sahl, David Sarkozi, Mark Scheurman, T.J. Senters, Ryan Shaw, Dennis Shepler, Sarah Shuffield, Jeff Sims, Paul Sivon, Letha Slagle , John Smelser, Pam Smolen, Justyn Stahl, Denise Stephens, Barbara Stern, Mark Steuer, Brooke Stickleback, John Sullivan, Margaret Kirby Taylor, Sandi Templeton, Robert Thacker, John Tharp, Elizabeth Timmer, Bill and Mavis Townsley, Ashley Tubbs, Kirsten Tucker, Steve Tucker, Kent Van Vuren, Louise Venne, Jenny Vogt, Bradley Waggoner, Dan Waggoner, Annette Walker, Deb and Lee Wallace, Mary Anne Weber, Sheri Weisiger, Casey Weissburg, Carol Wells, Laura Wilson, Mary Dabney Wilson, Jay Withgott, Janey Woodley, Michael and Mindy Woodruff, Ceil Worden, Michael Wormer, Bill Wright, Charlie Wright, Holly Wright, Linnaea Wright, Michael Yablick, Gary Yoder, Fred and Kay Zagst, Mike Zarella, Art Zdancewic, Jerald Zimmerman, Robert Zirl.

John A. Whittle

Spring 2018 Migration -- Sabine Woods

SPECIES	MARCH																															TOT
	1	2	3	6	7	8	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	20	21	22	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31						
Nbr of Checklists	1	1	6	2	1	1	6	5	2	3	1	4	2	3	3	2	1	1	3	5	1	1	1	3	5	11						
Green Heron															1			1	4				1				7					
Yellow-cr. Night-Heron			1		1		11	1		3	4	2	1			1	1		1			2			1	1	30					
Sharp-shinned Hawk				1		1		1		1	1									1					1	1	8					
Swainson's Hawk																																
Solitary Sandpiper																																
Yellow-billed Cuckoo																																
Common Nighthawk																																
Chuck-will's-widow																									1		1					
Chimney Swift																																
Ruby-thr. Hummingbird																									2	1	3					
Belted Kingfisher								1			1					1											3					
Red-bellied Woodpecker		2	2	2	2	1	1	2		2	2	1	1	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	1		1	2	2	2	39					
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker		1	1	1		1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	1			1	1								14					
Downy Woodpecker		3	4	4	2	3	4	3	1	3	3	4	2	4	2	3	4	2	4	4	2	1	3	3	4	5	77					
Northern Flicker		1	2			1	1	1		1					1		1					1					10					
Crested Caracara							1									1									1	1	4					
Merlin		1																	1								2					
Eastern Wood-Pewee																																
Acadian Flycatcher																																
Alder/Willow Flycatcher (Traill's Flycatcher)																																
Least Flycatcher																	1										1					
Empidonax sp.							1													1							2					
Eastern Phoebe		5	4	7	5	6	3	4		4	3	1	2	1	2	1											48					
Great Crested Flycatcher																									1	2	3					
Eastern Kingbird																	1	3	3	3	1		4	3	5	5	28					
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher																				1					2	2	5					
White-eyed Vireo			1	2		2		3	1	3		1		1	1	3	4	2	1	3	1		1		12	10	52					
Yellow-throated Vireo												1														1	2					
Blue-headed Vireo		3	2	5	3	4	3	5		5	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	2	1		2	2	2	3	60					
Philadelphia Vireo																																
Warbling Vireo																																
Red-eyed Vireo																							1			2	3					
N Rough-winged Swallow								1					75			2	1				1						80					
Purple Martin		2	2				5	3			2		4	1	2		3		5	3	1			6	2	2	43					
Tree Swallow		7	25	15	5	14	15	55		2	5	6		100	25	50	35	13	50	35	10		16	22	50	24	579					
Bank Swallow																																
Barn Swallow				2				2			3			2	1	4		3	5	6	5		4	3	8	8	56					
Brown Creeper				1			1	1						1													4					
House Wren		1	1	2	2	2	1	2		2	2		1				1	2	1	1					1	1	23					
Carolina Wren																										1	1					
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher							2	30	8	15	7			1	1	5	3	8	3	5				3	8	3	102					
Ruby-crowned Kinglet		8	8	9	8	10	5	10		8	8	5	1	12	6	5	6	7	4	6	2		4	4	8	8	152					
Veery																																
Gray-cheeked Thrush																																
Swainson's Thrush																																
Hermit Thrush	2	3	6	6	4	4	4	5		6	4	3	2	5	5	4	5	8	3	5	2		6	4	4	8	108					
Wood Thrush											1		1						1		2					2	7					
Gray Catbird			1							2				1	1		3	1		2				1		1	13					

