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Front Cover: Osprey at its nest near Big Lagoon, Horn Island,
Jackson Co., Mississippi, May 1980. (Photo by
J.A. Jackson.)

A Birder's Guide to the Pascagoula River Marsh

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The area which birders have designated the Pascagoula River Marsh is, in fact, only a small portion of the estuarine system of the Pascagoula River in Jackson County, Mississippi.

For purposes of this discussion, the Pascagoula River Marsh (hereafter PRM) is limited to that area south of U.S. Highway 90 in Pascagoula at the turnoff to Ingalls West Bank Shipyard, where it is bordered both east and west by branches of the Pascagoula River, to the south by the shipyard, and to the north by Highway 90.

It is an area of diverse habitats. Salt marsh and mud flats predominate. Roadside ditches and sloughs are fresh/brackish. There are a large freshwater pond, sand flats, and extensive salt marsh scrub. Two large, manmade diked-in areas periodically receive the spoils from dredging of the Pascagoula River. When the spoil settles and the water levels in these diked "ponds" are low, shorebirds use them as feeding areas.

Prime conditions for birds are not constant at PRM; at times when drought conditions prevail, the diked ponds may be totally dry, and although many species may be present on the mudflats to the west, they are often too distant to be seen well. But regardless of conditions at the diked ponds, PRM is always worth a birder's time.

Upwards of 186 species have been recorded; virtually all of Mississippi's marsh birds, ducks, shorebirds, gulls, and terns, as well as an interesting variety of raptors and small passerines.

Breeding birds include Mottled Duck, Blue-winged Teal, Wood Duck, King and Clapper rails, Purple and Common gallinules, Wilson's Plover; Willet, Black-necked Stilt, Gull-billed, Common, and Least terns, and Black Skimmer.

A number of first Mississippi records have also come from PRM: European Wigeon, Hudsonian Godwit, and Bronzed Cowbird. In addition, rare, or rarely seen, species have been recorded at PRM, some of them to the exclusion of any other locality on the Mississippi coast: Eared Grebe, Brown Pelican, Reddish Egret, Least Bittern, American Bittern, White-winged Scoter, Bald Eagle, Osprey, Peregrine Falcon, Merlin, American Oystercatcher, American Golden Plover, Long-billed Curlew, Whimbrel, Red Knot, White-rumped, Baird's, and Buff-breasted

sandpipers, Marbled Godwit, American Avocet, Wilson's and Northern phalaropes, Franklin's Gull, White-winged Dove, Groovebilled Ani, Bobolink, Yellow-headed Blackbird, LeConte's, Henslow's, and Lincoln's sparrows.

Unfortunately, this highly productive area is not always easy to bird. It is industrialized, dominated by the shipyard, a commercial grain elevator, and an attendant maze of railroad tracks which are heavily trafficked. The undeveloped acreage is designated "future industrial" and is under the management of the Jackson County Port Authority.

Birders who are discreet are tolerated, and an occasional security patrol may inquire one's business in the area. In the vicinity of the shipyard, cameras (and suspicious looking spotting scopes) are frowned upon.

When to visit: Birding is good year round, but March through September is most productive. Weekends afford greater opportunity for close scrutiny of the area, which during workdays, especially during shift changes, is essentially a traffic-clogged freeway.

Time of day: One should make every effort to bird PRM only on weekends. If one must bird on a weekday, avoidance of the 7-8 A.M. and 3-4 P.M. traffic is suggested. One should try to time any visit to coincide with the high tide at Pascagoula. High tides serve to concentrate shorebirds in the diked ponds.

Caution: Summer heat can be intense; there is no shelter in the area. If one can arrange to arrive at dawn there is time enough to bird the entire area before the extreme heat of late morning. Late afternoons can also be more comfortable.

How much time: If one is merely listing, give PRM a minimum of three hours. If birding is good, six hours may not be long enough.

How to get there: PRM is at the Ingalls West Bank turnoff from U.S. Highway 90 on the western outskirts of Pascagoula, and may be approached from east or west on U.S. 90. One coming east on Interstate 10 should take the Gautier exit south to U.S. 90, making a left (east) turn onto the highway. One coming west on Interstate 10 should take the exit to State Highway 63 south to U.S. 90 in Pascagoula, turn right (west) through the city and over the Pascagoula River Bridge to the Ingalls West Bank turnoff just beyond.

To begin the PRM loop, from west overpass and east ramp, drive over the L & N Railroad overpass and signal right turn. Watch for a dirt road (usually passable) and follow it west as far as possible. The diked ponds will be directly ahead.

