

ZELLWOOD BIRD COUNTS – JANUARY, 2017

Another month has gone by without a freeze and that can only be for the good. I conducted nine surveys during the month and saw 132 species which is a significant improvement over the last two months. For a short time I became “homeless” as the District was working on the loop trail south of the Lust Road pump house. This just went to emphasize just how good Zellwood is. One could start at Lust Road gate and look for sparrows etc. You could start at the junction of Lust and Conrad Roads and listen for rails and bitterns and see ibis flighting from their roost (30th). I choose to start by mile marker 3 on the loop trail as I never know what the lake will produce. Another choice site is the far eastern end of the McDonald canal where one can see the majority of the herons leaving their roost (17th). Finally one could start at the western end of the Sand Farm by the grass track that leads to Sand Farm Road; here is Wild Turkey, Northern Bobwhite and two species of owl (19th). Being homeless I started at all of these sites excepting the Lust Road gate during this month.

Pied-billed Grebes have gathered into a series of flocks in Phase Four. On the 17th it is likely that all the flocks were by Roach Road as I saw 420 on that date. One of the most important events of the month was the fact that Double-crested Cormorants are nesting for the first time at Apopka. There are a total of six pairs by Welland Road. There was a Yellow-crowned Night-Heron at the eastern end of the McDonald Canal on the 17th a total of 315 Glossy Ibis left the roost there on that date. On the 30th by Lust and Conrad Roads a total of 2,740 White Ibis left their roost in Phase Four and left the property to the south-east. On the 24th and 26th there was an adult winter plumage White-faced Ibis at the Laughlin Canal north of Interceptor.

Black-belled Whistling-Ducks peaked at 415 on the 5th they left the property at first light to the south-west. Whilst the area of open water continues to grow there have only been low numbers of the regular species of duck. With them there was a female Redhead by Welland Road on the 24th and 26th. Very unexpected two immature male Black Scoters flew to the north-east on the 30th. There was one Bufflehead by Laughlin Road on the 17th with two on the 24th. On just one day the winds died away so that I could count the Ruddy Duck there were 14,500 on the 10th.

There were up to eight Northern Harriers. Up to two Merlins were seen on five dates and single Peregrine Falcons were seen on four dates. At the Sand Farm site on the 19th had a Wild Turkey, a Northern Bobwhite, two Great

Horned Owls and an Eastern Whip-poor-will that I was able to watch hunting. There were single Virginia Rails at the eastern end of the McDonald Canal on the 17th and by the Lake Level Canal on the 30th. There was an adult Purple Gallinule on the southern border on the 24th. American Coots peaked at 2,350 on the 30th. Limpkins peaked at 19 on the 19th with a total of 22 being seen during the month. American Woodcock were seen at four sites with two on the 17th. Forster's Terns peaked at 56 on the 10th.

Barn Owls were at six sites, there were three calling Great Horned Owls at two sites along with three calling Barred Owls at two sites. Eastern Whip-poor-will's were at three sites. There were single Least Flycatchers south of mile marker 3 on the loop trail on the 5th and the 26th. Single Ash-throated Flycatchers were at four sites and the Loggerhead Shrike remains by the Lust Road gate. The first Purple Martin was on the 12th there were six on the 30th. There was an Eastern Bluebird by the Lust Road gate on the 30th. There was a Hermit Thrush at the Sand Farm on the 2nd and 19th. American Robins have been gathering on the southern border there were 2,950 on the 26th with 77 Cedar Waxwings there on that date. There was a Black-and-white Warbler on the 19th - the Sand Farm. Northern Waterthrush peaked at seven on the 5th. Another special bird was a female Western Tanager to the south of the Workshops on the 10th and 17th. There was a Blue Grosbeak by the Lust Road gate on the 10th with an Indigo Bunting at the Workshops on the 12th. Up to two a day Painted Buntings were seen at three sites. That is the best of it I just hope that this upward trend continues in February.

Harry Robinson

Species	1.2	1.5	1.10	1.12	1.17	1.19	1.24	1.26	1.30
Pied-billed Grebe	107	28	41	26	420	27	150	214	23
Double-crested Cormorant	8	95	37	40	46	17	145	135	94
Anhinga	17	124	58	47	30	16	49	65	44
American Bittern	1		1	3	1		1		1
Great Blue Heron	24	27	26	19	22	25	22	19	20
Great Egret	8	17	18	17	21	9	18	15	22
Snowy Egret	27	30	28	18	107	22	42	40	37
Little Blue Heron	14	18	23	29	89	15	25	12	27
Tricolored Heron	9	19	9	13	51	10	16	4	12
Cattle Egret	40	54	15	16	35	42	39	48	19
Green Heron	6	6	11	6	6	1	7	4	15
Black-crowned Night-Heron	2	2	3	4	12	3	2	1	3
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron					1				
White Ibis	32	28	44	142	74	41	34	27	2740
Glossy Ibis	31	21	37	29	315	21	73	72	132
White-faced Ibis							1	1	

Species	1.2	1.5	1.10	1.12	1.17	1.19	1.24	1.26	1.30
Black Vulture	7	6	1	21	1	1	2	2	28
Turkey Vulture	51	78	39	33	40	93	49	32	235
Black-bellied Whistling-Duck	17	415		20	30	14	390	27	67
Fulvous Whistling-Duck		3		1	12	2	7	11	6
Wood Duck	2			1	7	10	2		2
Gadwall	1				7		6	7	
American Wigeon					4		6	5	
Mallard	2	2	2		2		2	2	
Mottled Duck	1		4	4	2	5	6	3	3
Blue-winged Teal	30	71	94	56	235	71	118	74	135
Northern Shoveler	14	18	12	12	12	15	24	36	15
Green-winged Teal			1	3	75		12	2	16
Redhead							1	1	
Ring-necked Duck	51	37	41	102	63	82	121	61	91
Lesser Scaup		4							
Black Scoter									2
Bufflehead					1		2		
Hooded Merganser	9		3	9	6	2	3	6	