Spring 2018 Migration -- Sabine Woods

SPECIES	MARCH																								TOT		
	1	2	3	6	7	8	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	20	21	22	24	25	26	27	28	29		30	31
Nbr of Checklists	1	1	6	2	1	1	6	5	2	3	1	4	2	3	3	2	1	1	3	5	1	1	1	3	5	11	
Brown Thrasher		1	3	3	2	1	2	6	2	5		2		4	2	4	6	10	3	6	4		2	3	6	8	85
Cedar Waxwing		14	4				15																				33
Ovenbird																											
Worm-eating Warbler																			1					3	3	5	12
Louisiana Waterthrush		1						1		5	4	1	1		1	1	1		1				1	2			21
Northern Waterthrush																											
Golden-winged Warbler																											
Blue-winged Warbler																											
Black-and-white Warbler	1	5	2	6	3	5	4	6	1	7	3	2	1		2	3	3	1		2			2	1	3	4	67
Prothonotary Warbler										1	1	1						1		1				1	1	3	10
Swainson's Warbler																										1	1
Tennessee Warbler																											
Orange-crowned Warbler		3	2	3	1	3	2	4		4	3	2	2	4	1	2	1	1	1	2			1	1	2	2	47
Nashville Warbler																								1			1
Kentucky Warbler																											
Common Yellowthroat		1	1	1			1	3		2	2	1	1	2	2	2	3	1	2	2			2	2	2	3	36
Hooded Warbler								1		1	1	1			1	8	10	5	1	4	2		2	1	7	10	55
American Redstart																											
Cerulean Warbler																											
Northern Parula		1		1	2	6	4	12		12	5	3	4	1		3	2		2	2			1	7	5	73	
Magnolia Warbler																											
Bay-breasted Warbler																											
Blackburnian Warbler																											
Yellow Warbler																											
Chestnut-sided Warbler																											
Blackpoll Warbler																											
Yellow-rumped Warbler			45	70	45		100		12				60	30			36	50						35			483
Yellow-throated Warbler		1		2	1		1	2		1							1										9
Prairie Warbler																											
Black-thr.Green Warbler										1														1	2		4
Canada Warbler																											
Yellow-breasted Chat																											
Lark Sparrow																											
White-throated Sparrow							1	3		3					1			2	2	2	1				2	2	19
Lincoln's Sparrow																										1	1
Swamp Sparrow		2	1	2	2	1	1	2	1	2	3		1		2	1	1		2	2				1	2	2	31
Summer Tanager					1		1	1		1		1											1	1	1	1	9
Scarlet Tanager																											
Western Tanager																											
Rose-breasted Grosbeak																											
Blue Grosbeak																											
Indigo Bunting																									3	2	5
Painted Bunting																											
Orchard Oriole																								3		2	5
Baltimore Oriole																											
Totals	3	129	130	161	97	167	204	286	30	179	119	69	151	214	99	160	159	121	155	198	54	5	94	117	214	197	3512

