

ZELLWOOD BIRD COUNTS MAY, 2016

May was a disaster month as most spring migrants/summer visitors just kept on flying. Species such as Blue Grosbeak and especially the Indigo Bunting are in very low numbers. There do not appear to be any Yellow-crowned Night-Herons with lower than normal numbers of Purple Gallinule. The three species that are in are Least Bittern, White-winged Dove and Orchard Oriole.

In the very early morning there is a large flock of Snowy Egrets in Phase One by Laughlin Road, there were 310 on the 19th. Green Heron numbers are starting to climb with the fledging of their young there were 34 on the 23rd. I last saw the Blue-winged Teal on the 3rd. The numbers of Ospreys has started to rise there were 50 on the 2nd, 67 on the 12th, 73 on the 23rd and 105 on the 31st. That is a welcome event as only low numbers for the last two years. There was no passage of failed to breed Swallow-tailed Kites this year, my highest count is that of four on the 31st. A single adult Bald Eagle may be summering. The American Kestrels have two young at the Workshops (I am cheating as I saw them on June 2nd). There was a male Common Peafowl by Ponkan Road again on the 31st. The male Wild Turkey continued to call to at least the 24th. The last Sora was on the 3rd.

In what should be shorebird month there was very little with one exception. Up to ten Black-necked Stilt were seen with single Greater Yellowlegs on the 12th and 19th. There were also single Solitary Sandpipers on the 3rd, 9th and 12th. The exception was the Spotted Sandpiper on May 9th there were 27 by the lake the previous high count for Zellwood was that of 13 on May 15, 2002. There were also singles on May 12th and May 16th. There was one Semipalmated Sandpiper on the 16th with four on the 17th. On the 17th there was also a Western Sandpiper. There were five Least Sandpipers on the 3rd with one on the 16th. There was a Pectoral Sandpiper on the 17th I have shown ALL the shorebirds to show just how much a muddy habitat is needed.

There was a Gull-billed Tern at the lake on the 2nd with two there on the 23rd. I have not seen a Caspian Tern after the 23rd. On May 9th there were two Royal Terns, thankfully they called. The high count for the White-winged Doves was that of 18 on May 26. There do NOT appear to be any Chimney Swifts nesting in the township of Zellwood this year. To my surprise there was a Red-headed Woodpecker by Lake Apopka to the south of the Hooper Farms Road

extension on 9th. There was one Eastern Kingbird on the 2nd with two on the 9th. There was a Gray Kingbird on the 17th and 19th.

There was a Red-eyed Vireo on the 9th. The first juvenile Purple Martins were seen on the 12th the highest count is only that of 22 on the 17th. Tree Swallows stayed to at least the 23rd by Interceptor Road. On the 17th and 19th there was an adult with a very deformed beak. Bank Swallows were also seen to the 23rd. The first juvenile Barn Swallow was seen on the 3rd (Interceptor Road). There is a singing Gray Catbird by Laughlin Road (still there on June 2nd). There was an American Redstart on the 9th and that was the last day for the Northern Waterthrush. At the end of the month there was a single Common Yellowthroat singing by Laughlin Road. The last Savannah Sparrow was on the 3rd. There was a Dickcissel on the 3rd. Bobolinks seen to the 16th with a high count of 64 on the 3rd. I heard 21 Orchard Orioles singing on the 21st that is a very high count.

With really nothing of significance all month I am detailing the number of pair again of a few selected species. These will be partial counts (especially for the Least Bittern) as there is so much of the area that I cannot get to. So there are: 7 pairs of Pied-billed Grebes, 33 pairs of Least Bitterns, 12 pairs of King Rails, 21 pairs of Purple Gallinules, 31 pairs of Limpkins, 38 pairs of White-winged Doves, 5 pairs of Yellow-breasted Chats, 10 pairs of Blue Grosbeaks, 11 pairs of Indigo Buntings, NO singing Painted Buntings on territory and 35 pairs of Orchard Orioles.

Harry Robinson

Species	5.2	5.3	5.9	5.12	5.16	5.17	5.19	5.23	5.24	5.26	5.31
Pied-billed Grebe	7	5	1	9	2	12	7	6	2	5	8
Double-crested Cormorant	12	10	20	11	8	14	10	17	7	10	8
Anhinga	52	49	46	57	39	33	41	56	46	57	62
Least Bittern	9	4	6	6	2	2	3	7	3	3	7
Great Blue Heron	21	14	22	24	28	17	23	34	22	32	31
Great Egret	18	18	18	31	57	8	28	35	12	47	41
Snowy Egret	44	10	33	54	74	26	310	245	23	205	280
Little Blue Heron	26	7	21	42	22	33	41	26	19	33	20
Tricolored Heron	7	6	8	10	9	7	9	20	6	16	17
Cattle Egret	138	21	74	59	23	14	40	140	95	157	140
Green Heron	22	19	21	19	21	19	20	34	12	33	29
Black-crowned Night-Heron	27		30	16	23	4	5	11	1	22	5
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron					1						
White Ibis	6	69	24	41	12	95	17	13	14	12	14
Glossy Ibis	35	28	18	18	23	47	12	17	22	18	19