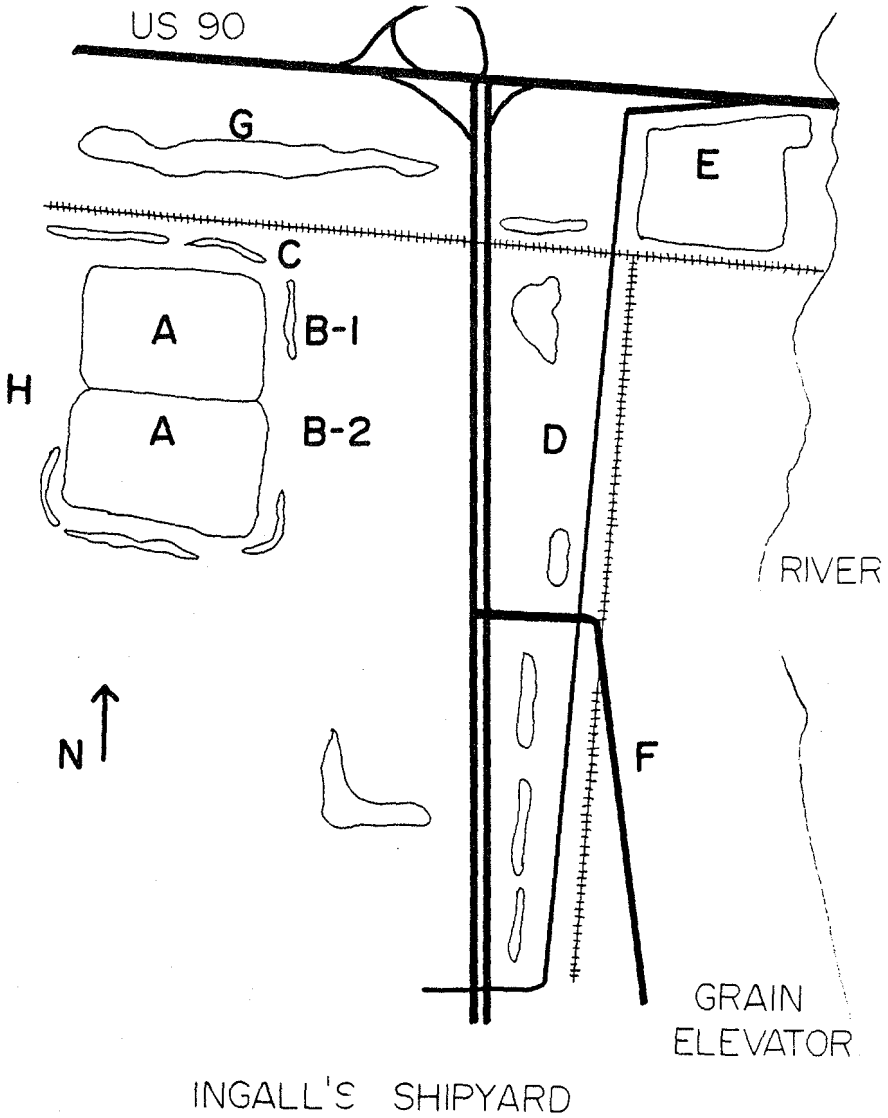


Figure 1. Pascagoula River Marsh. Distance from U.S. 90 to Ingall's Shipyard is approximately 1 mile. See text for explanation.

Fig. 1, A-Diked ponds: At their best, the diked ponds are a birder's dream. It is possible to see as many as 50 species from one vantage point (when water level is ideal during migration). By walking along the center dike separating both ponds, one can usually survey both ponds adequately. One should not walk out onto the surrounding mud flats without great caution; even if they appear to be cracked and dried one may still sink up to the ankles in sludge. Because of the large variety of birds attracted to these ponds, one should expect almost anything in shorebirds, gulls, terns, herons, and egrets. Even the Mississippi Sandhill Crane makes an occasional appearance.

A walk around these ponds, especially the south pond, may produce a few more species on the outer sides of the dikes. At the west end of the center dike, in morning light, it is possible to look out over the mudflats of the west Pascagoula River (Fig. 1, H) and see avocets, stilts, both pelicans, various herons (look for Reddish Egret) and rarely, an American Oystercatcher. In winter the surrounding marsh grass and salt marsh brush teems with sparrows, especially Savannah and Swamp sparrows, possibly Seaside, Sharp-tailed, LeConte's, and Grasshopper sparrows, as well as Marsh and Sedge wrens. During migration, it is often attractive to vireos, warblers, orioles, grosbeaks, and buntings.

Fig. 1, B-Upland area: Upon leaving the diked ponds one should note the dry grasses and dry sand flats of Fig. 1, B-1 and B-2. In winter the dry sedge grass in B-1 is productive of sparrows, including Savannah, Swamp, Song and White-throated, all rather easily seen. If intent on flushing grass sparrows, this is a good place, especially for LeConte's and Grasshopper. Sedge Wren is likely to be common. In late spring, Ground Dove and Bobolink have been seen. In the B-2 area, watch for Wilson's Plover in spring and summer, and for Buff-breasted and Upland sandpipers in migration.

Fig. 1, C-Sloughs: The sloughs which more or less surround the diked ponds are often good for herons and ducks (Mottled Ducks often seen with young). The tall grass edging is good for Least Bittern in spring and summer, American Bittern in fall and winter. When water level is low, rails may often be seen.

While in the vicinity of the diked ponds one should be particularly aware of birds in flight; look for Osprey, Bald Eagle (winter), Plegadis ibises, Marsh Hawks, etc. Return to the main road via the dirt road and proceed to the south for about one thousand yards. Turn left onto a short connecting road, and turn left again (car will be facing north).

Fig. 1, D-Roadsides, fresh/brackish sloughs: Immediately after the second left turn, stop at the shallow pond on the left. This

humble puddle may host Baird's Sandpiper in late summer (look for it in the short wet grass) and any of the other peeps. Yellowlegs of both species are often found as well as Solitary Sandpiper, especially during spring migration. Soras often are seen on the edges. Just across the road, where the spur line of the L & N Railroad may be seen, is the site of previous sightings of Yellow-headed Blackbird, Bronzed Cowbird (look in any areas of spilled grain), as well as an occasional White-winged Dove (all, winter and spring). In late April and May, Bobolinks may be found. The marsh grass and roadside brush should be checked for sparrows, wrens, blackbirds, and other small passerines, especially during migration. Proceed north along road to Fig. E.

Fig. 1, E-The Gallinule Pond: So named for its abundance of Common Gallinules in all seasons, this freshwater pond is productive all year. In summer one may find several species with young (Mottled and Wood ducks, Least Bittern, both gallinules, Green Heron). In winter it often attracts a good variety of ducks (19 species) as well as Virginia Rail, Sora, coots and gallinules. Bonaparte's Gulls and Forster's Terns feed here in winter. When water level is low, shorebirds may be seen on the mud edges. One should check the reeds bordering the pond for bitterns and gallinules. Various herons and egrets are common visitors. Directly across the road from the gallinule pond (west) one may find a Clapper Rail on the mudflat next to the railroad bulkhead, or one or both night herons among the cordgrass. To continue the loop, turn car around and return past Fig. 1, D, keep the railroad tracks on your left as you continue on to Fig. 1, F.

Fig. 1, F-Freshwater sloughs, roadside brush, railway siding: In the sloughs to your right, check for King Rail and Blue-winged Teal (both found breeding in the vicinity) as well as various shorebirds (at low water levels). Henslow's Sparrow has been found in low brush. A Peregrine Falcon favors the area of the grain elevator in winter. Grain spills often attract hordes of blackbirds. Boat-tailed Grackles are especially numerous. If time allows, walk the railroad tracks. The easement areas, dank ponds and low brush, have yielded a surprising variety of passerines during migration. Continue south until reaching Ingalls shipyard, make an immediate right turn, heading north. End of loop.

The six stops mentioned here cover a great deal, but not all, of PRM. The birder with plenty of time may wish to explore further. A walk down the main L & N tracks, which run west from the gallinule pond (Fig. 1, E) and traverse salt marsh, sloughs, and hidden tidal flats can be rewarding. When birds are absent in the diked ponds, this walk is a good alternative for finding wanted species, but it is rough going and not for the faint-hearted.

Besides the extreme temperatures in summer, other problems likely to be encountered at PRM are universal to the birder (mosquitos, gnats, chiggers) and the ever-present possibility of meeting a real snake in the grass. During hunting seasons, one should stick to the loop as outlined.

A pared-down list of the more outstanding species to be found at PRM at the proper season follows. The code letters correspond to the figures in the map, indicating where these species have been seen in the past.