Spring 2018 Migration -- Sabine Woods

SPECIES	APRIL																														TOT	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30		
Nbr of Checklists	5	1	1	10	8	4	6	27	13	9	4	6	4	23	20	1	6	4	11	11	18	29	21	14	11	15	24	17	21	4		
Green Heron				3	2	1	2	2	6	4	2	1	1	2	1	2		1	3	2	3	3	5	3	2	2	4	5	2	1	65	
Yellow-cr. Night-Heron	2				4	2	1	4			1			2	1					1						2	2			23		
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1				1		1						1	1					1											8		
Swainson's Hawk			1							1			1	2	1			1	1			1	5	1		1	1	1	1	19		
Solitary Sandpiper																				1		2	2	1	1	1	1	1		10		
Yellow-billed Cuckoo				1	2		2	4	4	3	1		1			1		1	3	1		3	2	2	3	4	3	1	2	44		
Common Nighthawk								1								1	1	1	2	1	2	4	3	1	6	4	2	3	2	34		
Chuck-will's-widow							1	1									1						1	1	1					6		
Chimney Swift			1				20	2	3				4	2				2	2		6	8	9	1	5	15	6	3	4	93		
Ruby-thr. Hummingbird	2			1	12	4	15	12	10	12	3	5		2	2		4	3	3	2	3	2	2	3	4	5	2	3	3	119		
Belted Kingfisher			1	1		1	1	1				1		1	1	1					1	1	1		1				14			
Red-bellied Woodpecker	2		1	3	4	2	2	6	2	2	1	1	2	2	3	2	2	2	4	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	2	69	
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker				2	1		1	1	1	2									1	1	1	1	1	(1)		(1)			13			
Downy Woodpecker	3	2	2	4	2	3	6	4	4	4	3	3		4	3	3	2	4	5	4	4	5	4	3	1	6	4	2	2	98		
Northern Flicker		1																										(1)		1		
Crested Caracara				1			1			2					3							1	1	1			1	1		12		
Merlin							1	1			1			1		1		1			1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1	14		
Eastern Wood-Pewee							(1)	6	5	4	2	2		1		1		7	3	4	3	13	9	14	5	15	8	6	3	3	114	
Acadian Flycatcher							2	3	2	6	2	1				2	1	3	3	3	(1)	3	8	15	12	14	9	12	4	3	108	
Alder/Willow Flycatcher (Traill's Flycatcher)																							(1)			(4)	(1)	1	4	4	9	
Least Flycatcher																						2	4	2	4	1	7	1	3	24		
Empidonax sp.							1									1		4		1	1	5	8	24	3	25	21	10	2	106		
Eastern Phoebe																																
Great Crested Flycatcher	1	1		3	3	1	8	16	7	3	3	2	1	4	3	3	3	4	9	6	2	7	6	3	3	4	5	3	5	3	122	
Eastern Kingbird	3		4	10	5	5	4	6	4	5	2	4		4	5	4	4	25	10	10	6	6	6	9	8	6	13	5	6	4	183	
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher				3	1		1	1		1			1		4	1	2		1	2	3	1	1	1	3	2	2	2	3	2	38	
White-eyed Vireo	4		2	9	10	5	25	30	28	30	32	6	3	8	8	14	4	6	8	8	8	21	8	13	5	11	6	6	2	320		
Yellow-throated Vireo				2	2		4	13	13	6	8	1		5	6	6	2	3	3	14	6	7	8	5	3	12	5	3	4	1	142	
Blue-headed Vireo			2	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	1	2	1	3	3	2	2	4	7	3	2	9	3	1		3	1	(1)	(1)		62	
Philadelphia Vireo																			(1)				2	5	8	2	14	5	5	5	46	
Warbling Vireo							3	3	6	9	2					2	(1)	2	1	1	(1)	2	10	3	(2)	3	3	(4)	(3)		50	
Red-eyed Vireo			2	5	3	7	19	22	15	7	1	1	6	3	15	3	8	2	23	12	14	7	25	8	55	22	10	8	2	305		
N Rough-winged Swallow							105	75	40	34	18	8		8	8	19	6	12	16	35	25	25	60	1	15	8	8		30	556		
Purple Martin	2		3	6	4	4	20	3	10	7		20	5	4	2	4	8	8	12	2	20	2	3	10		4	8	13	2	186		
Tree Swallow	10		15	18	21	23	60	35	20	28	14	40	2	30	8	16	30	50	50	50	50	40	75	25	6	50	50	15	35	2	868	
Bank Swallow									2				1			2		2				2	2		5	4		1	3	5	29	
Barn Swallow	2		4	10	5	6	75	18	25	11	5	20	6	32	6	6	7	8	15	20	30	15	25	10	2	30	6	15	15	429		
Brown Creeper																																
House Wren	2			1	2	1	1	2		1	1	2		1	1		1	1	1					1	1			1			21	
Carolina Wren						2				1					1			1					1	1		1	2		1	1	12	
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	2	3			3	3	4	4	3	2	2			3	3			1		1		2	2	1		1	2	2	2	1	47	
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	3	6	2	3	3	4	5	3	1	2	2	1		3	1	2	1					1	2	2		1	1	1			50	
Veery											1						(1)				21	8	5	2	2	2	5	5	4	7	3	65
Gray-cheeked Thrush												1				1			(1)	4	2	1	7	3	5	12	12	10	20	14	92	
Swainson's Thrush							2	5	10	17	4	5	2	1	2	3	1	3	6	20	6	8	22	65	23	80	45	70	17	13	430	
Hermit Thrush	2	1	1	6	6	3	4	3	2	2	2	(1)		1	1		2			1			(1)		(1)						37	
Wood Thrush	(1)		1		1	1	8	8	10	14	28	18	3	5	4	4	2	6	1	50	45	30	28	28	17	30	25	15	8	9	399	
Gray Catbird		1		1	1	2	4	3	1	3	11	12	6	6	6	3	4	20	12	80	60	38	50	90	44	80	50	35	35	30	688	