Species	5.2	5.3	5.9	5.12	5.16	5.17	5.19	5.23	5.24	5.26	5.31
Black Vulture	8	23	3	8	3	11	4	1	6	17	4
Turkey Vulture	6	6	2	3	2	2		8	3	5	8
Black-bellied Whistling-Duck	8	23	3	8	3	11	4	1	6	17	4
Fulvous Whistling-Duck	6	6	2	3	2	2		8	3	5	8
Wood Duck			1				4				
Mallard					1			1	1	1	
Mottled Duck	4	2		2	1		7	2	3	2	2
Blue-winged Teal		2									
Osprey	50	43	36	67	52	28	34	73	56	77	105
Swallow-tailed Kite			2							1	4
Bald Eagle	1	2		1	1		1	1		1	1
Cooper's Hawk		1						1			
Red-shouldered Hawk	3	9	5	3	5	2	3	5	6	3	6
Red-tailed Hawk								1			
American Kestrel								1			2
Common Peafowl											1
Wild Turkey		3					1		1		
Northern Bobwhite		2				2	1		10		

Species	5.2	5.3	5.9	5.12	5.16	5.17	5.19	5.23	5.24	5.26	5.31
King Rail	1	1	1	1		2	1	1			1
Sora		1									
Purple Gallinule	11	12	9	2	6	7	7	6	3	3	2
Common Gallinule	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	650	650
American Coot	14	16	8	4	7	8	3	4	11	13	4
Limpkin	3		1		4			7			1
Sandhill Crane	2										
Killdeer	1	2	1	3	5	4	5		4		
Black-necked Stilt	3	4	3	1	7	10	6	8	9	8	9
Greater Yellowlegs				1			1				
Solitary Sandpiper		1	1	1							
Spotted Sandpiper			27	1	1						
Semipalmated Sandpiper					1	4					
Western Sandpiper						1					
Least Sandpiper		5			1						
Pectoral Sandpiper						1					
Laughing Gull	2		2	2							7
Gull-billed Tern	1							2			
Caspian Tern	3	1	3	3				3			

Species	5.2	5.3	5.9	5.12	5.16	5.17	5.19	5.23	5.24	5.26	5.31
Gray Kingbird						1	1				
White-eyed Vireo	10	18	17	16	12	9	8	17	12	14	8
Red-eyed Vireo			1								
Blue Jay	1	5	5	6		8	10	9	9	12	2
American Crow		1	1	2	1	4	1		4	1	1
Fish Crow	4	3	4	7	7	4	6	5	6	6	3
Purple Martin				16	11	22	18	10	8	12	15
Tree Swallow	4	4				1	5	1			
Bank Swallow	4	4	1	3		2	1	2			
Barn Swallow	37	49	29	115	32	55	45	67	31	30	33
Tufted Titmouse		3				2			5		
Carolina Wren	16	36	20	29	30	17	21	25	28	20	20
Blue=gray Gnatcatcher			1								
Gray Catbird	4	6		1	2	1	3	1			1
Northern Mockingbird	1					1		1			1
Brown Thrasher	2		2			1	1		4	2	1
European Starling				1		12	5	5		2	5
Northern Parula	1	3	1		2	1	2	1	4	1	

Species	5.2	5.3	5.9	5.12	5.16	5.17	5.19	5.23	5.24	5.26	5.31
American Redstart			1								
Northern Waterthrush	1	1	4								
Common Yellowthroat	7	13	9	6	3		1	3		1	1
Yellow-breasted Chat					1	1			4	2	2
Eastern Towhee	20	22	16	22	17	22	11	22	40	16	18
Savannah Sparrow		1									
Swamp Sparrow	1	1		1			1				
Northern Cardinal	70	75	77	82	75	51	58	91	86	73	73
Blue Grosbeak	1	6	1	2	2	4	3	1	6	3	2
Indigo Bunting	1	10	2	1	3	2	6	3	7	3	5
Painted Bunting		1			1			1			
Dickcissel		1									
Bobolink	7	64	63	26	32						
Red-winged Blackbird	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	600	600
Eastern Meadowlark	1	3	1		1	2	2	1	3	1	
Common Grackle	5	6	12	8	5	3	3	9	4	9	11
Boat-tailed Grackle	60	90	100	95	110	110	65	60	80	140	125
Brown-headed Cowbird	1							1			
Orchard Oriole	14	5	18	9	8	3	14	12	10	17	21

The following table indicates the number of species seen each month. Where there are two or more counts for the month the highest count is indicated in blue; the highest count of all being in red.

The count in red (Spotted Sandpiper) indicates a new high count for Zellwood.

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2010								131	136	162	150	148
2011	146	142	150	160	124	108	127	139	158	160	154	151
2012	149	140	139	156	121	104	107	126	130	137	143	144
2013	143	131	136	147	124	103	99	104	136	150	145	147
2014	145	136	147	139	110	92	103	116	117	135	136	135
2015	137	133	139	148	119	99	107	129	131	135	143	129
2016	132	127	134	135	107							