

Northeast Texas Bird Report
July/August/September 2014 by David Brotherton

This is a bird report from July through September. Thanks to all who birded and sent in their results and thanks again to Luanne for everything.

Recorded in ten counties during the period, **Black-bellied Whistling Ducks** were found with a peak of 65 at RC WMA in Freestone county on 8/23 (PB, LBe, DO). The first **Greater White-fronted Goose** for the fall was noted at Tyler State Park on 9/27 (ebird BS). **Canada Geese** were noted in ten counties during the period with a max of 40 noted in Edgewood in Van Zandt county on 8/18 (ebird RK). The peak of 900 **Blue-winged Teal** were tallied at RC WMA in Freestone county on 9/6 (PB et al). Two **Gadwall**, six **Blue-winged Teal**, a **Ring-necked Duck** and a **Lesser Scaup** were all noted at RC WMA in Navarro county on 7/5 (ebird DL, EW). A **Northern Shoveler** was also noted on the same date at RC WMA in Freestone county (ebird KP). A **Mottled Duck** was also noted at RC WMA in Freestone county on the same date (ebird BS). Five **Northern Pintail** were noted at RC WMA in Freestone county on 7/25 (ebird RQ). Four **Green-winged Teal** were tallied at RC WMA in Freestone county on 7/4 (ebird AT). A **Redhead** was noted at RC WMA in Navarro county on 8/9 (DB, LB). A **Greater Scaup** was tallied at RC WMA in Freestone county on 8/5 (ebird AT). A **Ruddy Duck** was noted at RC WMA in Freestone county on 7/25 (ebird RQ), and another **Ruddy Duck** was noted at TXE in Harrison county on 7/31 (DB).

The only **Northern Bobwhite** recorded came from Henderson county on 7/1 (ebird BT). A heard only **Wild Turkey** was recorded at Pleasure Acres Lake in Smith county on 7/18 (ebird BB). Ten **Eared Grebes** were tallied at RC WMA in Freestone county on 8/23 and 9/6 (ebird LBe). Recorded from many observers at RC WMA, the peak of 195 **Wood Storks** was tallied on 7/5 in Freestone county (ebird BS). Outside of RC, three **Wood Storks** were found in Henderson county on 7/3 (ebird SG, DM), while five were noted at Caddo Lake in Harrison county (ebird DJ), one was noted at Lake Palestine in Cherokee county on 9/13 (ebird JHa), while 35 **Wood Storks** were tallied at the Ferndale Club in Camp County on 9/23 (ebird JH). Recorded in ten counties during the period, a max of 500 **Neotropic Cormorants** were noted at RC WMA in Navarro county on 7/5, 8/13 and 8/31 (ebird m.ob). Recorded in seven counties a high total of 100 **Anhingas** at RC WMA in Navarro county was tallied on 7/5 (ebird DL). 2500 was the recorded max of **American White Pelicans** recorded at LTW in Rains county on 9/27 (ebird RK). One observer noted a **Least Bittern** on 7/12 at RC WMA in Navarro county and then was rewarded with two on 7/19 at the same location (ebird JS). Another **Least Bittern** was tallied at RC WMA in Freestone county on 8/2 (ebird AT). **Tricolored Heron** sightings were noted throughout the period at RC WMA with a max of 28 noted on 8/13 in Freestone county (ebird PB, LBe). The only other **Tricolored Heron** noted during the period was one found at LOP in Upshur county on 8/27 (DB). RC WMA had some outstanding heron/egret numbers, including 400 **Little Blue Herons**, 750 **Snowy Egrets** and 1250 **White Ibis** in Freestone county on 8/13 (PB et al). **Black-crowned Night-Herons** were found at RC WMA, with a max of 34 noted on 8/22 (ebird MB). While outside of RC, up to three **Black-crowned Night-Herons** were noted at Cedar Creek Lake in Henderson county (ebird LBe). Observed in nine counties during the period, the max of 13 **Yellow-crowned Night-Herons** was tallied at RC WMA in Freestone county on 9/6 (PB et al). Noted in six counties, the max of 600 **White-faced Ibis** were tallied at RC WMA in Freestone county on 9/14 (DC, DL). Found in both counties of RC WMA, the max of 25 **Roseate Spoonbills** was recorded on 8/24 in Navarro county (ebird SL, JR).