Spring 2018 Migration -- Sabine Woods

SPECIES	APRIL																														TOT	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30		
Nbr of Checklists	5	1	1	10	8	4	6	27	13	9	4	6	4	23	20	1	6	4	11	11	18	29	21	14	11	15	24	17	21	4		
Brown Thrasher	2	2	2	4	6	3	5	4	3	3	5	6	3	3	3	3	3	6	5	3	4	4	4	3	4	4	5	5	4	7	118	
Cedar Waxwing															6			3				7			1	12	10	13			52	
Ovenbird					3	4	8	13	15	20	13	1	1	2	1	1		4		19	11	10	12	25	6	45	44	17	14	3	292	
Worm-eating Warbler				3	5	4	15	21	30	14	12	4	1	3	2	2	1	6	2	12	7	16	5	6	3	8	3	2			187	
Louisiana Waterthrush	1		1	2	2	1	4	8	7	5	3	1			1	1	2	3			1		1	1	1	1	1		1		49	
Northern Waterthrush				1			1	3	5	4	3				1	1	2	2	6		6	3	3	6	5	2	5	4	2	3	4	72
Golden-winged Warbler										1								1		1		4	3	8	2	3	3	3		1	30	
Blue-winged Warbler			1	2	1		6	23	23	16	10	1		1	1	3		4	2	7	8	12	6	10	3	4	3	2	1	1	151	
Black-and-white Warbler	2		2	4	6	5	20	48	36	21	17	5		3	4	12		7	6	12	13	27	25	29	18	25	20	14	8	2	391	
Prothonotary Warbler	3		1	4	5	6	8	10	12	3	2				1		1				4	5	3	5	3	2	(1)	3	2	1	2	86
Swainson's Warbler				2	4	7	14	19	17	10	17	3	1	1	1	1		2		3	2	5	4	5	3	1	4	1	1		128	
Tennessee Warbler			1	1			6	18	20	23	4	1		4	2	2			10	3	5	4	10	10	6	2	15	8	6	3	4	168
Orange-crowned Warbler				1	1					(1)																		1				3
Nashville Warbler											1								(1)			1	2	2	(1)	(1)	1		(1)			7
Kentucky Warbler					5	5	6	12	25	18	14	12		1	1	1		3	2	7	14	13	5	15	8	7	7	8	9	1	199	
Common Yellowthroat	1	1	2	2	4	3	4	4	3	3	1	2		1	1	1	2	12	3	8	3	3	5	7	2	5	8	6	6	10	113	
Hooded Warbler	1		1	8	20	17	50	125	84	70	65	16	1	8	8	7	3	12	6	40	40	70	40	60	23	35	26	22	16	5	879	
American Redstart					1		1	2	3	3	2	1			3	2		2			6	6	10	5	12	7	15	14	7	5	122	
Cerulean Warbler							2	3	3	2								1		1	(1)	3	2	5	1	1	1				25	
Northern Parula	2	1	1	10	5	2	25	56	41	42	13	5		3	1	4	1	7	2	3	3	10	5	5	1	2	3	1		1	255	
Magnolia Warbler																			1	2	1	9	7	25	4	11	11	12	7	2	92	
Bay-breasted Warbler																				1		1	1	4	10	7	9	5	9	1	48	
Blackburnian Warbler				1			1	1	1	1	1			1	1	1					5		4	10	10	3	8	6	3	2	60	
Yellow Warbler															1		2	2			9	8	8	8	8	4	10	20	13	8	18	119
Chestnut-sided Warbler	(1)							1	1										1	5		9	8	37	20	12	14	14	8	2	132	
Blackpoll Warbler																		1		1	2	4	6	3	2	(1)	2	2	2		24	
Yellow-rumped Warbler	10	20	8	15	8	4	6	14	3	1					1	1		1	1		1	4	2	1	1	2	-2	1			103	
Yellow-throated Warbler					1		5	20	10	12	3			3	2	3	1				3	1	1	1		(1)		1			67	
Prairie Warbler						1	1	1	1																					(1)		4
Black-thr. Green Warbler							7	12	14	9	3	3		2	1	5	2	4	3	6	6	18	12	12	7	7	6	8	1	2	150	
Canada Warbler																(1)							2	1	(1)		2	(1)			5	
Yellow-breasted Chat				1			1	15	10	6	8	6	1	1	1	2	3	2	1	1	2	2	3	2	6	4	2	3	1	1	85	
Lark Sparrow								6	4	5	1																				16	
White-throated Sparrow	1			2	2		7	2	2	2	2	1					2	1				1	1	2	2	1	1	2			35	
Lincoln's Sparrow							1	2	1	1								3	1				1	2			1	3			16	
Swamp Sparrow		1		1	1		1	1	2									1		1				1	1		1	1		1	15	
Summer Tanager		3		4	1	2	8	11	15	18	12	5	3	7	5	7	4	30	8	22	15	16	22	21	11	15	22	12	8	4	311	
Scarlet Tanager	3			3	3		2	1	4	2	2	1	1		2	3	5	3	1	30	14	15	15	15	2	15	9	10	15	4	180	
Western Tanager															1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1				(1)			9	
Rose-breasted Grosbeak				1				1	3	2	2	1		1	1	2	2	12	2	22	16	15	12	10	5	25	24	19	14	8	200	
Blue Grosbeak				1	1	4	2	2	15	14	16	8	4	6	5	6	3	6	12	16	6	10	23	8	2	19	6	6	8	9	218	
Indigo Bunting			4	8	6	3	50	75	100	50	45	30	10	38	20	30	9	55	25	100	50	75	75	82	46	50	75	50	50	16	1227	
Painted Bunting				1	1	2	1	2	4	5	6	6	5	7	4	2	2	17	5	7	2	7	12	9	2	4	2	1	1	1	118	
Orchard Oriole			15	10	6		14	25	15	20	14	26	3	30	32	30	14	45	35	40	25	30	30	24	11	30	23	11	22	8	588	
Baltimore Oriole							1	4	7	7	3	3		2	3	6	6	100	6	10	6	20	20	8	3	15	32	3	5	1	271	
Totals	73	78	82	212	208	163	735	894	792	665	462	315	76	291	218	278	169	581	334	815	602	792	841	912	423	963	844	579	490	243	14130	