White Pelican	H
Brown Pelican	H
Reddish Egret	A, H
B/C Night Heron	A, C, E
Least Bittern	B, C, D, E
American Bittern	C, E, H
Plegadis sp.	E
White Ibis	A, E, G
European Wigeon	E
Greater Scaup	E
White-winged Scoter	E
King Rail	F
Purple Gallinule	E
American Oystercatcher	H
Wilson's Plover	A, B
Whimbrel	A
Upland Sandpiper	A, B
Red Knot	A
W/R Sandpiper	A, D
Baird's Sandpiper	D
Buff-breasted Sandpiper	A, B
Marbled Godwit	A, H
Hudsonian Godwit	A
American Avocet	A, E, G, H
Black-necked Stilt	A, D, E, F, H
Wilson's Phalarope	A, E
Northern Phalarope	A
White-winged Dove	D
Bobolink	B, D
Yellow-headed Blackbird	B, D, E
Bronzed Cowbird	D, F
Grasshopper Sparrow	B, H
LeConte's Sparrow	B, C, H
Henslow's Sparrow	F
Lincoln's Sparrow	B

Belted Kingfishers Nesting in Abandoned Sawdust Piles

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On 20 May 1978, Weber discovered an active Belted Kingfisher (Megaceryle alcyon) nest in an abandoned sawdust pile (Fig. 1) on the Noxubee National Wildlife Refuge in northeastern Mississippi. The nest site was in Noxubee County, 3.3 km south of the Refuge headquarters on Bluff Lake. A vociferous and wary adult kingfisher was seen near the sawdust pile, and several young were heard calling noisily from a burrow in the side of the pile. Two days later, Miller found a second kingfisher nest in a sawdust pile in Winston County, 8.0 km west of the first one. Here also, one adult was seen, and young were heard calling within the burrow. The second sawdust pile was much larger than the first, with a stand of shining sumac (Rhus copallina) growing on top; on one side, some sawdust had been hauled away, leaving a 4 m vertical face. The kingfisher burrow entrance was 2.5 m up on this face, and three other inactive burrows, probably used in previous years, were in the same face. We were unable to revisit either nest site before the young departed, but we believe that successful fledging occurred. Both burrows remained intact for many months after their discovery, and no signs of predation were noted.

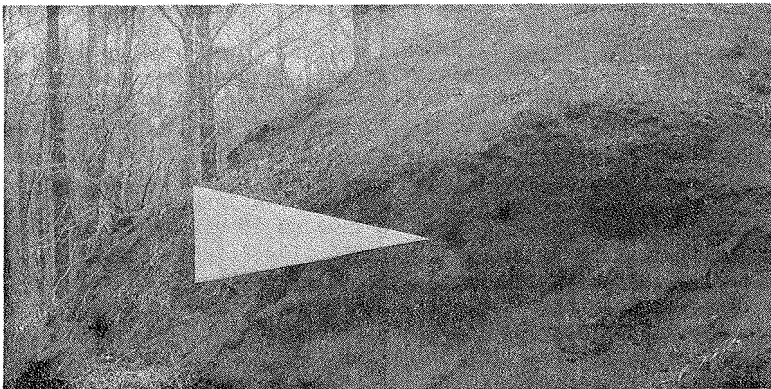


Fig. 1. Belted Kingfisher nest site, Noxubee National Wildlife Refuge, Mississippi. (Arrow indicates burrow entrance.)

Although there are several reports of sawdust-nesting by Bank Swallows, *Riparia riparia* (Torrey 1903, Barrows 1912, Norton 1927, Palmer and Taber 1946, Greenlaw 1972), the only other report of similar nest sites for the Belted Kingfisher is that of Hopkins (1980). Donald McCrimmon, Director of the North American Nest Record Card Program at Cornell University, wrote us in September 1978 that he had no record cards for sawdust-nesting by Belted Kingfishers.

The use of sawdust piles by kingfishers on the Noxubee Refuge may result partly from the scarcity of earth banks in this generally flat region (although a gravel pit located only 3.1 km west of the second nest-site, when visited in the fall of 1978, contained at least five old kingfisher burrows). The first nest-site is probably the closest suitable site (0.4 km) to Loakfoma Lake, a favorite foraging area of kingfishers. Although sawdust piles may seem to be a very unstable nesting substrate, those on the Noxubee Refuge are old and highly compacted, with little tendency to collapse or slump. There are several such piles on the refuge remaining from old logging operations. Old sawdust piles are easily excavated, and as noted by Greenlaw (op. cit.) for Bank Swallows, they may offer a suitable and locally important nesting substrate for Belted Kingfishers.

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- Norton, D.D. 1927. Notes from Maine. Bird-Lore 29:117.
- Palmer, R.S. and W. Taber. 1946. Birds of the Mount Katahdin region of Maine. Auk 63:299-314.
- Torrey, B. 1903. Sand swallows (*Riparia riparia*) nesting in sawdust. Auk 20:436-437.

Request for Information: Armadillos. I am studying the range expansion of Armadillos in the mid-South and would appreciate learning of any sightings (such as armadillos dead on the highway) north of a line between Greenville and Columbus in Mississippi or north of a similar latitude in Alabama. Please send details including precise location, date, and observer to: Dr. Jerome A. Jackson, Box Z, Mississippi State, MS 39762.

Observation of a Franklin's Gull at Ross Barnett Reservoir,
Jackson, Mississippi

Ruth Downey, 1221 Greymont Street, Jackson, Mississippi 39202
Evelyn Tackett, 1043 Carlisle Street, A-4, Jackson, Mississippi 39202
Frances Wills, 1521 Poplar Street, Jackson, Mississippi 39202

On 19 December 1981, temperature below 10 degrees, little wind, 9:00 a.m., one Franklin's Gull (Larus pipixcan) was observed at Main Harbor Marina, Madison County, Barnett Reservoir from the top of the dam that separates the Marina from the sewage lagoon. Binoculars (7 x 35) and scopes (20x and 60x) were used. This bird was with several hundred Bonaparte's Gulls (Larus philadelphia), and fewer Ring-billed Gulls (Larus delawarensis) and Herring Gulls (Larus argentatus). The Franklin's Gull was easily seen at 50 feet from our car as the flock settled on the dam roadway.

We noticed that this particular gull was the only one with a completely black head, and with a white eye ring. Its mantle and wings were slaty-gray, darker than any other, its bill a cherry red, and its legs black. It was larger than the Bonaparte's and smaller than the Ring-billed gulls.

The gull flew over the sewage lagoon and through the spray whenever the aerators became active. In flight the Franklin's Gull showed the white bands separating the black in the wing from the slate-gray.

The next day, 20 December 1981 at 2:30 p.m., cloudy, little wind, and about 40 degrees, the Franklin's Gull was seen again with the same congregation at the same spot, engaged in the same activity. It has not been seen since.

Why is a Franklin's Gull in breeding plumage in late December?

Request for Information: European Starlings. Several hundred European Starlings have been banded with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service aluminum bands and a combination of colored plastic bands near Starkville, Mississippi, in an attempt to learn more about the movements of this species. If you observe such a marked bird, please note the combination of colors or color and aluminum band on each leg and send this information along with date, location, and observer's name to: Bird Banding Laboratory, Office of Migratory Bird Management, Fish and Wildlife Service, Laurel, MD 20811. Please send a copy of your report to: Opal Dakin, Dept. of Biological Sciences, Box 6Y, Mississippi State, MS 39762.