The sole **Osprey** sighting prior to September occurred at Cedar Creek Reservoir on 7/29 (ebird LBe). The peak number of **Mississippi Kites** recorded was 80 at RC WMA in Navarro county on 8/23 (ebird CW). **Cooper's Hawks** were noted in Lamar, Henderson and two locations in Smith county during the month or July (RC, LBe, RQ, MB). While a peak of six **Cooper's Hawks** and 12 **Sharp-shinned Hawks** were tallied at LTW in Rains county on 9/27 (ebird RK). **Broad-winged Hawks** were noted in semi-good numbers with 158 tallied at Tyler State Park on 9/27 (ebird BS), 125 at Pleasant Acres Lake in Smith county on 9/26 (ebird MB), and 105 **Broad-winged Hawks** were noted on 9/24 at Daingerfield State Park (DB, LB). A **Swainson's Hawk** was noted at RC WMA in Freestone county on 7/17 (ebird SG, DM), while another was on 7/26 (ebird BTo). The only August observation was at Will's Point in Van Zandt county on 8/18 (ebird RK), while the only September record of **Swainson's Hawk** was from LTW in Rains county on 9/27 (ebird RK). **Soras** were found at both areas of RC with a max of six noted in Navarro county on 9/14 (ebird DC, DL). The only other **Sora** was found at Pleasure Acres Lake on 9/22 (ebird MB). Found only at RC WMA in Navarro county a peak of seven **Purple Gallinules** were tallied on 7/17 (ebird SG, DM). Noted in both counties of RC WMA, the peak of 13 **Common Gallinules** was tallied by on 7/5 (ebird KP).

Restricted to the RC WMA, the peak of 90 **Black-necked Stilts** was tallied in Navarro county on 8/24 (ebird SL, JR). Discovered in five counties, the first **American Avocet** of the fall was found on 8/16 at Lake Wright Patman in Cass county (DB, LB), while the max of 30 **American Avocets** was tallied on 8/24 at RC WMA in Navarro county (ebird SL, JR). Found in four counties, the first two **Black-bellied Plovers** were found in both counties of RC WMA on 8/9 (PB). Found in four counties, the first **Semipalmated Plover** was discovered at RC WMA in Freestone county on 8/5 (ebird AT), while the peak of eight was noted on 8/9 in Navarro county (ebird DC, DL). The sole **Piping Plover** noted during the period was found at LTW in Rains county on 9/2 (ebird RK). Found in three counties, the first **Solitary Sandpiper** of the fall was noted on 8/6 at RC WMA in Freestone county (ebird CG, ZP), while the peak of 10 was in Navarro county on 8/12 (ebird RQ). Found in four counties, the first four **Willetts** were tallied at RC WMA in Freestone county on 8/9 (ebird DC, DL), while the peak of 30 **Willetts** was counted at LTW in Rains county on 9/2 (ebird RK).

Observed in four counties, the first two **Upland Sandpipers** were tallied on 7/30 at LTW in Rains county (ebird CR), while the peak of 13 **Upland Sandpipers** were counted at RC WMA in Freestone county on 8/13 (PB, LBe). Discovered in three counties during the period, the first **Marbled Godwit** was noted on 8/9 at RC WMA in Freestone county (PB, DC, DL). Also noted in three counties the first 13 **Stilt Sandpipers** were found at RC WMA in Freestone county on 8/6 (ebird CG, ZP), while the peak of 200 was noted on the same location on 8/13 (PB). Four **Sanderlings** were noted at LTW in Rains county on 9/2, while a single was tallied there on 9/27 (ebird RK). Found at LTW and RC, the first seven **Baird's Sandpipers** were noted on 8/9 at RC WMA in Navarro county on 8/9 (ebird DC, DL), while the max of 20 was noted at the same location on 8/23 (PB, LBe). A max of 500 **Least Sandpipers** were tallied at LTW in Rains county on 9/2 (ebird RK). **Buff-breasted Sandpiper's** were found in three counties, with the first date of 7/30 at LTW in Rains county (ebird CR), with a max of 36 tallied at the same location on 9/2 (ebird RK). **Pectoral Sandpiper's** were reported in four counties with a first found date of 8/6 at RC WMA Freestone county (ebird CG), while the max of 20 was found at the same location on 8/9 (PB). Found in three counties, the first four **Wilson's Phalaropes** were tallied at RC WMA in Freestone county on 8/6 (ebird CG, ZP), while the max of 500 was found at the same location on 8/23 (PB et al).