Spring 2018 Migration -- Sabine Woods

SPECIES	MAY																		TOT	GRAND TOTAL
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	18	19	20	22	28		
Nbr of Checklists	5	4	6	1	8	4	3	1	1	2	7	2	1	2	2	1	1	1	28	100
Green Heron	7	6	3	1	2	1	2	1		1	2			1	1				1	54
Yellow-cr. Night-Heron						1														16
Sharp-shinned Hawk																			1	20
Swainson's Hawk					1														1	11
Solitary Sandpiper						1													1	108
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	2	9	5	12	4	3	4	3	1	6	5	4		3	2		1		64	59
Common Nighthawk	2	2	1	2	3	3	2	1		2	3	1		1	2				25	7
Chuck-will's-widow																				110
Chimney Swift	3			3	2	3	2					1			3				17	132
Ruby-thr. Hummingbird					5	3					1	1							10	17
Belted Kingfisher																				132
Red-bellied Woodpecker	2	1	2	1	2	2	1	1		1	1	3		1	2			4	24	27
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker																				203
Downy Woodpecker	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	2		2	1	2		2	1			3	28	11
Northern Flicker																				16
Crested Caracara																				16
Merlin																				154
Eastern Wood-Pewee	4	4	2	2	5	4	2	2		3	4	1		3	4				40	115
Acadian Flycatcher	1	1			2	2					1								7	9
Alder/Willow Flycatcher (Traill's Flycatcher)																				27
Least Flycatcher					1	1													2	115
Empidonax sp.					3	3	1												7	48
Eastern Phoebe																				166
Great Crested Flycatcher	2	3	3	4	5	5	4	2		2	2	2		3	2			2	41	295
Eastern Kingbird	24	6	4	4	6	10	4	2		5	5	5		2	5	1		1	84	47
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher		1	1		1							1							4	373
White-eyed Vireo							1												1	148
Yellow-throated Vireo	2					1									1				4	122
Blue-headed Vireo																				50
Philadelphia Vireo					1	1									2				4	51
Warbling Vireo			(1)		1														1	407
Red-eyed Vireo	5	2	3	13	6	35	8	3	1	10	10	1			2				99	655
N Rough-winged Swallow	2	4	2	6	5														19	248
Purple Martin	4	2	2		3	1		3			2				2				19	31
Tree Swallow					1						2								3	568
Bank Swallow					2														2	4
Barn Swallow	15	2		3	30	6	5	4		3	8	1		2	4				83	4
Brown Creeper																				44
House Wren																				15
Carolina Wren		1	1																2	149
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher																				202
Ruby-crowned Kinglet																				91
Veery	3	3	1	3	5	6	1	1	2			1							26	114
Gray-cheeked Thrush	3	3	2	4	1	3				2	1	1		1	1				22	517
Swainson's Thrush	5	2	3	1	13	20	6	3	3	8	11	4	1	2	4		1		87	145
Hermit Thrush																				415
Wood Thrush	1	3		1	2	1					1								9	979
Gray Catbird	75	45	15	40	25	16	9	6	2	6	18	6		6	6		2	1	278	