A Partial-albino Yellow-rumped Warbler in Hancock County, Mississippi

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On 23 January 1981, at Buccaneer State Park in Hancock County, Mississippi, we observed a Yellow-rumped Warbler (*Dendroica coronata*) exhibiting partial albinism. Morgan spotted the bird at about 09:00, noting its unusual paleness. It fed with a flock of normally-pigmented individuals of its species, and responded well to "pishing," so that we had excellent views from all angles using 7 x 35 mm binoculars. We observed the bird for about 8 minutes from as close as 6 meters, as it fed at eye level or below in assorted saltmarsh-edge shrubs. The bird gave chip notes characteristic of Yellow-rumped Warblers.

The following is a description of its plumage: wings normal, the feathers dark gray with pale edgings, creating two prominent wing-bars; tail also dark gray, with characteristic white spots; head white, except for well-defined pale gray auricular patch separated from eye by white eye-ring; nape and back completely white; rump bright yellow, and upper tail coverts dark. Underparts were generally white from the chin to the undertail coverts, except for a few faint gray streaks on the sides of the breast; a slight wash of yellow was also present at the sides of the breast near the shoulder. The bill, eyes, and legs were dark. If we assume the bird to be an immature, then the only abnormally unpigmented areas were the upperparts from the forehead to the lower back.

Albinism is relatively rare in the Parulidae. Gross (1965, Bird-Banding 36:67-71) reported it as occurring in 11 species of wood warblers (31 individuals), although he failed to list them.

Comments on Herbicide Injection for Habitat Maintenance
of Red-cockaded Woodpecker Colonies

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The Red-cockaded Woodpecker (Picoides borealis), an endangered species, inhabits mature pine stands of the Southeastern United States. This bird prefers open stands of basal area of 50 or 60 square feet per acre (Hopkins, 1971). To achieve this open environment the basal area around this birds' live cavity trees is sometimes reduced through injection of herbicides into the understory species. This method of habitat maintenance is one option suggested by the Red-cockaded Woodpecker Recovery Plan (Jackson et al. 1979).

A possible problem has arisen with this particular recommendation. After injecting small loblolly (Pinus taeda), and shortleaf (P. echinata) pines, the trees go through a weakened stage as they slowly die. Such trees are particularly attractive to southern pine beetles (Dendroctonus frontalis) (Anderson 1960).

Injection of loblolly and shortleaf pines in 7 Red-cockaded Woodpecker colonies was begun in June 1979 on Bienville National Forest in central Mississippi. By August, 7 cavity trees (22%) within these colonies had been seriously infested by the southern pine beetle. In 21 colonies where understory trees were not injected, 12 trees (10%) were lost between October 1978 and August 1979 to this insect. Red-cockaded Woodpecker cavity trees are also possibly weakened and under stress due to cavity and resin well excavation by the birds and thus more susceptible to beetle attack.

These weakened understory pines could contribute to the loss of cavity trees by allowing population increases of southern pine beetles within the colony. Perhaps this method of habitat maintenance should be reevaluated. Cutting and removal of understory pines, also suggested by the Recovery Plan, would seem to be a safer method of understory control. The understory hardwoods could continue to be injected since pine beetles are not attracted to them.

This study was done while I was a summer employee of the U.S.D.A. Forest Service on the Bienville National Forest. I appreciate the support and interest shown by my supervisors, Tom Darden and Don Shumaker.

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140-169 in The ecology and Management of the Red-cockaded Woodpecker (R. L. Thompson, ed.). Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, U. S. Dept. Interior, and Tall Timbers Research Station, Tallahassee, Florida.

Jackson, J.A., W.W. Baker, V. Carter, T. Cherry, and M.L. Hopkins, 1979. Recovery plan for the Red-cockaded Woodpecker. U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Atlanta, Georgia.

REVIEWS

Ducks, Geese, and Swans of the World. By Paul A. Johnsgard. University of Nebraska Press, Lincoln, 1978: 404 pp., more than 150 line drawings, 132 distribution maps, 59 color plates. \$35.00.

This profusely illustrated volume will be of interest to anyone interested in waterfowl. The text provides alternative names for each species, summaries of basic life history information, and distribution maps for each species. The latter, unfortunately, are sometimes erroneous - at least as far as Mississippi is concerned. When are waterfowl biologists going to recognize that the Oldsquaw regularly winters on the Gulf coast and doesn't limit its winter range to the Great Lakes and the northeast Atlantic coast? Similarly we have had records of all three species of scoter on the Mississippi coast, yet none are indicated to occur anywhere near. In spite of these distributional short-comings, this is a well-written book that deserves a place in better libraries.-- J. A. Jackson.

The Peregrine Falcon. By Derek Ratcliffe. Buteo Books, P.O. Box 481, Vermillion, South Dakota, 1980: 416 pp., 4 color plates, numerous black-and-white photographs, drawings, and maps. \$42.50.

The Peregrine Falcon became a symbol of environmental problems only a few years ago and today it can be a symbol of how man has overcome some of those problems. Derek Ratcliffe expertly writes of the Peregrine and its problems and includes a wealth of basic information about the species in this book. The illustrations, including the paintings by the author, are well done and contribute much to the book. While the major emphasis of the book is on British and European populations, the extensive literature review includes major North American studies. Extensive appendices include data on vocalizations of Peregrines, population statistics, and pesticide levels in birds. This is a fine contribution and very interesting reading.-- J. A. Jackson.

Birds Around the State: June - December 1981

Compiled by Jerome A. Jackson

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The following is a summary of noteworthy bird sightings in Mississippi for the period 1 June through 31 December 1981. The sequence of information in each account is: species, number, date, place, observer. When a species was seen on more than one date at the same location by the same observer(s), the account is written as: species, number, date; number, date, place, observer(s). Numbers of birds sighted are underlined. The significance of sightings is indicated by a letter in parentheses following a record. These letters are as follows: (A) = arrival date; (D) = departure date; (E) = early date; (L) = late date; (N) = unusually large number; (R) = species rare in area. Other abbreviations used include the following: m = male; f = female; imm = immature; ad = adult; pr = pair; pl = plumage; CBC = Christmas Bird Count; BBS = U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Breeding Bird Survey; NWR = National Wildlife Refuge; PRM = Pascagoula River Marsh. The list of sightings is followed by keys to observers' initials and new or unusual localities mentioned. Localities that have been frequently cited in past issues of "Birds Around the State" and identified in previous keys may not be included in the present key.