A **Laughing Gull** was reported from RC WMA in Freestone county on 8/24 (ebird MC). The earliest fall **Ring-billed Gulls** were found at Pat Mayse Lake in Lamar county on 8/20 (ebird DC, VC). The only **Herring Gull** sighting was reported from LTW in Rains county on 9/27 (ebird RK). Found in four counties the max of 18 **Least Terns** were reported on 7/2 and 7/30 at LTW in Rains county (ebird RK, CR). Reported from four counties, the first **Caspian Tern** of the fall was recorded on 8/13 at LTW in Van Zandt county (ebird RK). The most widespread tern, the **Black Tern** was found in ten counties during the period, with an early date of 7/2 when 46 were tallied at LTW in Rains county (ebird RK). The max of 200 **Black Terns** were counted at RC WMA in Freestone county on 9/6 (PB et al). Two **Common Terns** were identified at LTW in Rains county on 9/27 (ebird RK).

Observed in nine counties during the period, the farthest eastern **White-winged Dove** was recorded at the Daingerfield City Park on 7/21 (DB, LB). Noted in six counties the max of 18 **Common Nighthawks** were tallied in Smith county on 9/7 (ebird MB). Single **Black-chinned Hummingbirds** were reported from RC WMA in Navarro county on 7/4 (ebird JD), and on 9/2 (ebird JJ). A male **Rufous Hummingbird** was photographed in Gregg county on 8/24 (GT). Another male **Rufous Hummingbird** visited Daingerfield in Morris county from 8/27 through 9/1 (DB, LB). A **Rufous Hummingbird** was found at LTW in Rains county on 9/27 (ebird RK). The max of **Ruby-throated Hummingbirds** reported was 22 in Daingerfield on 9/22 (LB).

Summer time **Northern Flicker** sightings were restricted to Caddo Lake NWR in Harrison county on 7/28 (ebird HH), and in Smith county on 8/16 (ebird MB). Possibly the first "fall" **Northern Flicker** was tallied at Pleasure Acres Lake on 9/5 (ebird MB). The sole **Merlin** was observed at LTW in Rains county on 9/27 (ebird RK). A **Peregrine Falcon** was noted at LTW in Rains county on 9/2 and 9/27 (ebird RK), while another was noted at the Canton City Lake in Van Zandt county on 9/25 (PB). **Crested Caracaras** were noted in six counties during the period, the furthest eastern sighting was at LTW in Rains county on 9/27 (ebird RK).

An **Olive-sided Flycatcher** was discovered in Van Zandt county on 9/17 and 9/20 (ebird DO). **Alder Flycatchers** were noted at RC WMA in Freestone county on 8/13 (PB, LBe), at Bellwood Lake in Smith county on 9/7 (PB), and at Pleasant Acres Lake on 9/10 (ebird MB). **Willow Flycatchers** were spotted on 9/9 at Pleasant Acres Lake on 9/9 (ebird MB), and at LTW in Rains county on 9/27 (ebird RK). Noted in eight different counties, the first **Least Flycatcher** was tallied on 7/26 at Mineola Nature Preserve in Wood county (ebird CW). The sole **Bell's Vireo** reported during the period occurred at Richland Chambers Reservoir in Navarro county on 8/24 (ebird DR). Up to three **Warbling Vireos** were found and photographed on 9/19 and 9/20 at Pleasant Acres Lake (ebird MB). Another **Warbling Vireo** was tallied at LTW State Park in Hunt county on 9/25 (ebird RK). Two **Philadelphia Vireos** were noted on 9/23, 9/26 and 9/27 at Pleasant Acres Lake (ebird MB).

Cave Swallows were noted in four different counties with a max of 225 recorded at LTW in Rains county on 9/27 (ebird RK). The first **Marsh Wren** was tallied on 9/2 at RC WMA in Navarro county (ebird JJ). A **Sedge Wren** was found on 9/27 at LTW in Rains county (ebird RK). The first **Ruby-crowned Kinglet** of the fall was recorded on 9/24 at Tyler State Park (ebird BS). The last **Wood Thrush** for the area was noted at Daingerfield State Park on 7/27 (DB). The only **Swainson's Thrush** was reported from Van Zandt county on 9/26 (ebird RK). Reported from four counties, the first two **Gray Catbirds** were observed on 9/23 at Pleasant Acres Lake (ebird MB).

