

Tennessee Valley, these ibis can be considered irregular visitors. The first Wood Ibis record for Wheeler Refuge came in 1951, when from 1 to 3 mature birds were noted regularly from August 1 through October 15. There were no further records until 1955 when a flock, sometimes numbering 32 individuals, was seen regularly from June 27 through September 10. Wood ibis sight records for the Valley can be credited to Charles M. Parker, Grammer, Byford, Cypert, Hulse, Bryan, and Heflin.

All the above Tennessee Valley records for both White and Wood Ibises have come from Wheeler Refuge and the backwater area immediately west of it, i. e., the southern edge of Limestone County and the northern edge of Morgan County, although Bryan, on July 18, 1955, picked up a dead Wood Ibis along a roadside in Lawrence County, a few miles west of Mallard Creek. There is no indication that either species nested in the Valley. Since the singular appearance of these birds makes a mistaken identification unlikely and since the number of qualified observers was large, no collection was considered necessary.

While there are now several Glossy Ibis records for Alabama and these birds have appeared as far north as the Tuscaloosa vicinity, none have been reported from the Tennessee Valley.

Wheeler National Wildlife Refuge
Decatur, Alabama
Received March 16, 1957

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS, ALABAMA, 1956

Compiled by THOMAS A. IMHOF

BIRMINGHAM: 21st annual count, 16 observers in 5 parties, 46 party-hours. December 22, .66 inches of rain all day, temp. 58 to 68, wind SSE 0-18 mph; warm, wet December made up for a cold, dry November so that the year is just about average for temperature and precipitation. Several species missed on account of rain.

MOBILE: 3rd annual count and the first time Fr. Dorn has had some help, 9 observers in 3 parties, 30 party-hours. Dec. 28, clear, windy, temp. 45 to 55, wind SW 5-25 mph; steady, strong wind hampered observation of small birds in cover.

DAUPHIN ISLAND: 1st count in this area except for an old count at Coden, which was strictly land birds, taken in 1913; 9 observers in 4 parties, 37 party-hours. Dec. 29, clear and windy, temp. 40 to 55, wind NW 3-18 mph; boat trip cancelled, small craft warning up; due to NW wind, water in bays very low, shorebirds scattered and far out, small birds hard to flush. On both coastal counts, Miss Rosemary D. Gaymer of Toronto, Ontario, (vacationing in Fairhope with friends) gave a good account of herself and the birds she saw. In addition, she supplied us with a record of the Rufous Hummingbird from Fairhope, Dec. 26, a first record for the state, and the 2nd hummingbird known to have wintered in Fairhope.

SPECIES	BIRMINGHAM	MOBILE	DAUPHIN
Common Loon	1	1	1
Horned Grebe	4	42	40
Pied-billed Grebe	113	37	10
White Pelican .....	.....	41	13
Brown Pelican .....	.....	16	126
Double-crested Cormorant .....	.....	151	101
Great Blue Heron	2	3	20
American Egret .....	.....	28	.....
Snowy Egret .....	.....	95	.....
Louisiana Heron .....	.....	3	.....
Little Blue Heron .....	.....	1 (JLD)	.....
Black-crowned Night Heron .....	.....	2	.....
Yellow-crowned Night Heron .....	.....	1	1
American Bittern .....	.....	.....	1
Mallard	4	2	1
Black Duck .....	.....	2	3
Gadwall .....	.....	4600	260
Am. Widgeon (Baldpate)	4	12	2
Pintail .....	.....	600	.....