While many individuals contributed records, I strongly urge even greater participation in providing records for future issues of "Birds Around the State." Only with the assistance of many individuals over several years can we come to a good understanding of the dynamics of Mississippi's avifauna. I encourage submission of bird records, but I also ask that you submit records in a form that can be easily processed. Please type or neatly print each record on a 3" X 5" card or slip of paper and include the following information: species, number seen, date (including year!), observer, and details and significance of observation. It would help if records were prepared in the format in which they are printed in "Birds Around the State" with details and observers' names spelled out at the bottom of the card. While records are welcomed at any time, those received by 15 March, 15 June, 15 August, and 15 December can be submitted with the seasonal report to American Birds as well as used in the Mississippi Kite.

Special note: While you know intimately the area in which you bird, others do not. So that records can be clearly interpreted in the future, please use place names that can be found on a Mississippi highway map. Always include the county of your observation. For example, Logtown appears on no recent highway map, nor does Lake Serene. Noxubee National Wildlife Refuge is spread over parts of three counties, Sardis Lake occurs in two counties, and rivers such as the Pearl flow through large areas of the state.

- PIED-BILLED GREBE -- 3, 11 Sep., Lake Claude Bennett, JM; 1, 17 & 21 Sep., w of Choctaw, N & JH.
- BROWN PELICAN -- 16 imm., 26 June, Petit Bois Island, JJ, OD.
- GREAT BLUE HERON -- 20, 19 July, PRM, JT.
- LITTLE BLUE HERON -- 30-50, 2-21 Sep., w of Winterville, N & JH.
- CATTLE EGRET -- 200-300, 2 Sep., w of Choctaw, N & JH.
- REDDISH EGRET -- 1 dark phase, 26 June, Petit Bois Island, JJ, OD.
- GREAT EGRET -- about 50, 2 Sep., w of Winterville, N & JH.
- YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT HERON -- 1, 7 Aug., Hickory, JM.
- WOOD STORK -- none reported June-July in spite of efforts to locate them in several areas of the state, JJ; 3 imm., 2 Aug., Winterville, NH, JH; number ?, last 2 weeks Aug., Vicksburg, HM; 39 imm., 23 Aug., Mississippi R. levee, Bolivar Co., NH, JH; 17 imm., 2 Sep., w of Winterville, N & JH.
- WHITE IBIS -- number ?, all summer, Vicksburg, HM; 40+, ad & imm, 26 June, Logtown, JT, LG; 43 ad, 6 imm, 7 July, Ocean Springs, JT, GM; 7, 15 July, Biloxi, JT; 4 imm, 21 Aug., 7-14 Sep., Hickory, JM; 2 imm., 2 Sep., w of Winterville, N & JH.
- ROSEATE SPOONBILL -- 1, 12 Aug., 16 miles below Baxter-Wilson Steam Plant, Vicksburg, JG fide HM; 1, 30 Aug., 2 miles ne Mound, La., HM, HoM.
- MOTTLED DUCK -- 80 ad, 3 groups of 6-8 downy young, 3 July, PRM, JT, GM (N).
- GADWALL -- pair, 17 Sep., w of Choctaw, N & JH; 25, 22 Dec., Lake Claude Bennett, JM.
- PINTAIL -- pair, 17 Sep., w of Winterville, N & JH
- BLUE-WINGED TEAL -- 1 ad, 4 half-grown young, 3 July, PRM, JT, GM; 2, 11 July, PRM, JJ, OD, JT; 1, 9 Aug., 3, 11 Aug., 10, 14 Aug., 8, 3 Sep., 4, 7-13 Sep., Hickory, JM; 17, 1 Sep., Lake Claude Bennett, JM.
- WOOD DUCK -- 4 ad, 13 young, 3 July, PRM, JT, GM; 4 ad, 20 imm, 15 July, PRM, JT; 11, 17 Sep., w of Winterville, N & JH; 1, 21 Oct., Ockahatta Creek, Hickory, JM
- RING-NECKED DUCK -- ca. 150, 22 Dec., Lake Claude Bennett, JM
- HOODED MERGANSER -- 40+, 31 Nov.-18 Dec., McComb sewage lagoon, CM.
- SWALLOW-TAILED KITE -- 1, 6 July, over I-10, Hancock Co., JT.

- MISSISSIPPI KITE -- 3, 25 June, Lake Lipscomb, JE; 13, 2 Sep., Archer I., Ark., N & JH.
- COOPER'S HAWK -- 1, 28 Oct., Hickory, JM.
- RED-SHOULDERED HAWK -- 1 (found shot), 25 Dec., Hickory, JM.
- BROAD-WINGED HAWK -- 1, 31 Aug., Lost Gap, JM; 1, 11 Sep., Sandersville, JM.
- NORTHERN HARRIER -- 1 f, 12 Sep., w of Choctaw, JH.
- OSPREY -- 2, 27 June, PRM, JT, LG, TF; 1, 12 Sep., fish farm w. of Choctaw, NH.
- MERLIN -- 1, 11 Dec., Hickory, JM; 1, 22 Dec., Grenada, LC.
- AMERICAN KESTREL -- 3, 25 July, Jackson Co., JT.
- COMMON GALLINULE -- 7 ad, 28 imm (all stages), 3 July, PRM, JT, GM.
- AMERICAN COOT -- 1, 1 Sep., Lake Claude Bennett, JM.
- SEMPALMATED PLOVER -- 2, 7 July, 8, 19 July, PRM, JT; 4, 11 July, PRM, JJ, OD, JT.
- SNOWY PLOVER -- 3, 15 July, West Ship Island, JM.
- WILSON'S PLOVER -- 1 ad, 6 imm, 27 June, PRM, JT, LG, TF; 2 ad, 4 imm, 7 July, PRM, JT; 1 imm, 11 July, PRM, JJ, OD, JT.
- KILLDEER -- 53, 28 Oct., Hickory, JM.
- GOLDEN PLOVER -- 1, 26 & 30 Sep., Hickory, JM.
- BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER -- 1 (winter plumage), 26 June, Petit Bois Island, JJ, OD; 20+, 11 July, PRM, JJ, OD, JT.
- RUDDY TURNSTONE -- 1 (breeding plumage), 25 July, PRM, JT (A).
- COMMON SNIBE -- 2, 3 Sep., 1, 23 Sep., several seen daily with 37, 28 Oct., 25, 30 Oct., 14, 4 Nov., Hickory, JM; 39, 16 Dec., Hickory, JM.
- SPOTTED SANDPIPER -- 4, 15 July, PRM, JT (A); 13, 25 July, PRM, JT; 2, 4 Aug., 1, 12 Sep., Hickory, JM.
- SOLITARY SANDPIPER -- 1, 25 July, PRM, JT (A); 2, 17 Oct., Hickory, JM.
- GREATER YELLOWLEGS -- 2+, 11 July, PRM, JJ, JT, OD; 1, 22 Aug., 9, 22 Oct., 1, 23 Oct., 1, 28 Oct., 5, 30 Oct., 3, 4 Nov., Hickory, JM.
- LESSER YELLOWLEGS -- 4+, 11 July, PRM, JJ, JT, OD; 1, 21 Sep. - 10 Oct., Hickory, JM.
- PECTORAL SANDPIPER -- 5, 19 July, PRM, JT (A); 8, 4 Aug., 6, 5-13 Aug., 2, 14 Aug., 1, 19 Aug. - 1 Sep., Hickory, JM.
- WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER -- 8+, 15 July, PRM, JT (A).
- LEAST SANDPIPER -- 50+, 7 July, PRM, JT; 200+, 15 July, PRM, JT; 50, 11 July, PRM, JJ, OD, JT.
- DUNLIN, 1 (breeding plumage), 7 July, PRM, JT (A); 1 (breeding plumage), 11 July, PRM, JJ, JT, OD.
- DOWITCHER sp. -- 18, 11 July, PRM, JJ, OD, JT.
- SHORT-BILLED DOWITCHER -- 30 (mixed plumages), 15 July, PRM, JT.
- LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER -- 1, 25 July, PRM, JT.
- STILT SANDPIPER -- 4, 15 July, PRM, JT.
- WESTERN SANDPIPER -- 50, 3 July, 75, 7 July, 500+, 15 July, 100+, 19 July, 500+, 25 July, PRM, JT; 300+, 11 July, PRM, JT, JJ, OD; 1, 22 Dec., Grenada Lake, MD, GP.