The first **Orange-crowned Warbler** of the season was reported from Van Zandt county on 9/18 (ebird DO). Reported from five counties, the first two fall **Nashville Warblers** were tallied on 9/19 at Pleasant Acres Lake (ebird MB). A **Mourning Warbler** was noted at Pleasant Acres Lake on 9/7 (PB) and on 9/23 (ebird MB). A **Northern Waterthrush** was observed at LTW State Park on 8/13 (ebird RK). Pleasant Acres Lake had sightings of **Northern Waterthrush** on 8/30 and 9/20 (PB). The only **Swainson's Warbler** record during the period was reported from RC WMA in Freestone county on 7/12 (ebird JS). A **Blue-winged Warbler** was recorded in Cass county on 8/16 (DB, LB). Always a cool bird, an

American Redstart was noted on 9/20 at Pleasant Acres Lake (PB). By far the most common warbler migrant, **Yellow Warblers** were noted in twelve counties, with a first date of 8/2 at LTW in Van Zandt county (ebird RK). While the peak number of 12 **Yellow Warblers** was tallied at LTW State Park on 9/3 (ebird RK). **Black-throated Green Warblers** were tallied in five counties with a first date of 9/13 at Tyler State Park (ebird BS). Found in four counties, the first pair of **Wilson's Warblers** were tallied at RC WMA in Freestone county on 8/17 (ebird SLJR). The most prolific spot for **Wilson's Warblers** was Pleasant Acres Lake from 9/5 throughout the month with a max of five noted on 9/20 (ebird MB).

The first of the season **Savannah Sparrow** was reported on 8/31 at RC WMA in Freestone county (ebird SH). Four **Grasshopper Sparrows** were found in Smith county on 7/3 (ebird MB), one was tallied in Lamar county on 8/22 (ebird EJ), while another **Grasshopper Sparrow** was tallied in Navarro county on 9/30 (ebird WS). A **Rose-breasted Grosbeak** was found in Edgewood in Van Zandt county on 9/19 (ebird RK). Reported in five counties, the first **Baltimore Oriole** was tallied on 7/1 in Henderson county (ebird BT). The peak number of five **Baltimore Orioles** was tallied at Wills Point in Van Zandt county on 9/21 (ebird VP). A reported **Bullock's x Baltimore Oriole hybrid** was recorded at Tyler State Park on 9/24 (ebird BS).

Locations and Counties:

Camp Co.: Ferndale Club
Cass Co.: Lake Wright Patman
Cherokee Co.: Lake Palestine
Freestone Co.: RC WMA - Richland Creek WMA
Gregg Co.: Longview
Harrison Co.: Caddo Lake, Caddo Lake NWR, TXE - Texas Eastman
Henderson Co.: Cedar Creek Lake
Hunt Co.: Lake Tawakoni State Park
Lamar Co.: Pat Mayse Lake
Morris Co.: Daingerfield, Daingerfield City Park, Daingerfield State Park
Navarro Co.: RC WMA - Richland Creek WMA, Richland Chambers Reservoir
Rains Co.: LTW - Lake Tawakoni
Smith Co.: Pleasant Acres Lake, Bellwood Lake, Tyler State Park
Upshur Co.: LOP - Lake O Pines
Wood Co.: Mineola Nature Preserve
Van Zandt Co.: LTW - Lake Tawakoni, Edgewood, Wills Point, Canton City Lakes

Observers:

PB Peter Barnes
LBe Linda Belssner
MB Mike Bloodsworth
BB Breck Breckenridge
DB David Brotherton
LB Luanne Brotherton
MC Mike Cameron
RC Robert Chase
DCo Dan Cowell
VC Varick Cowell
DC D.D. Currie
JD Jack Dunaway
CG Callie Gesmundo
SG Steve Glover
JHa John Hale
SH Susan Heath
JH Janie Henderson
HH Hubert Hervey
EJ Evan Janson
DJ Diane Jones
JJ Jim Jones
RK Richard Kinney
DL Dell Little
SL Shannon Love
DM Darlene Moore
DO Dale Ohl
VP Vernon Patterson
KP Kim Pierce
ZP Zak Pohlen
RQ Robert Qally
JR Jane Ramberg
DR Donna Rizos
CR Chris Runk
JS James Sipiora
WS Wilbur Stewart
BS Boyd Sanders
GT Glyn Thomas
BT Brandon Thurston
BTo Barbara Tompkins
AT Ashley Tubbs
EW Ed Wetzel
CW Catherine Winans