SPECIES	BIRMINGHAM	MOBILE	DAUPHIN
Green-winged Teal	7	150	---
Shoveller	---	1	---
Redhead	1	32	4
Ring-necked Duck	92	74	---
Canvasback	5	3200	3
Lesser Scaup	4	800	50
Am. Goldeneye	1	3	250
Bufflehead	---	2	---
Ruddy Duck	---	15	---
Hooded Merganser	---	16	---
Red-breasted Merganser	2	18	165
Unidentified ducks	---	3000	300
Turkey Vulture	---	1	10
Black Vulture	---	27	8
Sharp-shinned Hawk	---	1	---
Cooper's Hawk	3	---	---
Red-tailed Hawk	---	2	---
Red-shouldered Hawk	4	3	3
Marsh Hawk	---	7	4
Peregrine Falcon (Duck Hawk)	1 (MHP)	---	---
Pigeon Hawk	---	1 (TAI)	1 (JLD)
Sparrow Hawk	4	6	28
Bob-white	37	1	---
King Rail	---	---	1
Clapper Rail	---	4	18
Virginia Rail	---	3	8
Sora	---	1	6
Florida Gallinule	---	2	---
Am. Coot	277	5400	---
Am. Oystercatcher	---	---	1
Piping Plover	---	---	110
Snowy Plover	---	---	2 (JLD)
Semipalmated Plover	---	---	100
Killdeer	161	245	61
Black-bellied Plover	---	---	75
Ruddy Turnstone	---	2	28
Wilson's Snipe	34	18	---
Willet	---	---	10
Greater Yellowlegs	---	4	11
Least Sandpiper	22	15	5
Dunlin (Red-backed Sandpiper)	---	22	650
Eastern Dowitcher	---	---	8
Semipalmated Sandpiper	---	---	18
Western Sandpiper	---	1	63
Sanderling	---	---	66
Unidentified sandpipers	---	100	200
Great Black-backed Gull	---	1 (TAI, RDG, CMcT)	---
Herring Gull	---	700	600
Ring-billed Gull	---	900	1000
Laughing Gull	---	1000	800
Gull-billed Tern	---	1 (TAI, RDG)	4 (JLD, CEV)
Forster's Tern	---	300	19
Royal Tern	---	2	54
Caspian Tern	---	95	65
Unidentified gulls and terns	---	---	5000
Mourning Dove	172	9	14
Horned Owl	1 (TI, DH)	---	---
Screech Owl	---	1 (JLD)	1 (JLD)

SPECIES	BIRMINGHAM	MOBILE	DAUPHIN
Belted Kingfisher	8	10	17
Yellow-shafted Flicker	51	30	7
Pileated Woodpecker	12	---	---
Red-bellied Woodpecker	18	6	8
Red-headed Woodpecker	17	---	---
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	6	2	2
Hairy Woodpecker	6	---	1
Downy Woodpecker	18	2	1
Red-cockaded Woodpecker	3	---	---
Eastern Phoebe	8	3	68
Vermilion Flycatcher	---	---	1 (GS, CMcT)
Tree Swallow	---	150	2
Blue Jay	134	67	50
Am. Crow	78	90	500
Fish Crow	---	3	18
Carolina Chickadee	94	5	2
Tufted Titmouse	77	6	---
White-breasted Nuthatch	30	---	---
Red-breasted Nuthatch	2 (FBD)	---	---
Brown-headed Nuthatch	3	---	24
Brown Creeper	1 (TI, DH)	---	---
House Wren	---	1	8
Winter Wren	1	---	---
Bewick's Wren	3	2	1 (RGD, BHC)
Carolina Wren	64	17	28
Marsh Wren (LBMW)	---	2	2
Sedge Wren (SBMW)	---	---	17
Mockingbird	131	74	56
Catbird	3 (IFS)	2	10
Brown Thrasher	7	12	26
Am. Robin	65	1065	9
Hermit Thrush	20	5	3
Eastern Bluebird	84	25	51
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	---	8	15
Golden-crowned Kinglet	61	18	1 (RDG)
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	125	55	29
Water Pipit	9	50	43
Cedar Waxwing	119	75	1
Loggerhead Shrike	10	13	34
Common Starling	557	2700	25
Yellow-throated Vireo	---	---	1 (IS, GS, CMcT)
Solitary Vireo (Blue-headed)	---	---	3
Orange-crowned Warbler	---	3	2
Myrtle Warbler	44	787	1500
Pine Warbler	59	---	123
Palm Warbler	---	25	4
Common Yellowthroat	4	1	13
House Sparrow	193	115	5
Eastern Meadowlark	195	279	47
Red-winged Blackbird	537	350	1150
Rusty Blackbird	169	23	70
Brewer's Blackbird	---	250 (JLD)	6 (TAI)
Boat-tailed Grackle	---	251	3
Purple Grackle	149	3100	25
Brown-headed Cowbird	554	75	33
Unidentified Blackbirds	---	40,000	---
Cardinal	240	58	73
Purple Finch	5	---	---