- MARBLED GODWIT -- 1, 3 July, PRM, JT, GM.
 SANDERLING -- 8, 25 July, Gulfport, JT (A).
 AMERICAN AVOCET -- 3, 15 July, PRM, JT.
 BLACK-NECKED STILT -- 20 ad, 8 imm, 27 June, PRM, JT, LG, TF;
 30-40, 3 July, PRM, JT, GM; 5, 9 July, PRM, JJ, OD.
 WILSON'S PHALAROPE -- 1 f, 3 July, PRM, JT; 1 m, 19 July, PRM, JT,
 GM.
 STERNA sp. -- 1, 22 Dec., Grenada Lake, MD (R).
 GULL-BILLED TERN -- 10 ad, 27 June, PRM, JT, LG, TF; 4 ad, 1
 dependent young, 4 July, PRM, JT; 4 ad, 3 dependent young,
 15 July, PRM, JT.
 COMMON TERN -- nest with 2 eggs, 1 downy young, 27 June, PRM,
 JT, TF; 6 (adults & fledged young), 11 July, PRM, JJ, OD,
 JT; 8 ad, 5 dependent young, 19 July, PRM, JT.
 LEAST TERN -- many nesting on Singing River Mall roof, Gautier,
 JJ, OD; 100+ nests in center of large spoil island near
 Ingels Shipyard at the mouth of the Pascagoula River, JJ,
 OD.
 SANDWICH TERN -- ca. 6000 nests, 26 June, spoil island just west
 of Petit Bois Island, JJ, OD.
 BLACK TERN -- 3, 7 July, 30, 15 July, PRM, JT.
 BLACK SKIMMER -- 30 nests, 26 July, spoil island just west of
 Petit Bois Island, JJ, OD; 120 nests, 27 June, Gulfport,
 JJ, OD, DG, JT; ca. 100 nests, 27 June, spoil island at
 entrance to Pascagoula harbor near Ingels Shipyard, JJ, OD;
 12 nests, 27 June, Horn Island, JJ, OD.
 WHITE-WINGED DOVE -- 1, 27-29 June, Gulfport, JT, TF, LG
 GROUND DOVE -- 2, 3 Oct., Port Bienville Industrial Park, Hancock
 Co., JT, LG, TF; 2, Port Bienville Industrial Park, 1 Cler-
 mont Harbor, 1, Buccaneer State Park, all 19 Oct., Hancock
 Co., JT, PB.
 BARRED OWL -- 1, 24 Oct., Buccaneer State Park, Hancock Co., LG.
 WHIP-POOR-WILL -- 3, 19 June, near West, B & LC; 1, 11 Sep.,
 Paulding, JM.
 CHIMNEY SWIFT -- very numerous, 30 Sep., Hickory, JM; hundreds,
 8 Oct., Meridian, JM.
 HUMMINGBIRD sp. -- 1, 24 Sep., Buccaneer State Park, JT; 1, 25
 Nov., Biloxi, GM.
 SELASPHOROUS sp. -- 1 imm, 30 Nov.-10 Dec., at feeder, Gulfport,
 JHa fide JT.
 COMMON FLICKER -- 24, 3 Oct., Hancock Co, LG, TF, JT.
 YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER -- 1, 7 Oct., Gulfport, JT (A).
 DOWNY WOODPECKER -- 21, 3 Oct., Buccaneer State Park, JT, LG,
 TF.
 EASTERN KINGBIRD -- adults feeding young, 11 Aug., Hickory, JM;
 numerous, 2 Sep., Washington Co., NH; flocks, 4 Sep.,
 Hickory, JM.
 GRAY KINGBIRD -- 1 ad, 1 imm, 19 Aug., Bellefontaine Beach, JT,
 R & RR.