Spring 2018 Migration -- Sabine Woods

SPECIES	MAY																		TOT	GRAND TOTAL	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	18	19	20	22	28			
Nbr of Checklists	5	4	6	1	8	4	3	1	1	2	7	2	1	2	2	1	1	1			
Brown Thrasher	3	2	3	3	3	2	2	2		4	4		3	2	1	1	3		38	241	
Cedar Waxwing							2		3		3	5		2					15	100	
Ovenbird	6	4	2	1	3	3	1	1			1	1							23	315	
Worm-eating Warbler																				199	
Louisiana Waterthrush																				70	
Northern Waterthrush	2	3	2	4	3	2				1		1		1	1	1			21	93	
Golden-winged Warbler																				30	
Blue-winged Warbler									2										2	153	
Black-and-white Warbler	2	1	2	1	9	6	1		1		2			1					26	484	
Prothonotary Warbler																				96	
Swainson's Warbler																				129	
Tennessee Warbler	2	2	3	9	3	2	2	1		2	1	1			2				30	198	
Orange-crowned Warbler																				50	
Nashville Warbler																				8	
Kentucky Warbler				1															1	200	
Common Yellowthroat	11	4	5	2	3	3	2	2		1	1	2		1		1		1	39	188	
Hooded Warbler	2	1		4	1	4													12	946	
American Redstart	7	2	2	5	15	19	3	2	2	2	3	2		6	5				75	197	
Cerulean Warbler					2	1	1												4	29	
Northern Parula					1	2													3	331	
Magnolia Warbler	3	3	1	4	19	14	7	3	2		2			1	4				63	155	
Bay-breasted Warbler				1	14	6	5	5						3	3				37	85	
Blackburnian Warbler					9	2	2							2					15	75	
Yellow Warbler	25	11	4	38	1	1	1		1	7	5	1		3	7				105	224	
Chestnut-sided Warbler	3	1			14	4	3				2								27	159	
Blackpoll Warbler				1	2														3	27	
Yellow-rumped Warbler																				586	
Yellow-throated Warbler									1										1	77	
Prairie Warbler																				4	
Black-thr.Green Warbler				1	6	2								1					10	164	
Canada Warbler																				5	
Yellow-breasted Chat							1												1	86	
Lark Sparrow																				16	
White-throated Sparrow																				54	
Lincoln's Sparrow																				17	
Swamp Sparrow																				46	
Summer Tanager	4	4	3	6	3	2	3	1	1	2	2	1							32	352	
Scarlet Tanager	4	5	4	7	5	5	4	4	2	5	5	2							52	232	
Western Tanager																				9	
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	6	4	4	6	10	4	5	2	1	3	1	2							48	248	
Blue Grosbeak	2	9	7	4	4	6	2		1	2	4								41	259	
Indigo Bunting	35	16	1	8	12	11	12		3	6	3	1							108	1340	
Painted Bunting	3	2	1	1							1	1		2	1				12	130	
Orchard Oriole	17	14	11	18	12	13	9	6	2	7	9	7		7	6	1	1		140	733	
Baltimore Oriole	5		2	1		1					2								11	282	
Totals	314	194	114	233	318	255	131	65	34	97	134	70	4	62	77	6	8	12	2128	19770	

Golden Triangle Audubon Society
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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 forms of 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.

Detailed information/maps on birding sites in Texas is available on the Web at <http://www.texasbirds.org/birdingLocations.php>. This leads you to the maps of the various eBird hotspots. You can also subscribe (free) on eBird for email alerts for all rare birds reported in a specific county.