SPECIES	BIRMINGHAM	MOBILE	DAUPHIN
Pine Siskin	4 (MHP)		
Am. Goldfinch	149	17	52
Eastern Towhee	170	30	39
Savannah Sparrow	18	31	35
Leconte's Sparrow			3 (TI, DH)
Sharp-tailed Sparrow		1	5
Seaside Sparrow		2	6
Vesper Sparrow	2	35	12
Pine-woods Sparrow			3
Slate-colored Junco	209		
Chipping Sparrow	84	30	
Field Sparrow	361	81	37
White-crowned Sparrow	4		
White-throated Sparrow	587	745	32
Fox Sparrow	17		
Swamp Sparrow	102	65	29
Song Sparrow	278	100	7
TOTAL SPECIES	81	116	112
TOTAL INDIVIDUALS	6915	73,591	14,781

At Birmingham, a male Baltimore Oriole which regularly fed at Harriet Wright's feeder failed to show up in the downpour. It has been seen many times before and since. Adele West, just arrived in town on Sunday the 23rd, discovered a young male Blackburnian Warbler at Huffman on a drizzly day. On the 24th it cleared, and efforts to relocate the bird for collecting proved fruitless.

Observers

Ruth Brunson, B	Thomas A. Imhof, B, M, D
Blanche H. Chapman, B, D	Clustie McTyeire, M, D
Ruth Copeland, B	Rev. C. T. Miller, M
F. Bozeman Daniel, B	Morton H. Perry, B
Rev. J. L. Dorn, M, D	Robert D. Perry, B
Marie Davis, B	Peter Smith, B
Mildred Ferris, B	Idalene F. Snead, B, M, D
Rosemary D. Gaymer, M, D	Grace M. Snead, B, M, D
Virginia Hamilton, B	J. Bolling Sullivan, B
Malcolm Harden, Jr., B	Rev. Claude E. Valentine, M, D
Dan C. Holliman, B, M, D	

397 38th Street
Fairfield, Alabama
Received January 6, 1957

BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER NEAR BIRMINGHAM

By MRS. E. M. WEST

While in Birmingham for Christmas, 1956, I went birdwatching in the immediate neighborhood each day. A mixed flock was very much in evidence near the house on the morning of the 23rd of December which was cold and drizzly. Many Field Sparrows and at least 6 Pine Warblers were feeding on the ground. A couple blocks farther the new residential area is bordered by an extensive woodland. As I stood at this edge, another mixed flock flew rapidly, one by one, from the woods to a nearby lawn. This flock consisted mainly of juncos, Field Sparrows, Bluebirds, and half a dozen Pine Warblers. I approached the green lawn where the birds were very busy feeding and started checking each individual. Soon my binoculars lit on a small black and white bird with a yellow throat. I forgot everything else while I concentrated my attention on it. My first impression was that it must be a Blackburnian Warbler, but knowing how unlikely that was, I considered the possibility of something else—possibly a Yellow-throated Warbler. However, several looks at the face showed too much yellow in that vicinity. Two white stripes running down each side of the back were very conspicuous and were even noticeable without the binoculars.

After I watched this bird for some 20 or 30 minutes, the whole flock started moving away from me through the weedy field behind the lawn. I immediately returned home to ascertain if the warbler could possibly be anything other than a Blackburnian. It finally became obvious that the white stripes on the back were diagnostic even if the yellow on face and throat and the striped sides had not also been closely seen.

The following day I went back to the same spot at approximately the same time of day and searched the area for a quarter mile in all directions but found no sign of the flock the Blackburnian was traveling with. In fact, all the birds in the neighborhood were very secretive that day, which was very windy and even colder than the previous one.

The Blackburnian Warbler has been recorded three times on the Christmas Counts; twice at Santa Ana, Texas, (1953 and 1954) and once at Titusville, Florida, (1955). These are the only known records of the species between Nov. 2 and March.

1625 S. Clayton Ave., S.E.
Chattanooga 11, Tennessee
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