- WESTERN KINGBIRD -- 1, 3 Oct., Gulfport, JT, LG, TF; 1, 28 Oct.,
Buccaneer State Park, JT; 1 3 Nov., Bay St. Louis, JT, GM.
- SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER -- 1, 3 Sep., Starkville, MC; 1 imm,
4 Oct., Bellefontaine Beach, JT, JS; 1 ad, 10 Oct., Port
Bienville Industrial Park, JT, MC; 1 ad, 19 Oct., Buccaneer
State Park, JT; 8 (6 on one wire), 24 Oct., and 28 Oct.,
Waveland, JT.
- EASTERN PHOEBE -- 1, 12 Sep., w. of Winterville, NH; 2, 3 Oct.,
Pearlington, TF, LG, JT (A); 1 imm, 4 Oct., Hickory, JM;
several, 17 Oct., Hickory, JM; 1 imm, 5 Oct., Starkville,
JJ, BS.
- YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER -- 1, 21 Sep., w. of Winterville, NH.
- ACADIAN FLYCATCHER -- 1 (singing), 26 June, Logtown, LG, JT.
- TREE SWALLOW -- 5, 18 June, North Lake, sw Shelby Co., Tenn., $\frac{1}{2}$
mile from Mississippi line, B & LC; numerous, 2 Sep.,
Choctaw, N & JH.
- BARN SWALLOW -- 1, 4 Oct., Hickory, JM.
- CLIFF SWALLOW -- 6 birds, 31 nests, 29 May, Mississippi 315
bridge at Sardis Dam, B & LC; 16 birds, 22 nests, 29 May,
4 mi. E. Batesville, B & LC; none, 29 May, Belmont bridge
4 mi. downstream from Sardis Dam (birds nesting in 1980),
B & LC; 2 birds, 65 nests, Enid Dam, approach road over
spillway channel; 100+ birds, 106 nests, Enid Dam, bridge
over spillway (dry), both 1 June, B & LC; 100 birds, 1 June,
Yocona River at I-55 bridges, B & LC; 10 birds, 6 nests,
1 June, Skuna River at Gum Crossing, B & LC; 40, 11 June,
Yalobusha Co., entrance ramp from Mississippi 32 onto I-55
B & LC; 3, 4 August, Waveland, JT, MH (A); 150+, 12 Sep., w.
of Choctaw, NH; 6-8, 24 Oct., Hancock Co., JT, LG, TF.
- PURPLE MARTIN -- 25, 5 July, Archer I., Ark., NH.
- BROWN CREEPER -- 1, 31 Oct., Hickory, JM.
- HOUSE WREN -- 2, 3 Oct., Hancock Co., LG, TF, JT (A).
- WINTER WREN -- 1, 18 Oct., Hickory, JM; 1, 19 Oct., Port Bienville
Industrial Park, JT (A).
- BEWICK'S WREN -- 1 (singing), 12 June, Bridgetown, B & LC; 1,
16 June, w of Thyatira, ER, RJ.
- MARSH WREN -- 8, 21 Oct., Gautier (within a 30 ft. area), JT.
- SEDGE WREN -- 1, 1 Oct., Hickory, JM; 1, 8 Oct., Hancock Co.,
JT (A).
- GRAY CATBIRD -- 2, 21 Sep., many 23 Sep., numerous 25-26 Sep.,
several, 27 Sep.- 1 Oct., numerous 7-10 Oct., several 17 Oct.,
Hickory, JM; 200+, 3 Oct., Hancock Co., JT, LG, TF.
- BROWN THRASHER -- 80+, 3 Oct., Hancock Co., TF, JT, LG.
- AMERICAN ROBIN -- 1 pair nested, summer, Magnolia, CM; 1, 19 July,
Vanleave, JT; flock of 15, 2 Aug., Hickory, JM; 1 singing,
4 Aug., Logtown, MH, JT; 25+, 28 Nov., north Harrison Co.,
JT, GM.
- WOOD THRUSH -- numerous, 24 Sep., Hickory, JM.
- HERMIT THRUSH -- 1, 10 Dec., Hickory, JM.

- EASTERN BLUEBIRD -- several, 10 Dec., Hickory, JM.
 GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET -- several, 24 & 28 Nov., Hickory, JM;
 1, 28 Nov., north Harrison Co., JT, GM.
 RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET -- 2, 2 Sep., w. of Winterville, NH; 30, 19
 Oct., Logtown, JT; 1, 21 Oct., Hickory, JM.
 WATER PIPIT -- 55, 27 Nov., Hickory, JM; 20, 16 Dec., Hickory, JM.
 CEDAR WAXWING -- about 50, 28 Nov., Hickory, JM.
 LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE -- 2, 26 June, Hancock Co., JT, LG; 75+, 24
 Oct., Hancock Co., JT, LG, TF; 20+, 28 Nov., north Harrison
 Co., JT, GM.
 WHITE-EYED VIREO -- 18 singing, 4 Aug., Logtown, JT, MH.
 BELL'S VIREO -- 1 ad, 27 Sep., Shepard State Park, JT, EL.
 YELLOW-THROATED VIREO -- 1 (singing), Logtown, 23 June, JT.
 SOLITARY VIREO -- 1, 21 Sep., w. of Winterville, NH; 1, 19 Oct.,
 Pearlinton, JT; 1, 8 Oct., 2, 24 Nov., Hickory, JM.
 RED-EYED VIREO -- 7 (singing), 23 June, Logtown, JT; 15 (singing),
 4 Aug., Logtown, JT, MH.
 PHILADELPHIA VIREO -- 1, 23 & 27 Sep., Hickory, JM; 5, 3 Oct.,
 Hancock Co., JT, LG, TF; 1, 8 Oct., Hancock Co., JT; 1, 16
 Oct., Shepard State Park, JT.
 WARBLING VIREO -- 1, 21 Sep., w. of Winterville, NH.
 BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER -- 1, 24 July, Gulfport, CT; 1, 31 July,
 Gulfport, JT; 1, 2 Sep., w. of Winterville, NH; several, 7
 Oct., Hickory, JM.
 PROTHONOTARY WARBLER -- nest with 4 warbler eggs, 3 cowbird eggs,
 25 June, Desoto Co., JE.
 SWAINSON'S WARBLER -- 1, 26 June, Logtown, LG, JT; 1 singing, 1
 Sep., 1, 2 Sep., Hickory, JM.
 WORM-EATING WARBLER -- 1, 4 Aug., Logtown, MH, JT; 1, 4 Aug., 1,
 21 Sep., Hickory, JM.
 BLUE-WINGED WARBLER -- 1, 3, 12, & 26 Sep., Hickory, JM.
 TENNESSEE WARBLER -- 2, 4 Oct., 5, 8 Oct., 1, 10 Oct., Hickory,
 JM.
 ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER -- 1, 27 Sep., Jackson Co., JT, EL (A);
 2, 24 Nov., 1, 17 Dec., Hickory, JM.
 NASHVILLE WARBLER -- 1, 7 Oct., 2, 8 Oct., Hickory, JM.
 NORTHERN PARULA -- 11 (singing), 26 June, Logtown, JT, LG.
 YELLOW WARBLER -- 3, 30 July, Gulfport, JT (A); 18, 9 Aug.,
 PRM, JT, R & AH; 2, 9 & 30 Aug., Hickory, JM.
 MAGNOLIA WARBLER -- 1, 21, 24, 25 Sep., several, 26 Sep., 1, 28 &
 30 Sep., 3, 3 Oct., several 8 & 10 Oct., 1, 18 Oct.,
 Hickory, JM; 20+, 3 Oct., Hancock Co., JT, LG, TF; 22, 9
 Oct., Biloxi, JT.
 CAPE MAY WARBLER -- 1 f, 1 imm, 17 Sep., w. of Winterville,
 N & JH; 1, 9 Oct., North Biloxi, JT (R).
 BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER -- 1 f, 3 Oct., Buccaneer State Park,
 TF.
 YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER -- 2, 9 Oct., North Biloxi, JT; several, 21
 Oct., numerous through winter, Hickory, JM.