Species	1.2	1.5	1.10	1.12	1.17	1.19	1.24	1.26	1.30
Ruddy Duck	17	9	14500	14	7	3	8	6	5
Osprey	13	28	14	17	21	8	27	33	15
Bald Eagle	3	2	3	4	2	1	5		3
Northern Harrier	5	6	7	2	7	6	8	8	5
Sharp-shinned Hawk		1					1	1	
Cooper's Hawk	1		2			1		1	
Red-shouldered Hawk	20	19	14	17	14	20	15	4	10
Red-tailed Hawk	3	3	3	4	4	4	2	4	1
American Kestrel	12	3	5	4	5	14	8	4	4
Merlin	2		2		1	1			1
Peregrine Falcon	1		1		1			1	
Wild Turkey						1			
Northern Bobwhite						1			
King Rail	2	5	4	13	8	4		2	1
Virginia Rail					1				1
Sora	10	23	22	62	10	8	10	7	14
Purple Gallinule							1		
Common Gallinule	1000	1000	1000	1000	1400	1400	1400	1400	1400
American Coot	2040	1765	1740	2000	2060	1815	1730	1640	2350

Species	1.2	1.5	1.10	1.12	1.17	1.19	1.24	1.26	1.30
Limpkin		2				19	1	1	3
Sandhill Crane			3			2			2
Killdeer	2	20	27	18	39	27	9	15	11
Greater Yellowlegs		1	4	3	2	1	1	1	
Lesser Yellowlegs	1	2	10	4	2	1		1	
Least Sandpiper			6				2		
Long-billed Dowitcher			3						
Wilson's Snipe	22	3	2	3	49	7	3		2
American Woodcock	1		1		2				
Laughing Gull		1					1		1
Bonaparte's Gull		4	18	1				7	
Ring-billed Gull		45	77	33	4		59	7	13
Herring Gull			2						
Caspian Tern		3	2	1	1		5	4	2
Forster's Tern		14	56	8	4		6	4	12
Mourning Dove	17			2	11	14	3		
Common Ground-Dove	3	2	10	1	2	3			
Barn Owl	1	1	2	1	1	1		1	1

Species	1.2	1.5	1.10	1.12	1.17	1.19	1.24	1.26	1.30
Great Horned Owl	2					1			1
Barred Owl						2		1	1
Eastern Whip=poor-will	1		1	1		1			
Belted Kingfisher	7	7	13	10	12	9	7	6	15
Red-bellied Woodpecker	25	10	6	6	5	18	7	12	6
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	2	1			2	1			
Downy Woodpecker	3		2	1	3	2			
Northern Flicker	2		3	1		4			
Pileated Woodpecker	1		1			2		1	
Least Flycatcher		1						1	
Eastern Phoebe	49	47	40	50	27	39	19	26	18
Ash-throated Flycatcher		1	1		1	1	1	1	1
Loggerhead Shrike			1				1	1	
White-eyed Vireo	9	1	1	2	3	11	1	4	
Blue-headed Vireo	2								
Blue Jay	13	1	8	2	9	15	5	10	4
American Crow	2	2	1	6	1	2	1	1	3
Fish Crow	65	13	1		1		1	2	4

Species	1.2	1.5	1.10	1.12	1.17	1.19	1.24	1.26	1.30
Purple Martin				1				1	6
Tree Swallow	6	3	8	92	67	29	210	175	295
Tufted Titmouse	1	1			1	3	1		
Carolina Wren	20	5	5	13	6	21	5	9	4
House Wren	67	27	18	25	16	50	11	12	4
Sedge Wren	1	1	2	3	3		1	3	1
Marsh Wren	7	9	13	7	7	6	5	5	3
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	4		3	1	3	6	1	2	
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	13	12	9	17	3	14	2	6	1
Eastern Bluebird									1
Hermit Thrush	1					1			
American Robin	6	1	62		27	2	440	2950	445
Gray Catbird	31	8	10	19	19	37	7	4	4
Northern Mockingbird	2		4	4	3	4	1		
Brown Thrasher			2						
European Starling	7				1				
Cedar Waxwing							4	77	15
Orange-crowned Warbler		1			1	1		1	
Yellow-rumped Warbler	150	22	13	42	41	220	95	43	60

Species	1.2	1.5	1.10	1.12	1.17	1.19	1.24	1.26	1.30
Prairie Warbler					2				
Palm Warbler	25	65	38	54	39	28	31	22	29
“Yellow” Palm Warbler			2		1				
Black-and-white Warbler						1			
Northern Waterthrush	2	7	3	4	1	4	4	5	2
Common Yellowthroat	20	34	19	28	14	22	19	16	13
Western Tanager			1		1				
Eastern Towhee	20		12	4	3	15	3	1	5
Vesper Sparrow		1							
Savannah Sparrow	10	3	5	6	9	10	3	8	13
Grasshopper Sparrow	1								
Song Sparrow	1			1	1	1			
Swamp Sparrow	24	21	21	28	30	28	12	6	5
White-crowned Sparrow							1		
Northern Cardinal	17	12	9	25	20	24	11	13	11
Blue Grosbeak			1						
Indigo Bunting				1					
Painted Bunting		1	2	2	2				