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- BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER -- 2, 17 Sep., w. of Winterville, NH; several, 26 Sep., 7 & 8 Oct., 3, 18 Oct., Hickory, JM; 10+, 3 Oct., Buccaneer State Park, JT, LG, TF; 1, 10 Oct., Jackson, CM.
- YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER -- 3, 3 Oct., Hancock Co., LG, TF, JT.
- CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER -- 1, 2 Oct., several, 7-8 Oct., 1, 10 Oct., Hickory, JM.
- BAY-BREASTED WARBLER -- 1 m, 17 Sep., w. of Winterville, N & JH; several, 7-8 Oct., Hickory, JM.
- PINE WARBLER -- 1 m, 17 Sep., several, 21 Sep., w. of Winterville, N & JH.
- PRAIRIE WARBLER -- 2 m (singing), 23 June, Logtown, JT; 1 m, 21 Sep., w. of Winterville, NH.
- PALM WARBLER -- none fall 1981, Hickory, JM; 30 (appeared to be all western race), 3 Oct., Hancock Co., JT, TF, LG.
- OVENBIRD -- 1, 21 Sep., 18 Oct., Hickory, JM.
- LOUISIANA WATERTHRUSH -- 1, 21 July, Gulfport, JT.
- COMMON YELLOWTHROAT -- 100+, 3 Oct., Hancock Co., JT, LG, TF; 2 m, 12 & 17 Dec., Hickory, JM.
- HOODED WARBLER -- 7 (singing), 23 June, Logtown, JT; 1 f or imm, 7 Oct., Hickory, JM.
- WILSON'S WARBLER -- 1 m, 9 Sep., w. of Winterville, NH; 1, 22 Sep., Bellefontaine Beach, JT, NN; 1 m, 3 Oct., Buccaneer State Park, JT, LG, TF; 1, 8 Oct., Hickory, JM.
- AMERICAN REDSTART -- 1, 4, 24 Aug.; 1, several dates through 3 Oct.; numerous, 7-8 Oct., Hickory, JM; 14, 3 Oct., Hancock Co., TF, JT, LG; 21, 16 Oct., Shepard State Park, JT.
- NORTHERN (BULLOCK'S) ORIOLE -- 1, 25 Oct., Escatawpa, LG, TF, JT (R).
- RUSTY BLACKBIRD -- 1, 10 Dec., Hickory, JM.
- WESTERN Tanager -- 1 m, 22 Aug., Bellefontaine Beach, JT.
- SCARLET Tanager -- 2 m, 2 Oct., 1 m, 10 Oct., Hickory, JM.
- CARDINAL -- ad m feeding young, 10 Sep., Hickory, JM.
- ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK -- 1, 26 Sep.; 1, 7, 8, 10 Oct., Hickory, JM.
- BLUE GROSBEAK -- 1 m (singing), 2 Aug., north Jackson Co., JT; 1 m (singing), 4 Aug., Logtown, JT, MH.
- INDIGO BUNTING -- 3 m (singing), 2 Aug., north Jackson Co., JT; 4 m (singing), 4 Aug., Logtown, JT, MH.
- PAINTED BUNTING -- several pairs nesting, 30 June, Hattiesburg sewage lagoons, TF, DH.
- DICKCISSEL -- 1, 1 Oct., Gulfport, JT.
- AMERICAN GOLDFINCH -- 100+, 23 Nov., Hickory, JM; numerous flocks, 28 Nov., Harrison and Hancock cos., JT, GM.
- SAVANNAH SPARROW -- 1, 18 Oct., numerous through winter, Hickory, JM.
- VESPER SPARROW -- 1, 28 Oct., Bay St. Louis, JT; 1, 17 Dec., Hickory, JM

- LARK SPARROW -- 1 imm, 26 Aug., Clermont Harbor, JT; 1 m, 24 Oct., Clermont Harbor, JT, LG, TF.
- BACHMAN'S SPARROW -- 2 m (singing), 2 Aug., north Jackson Co., JT; 1 m (singing), 4 Aug., Pearlinton, JT, MH; 7 m (singing), 3 imm, 11 Aug., north Jackson Co., JT, LG, TF.
- CHIPPING SPARROW -- 3, 19 Oct., Logtown, JT.
- CLAY-COLORED SPARROW -- 1, 22 Sep., Bellefontaine Beach, NN, JT (R); 3 ad, 28 Oct., Bay St. Louis, JT (R).
- FIELD SPARROW -- 2, 21 Oct., Bellefontaine Beach, JT.
- WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW -- 1 imm, 16 Oct., Shepard State Park, JT.
- FOX SPARROW -- 1, 28 Nov., Hickory, JM.
- SWAMP SPARROW -- 1, 3 Oct., Port Bienville Industrial Park, LG, JT, TF; 1, 4 Oct., Hickory, JM.
- SONG SPARROW -- 1, 19 Oct., Hancock Co., JT; 1, 31 Oct., Hickory, JM

Key to Observers.-- PB=Pat Bridges, B & LC=Ben and Lula Coffey, MC=Mike Collins, MC=Margaret Copeland, OD=Opal Dakin, MD=Marvin Davis, JE=Jim Ewart, TF=Terrie Fairley, LG=Larry Gates, DG=Dan Guravich, DH=David Hamilton, JHa=Julie Hatten, N & JH=Nona and J.C. Herbert, R & AH=Robert and Ann Hessel, MH=Mal Hodges, JJ=Jerome A. Jackson, RJ=Russell Jones, EL=Ellen LeBlanc, CM=Charles McElwee, JM=Joe McGee, HM=Hal Moore, HoM=Howard Moore, GM=Gerry Morgan, NN=Nancy Newfield, GP=George Payne, ER=Ernest Restivo, R & RR=Ray and Ruth Russell, BS=Bette Schardien, JS=Jack Smith, CT=Christina Touts, JT=Judy Touts.

Key to Localities.-- Batesville = Panola Co.; Bellefontaine Beach = Jackson Co.; Bridgetown = Desoto Co.; Buccaneer State Park = Hancock Co.; Choctaw = Bolivar Co.; Clermont Harbor = Hancock Co.; Enid Dam = Yalobusha Co.; Escatawpa = Jackson Co.; Gautier = Jackson Co.; Grenada Lake = Grenada Co.; Hickory = Newton Co.; Lake Claude Bennett = Jasper Co.; Lake Lipscomb = Desoto Co.; Logtown = Hancock Co.; Magnolia = Pike Co.; McComb = Pike Co.; Paulding = Jasper Co.; Pearlinton = Hancock Co.; Petit Bois Island = Jackson Co.; Port Bienville Industrial Park = Hancock Co.; Sandersville = Jones Co.; Sardis Dam = Panola Co.; Shepard State Park = Jackson Co., near Gautier; Skuna River at Gum Crossing = Yalobusha Co.; Thyatira = Tate Co.; Vancleave = Jackson Co.; West = Holmes Co.; Winterville = Washington Co.; Yocona River at I-55 = Yalobusha Co.

THE MISSISSIPPI KITE

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