

## ZELLWOOD BIRD COUNTS – MAY, 2017

Another dry month with falling water levels; some areas are now totally dry. The grass tracks have not been mowed this year so they are now closed to me.

After having large numbers of Pied-billed Grebes winter it is surprising just how few have stayed to breed. I have seen one brood of two in Phase Four so far. Anhinga appear to be having a good year the counts in June will show that (there were 285 on the 1<sup>st</sup>). The last American Bittern was on the 1<sup>st</sup>. I have seen up to seven Least Bitterns a day I think they are having a good year. On the 1<sup>st</sup> a Great White Heron flew to the south in the early morning at mile marker 3, I have not been able to relocate it. Single Yellow-crowned Night-Herons were seen on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. There was a Roseate Spoonbill on the first with two on the 15<sup>th</sup>, three on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and five on the 30<sup>th</sup>. On the 30<sup>th</sup> I found a brood of six Fulvous Whistling-Ducks in Phase Four (Roach). Mottled Ducks had a brood of eight chicks on the 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Workshops. Male Blue-winged Teals are at three locations so broods may be seen yet. There was a first-summer male Ruddy Duck on the lake on the 22<sup>nd</sup>.

There was one Swallow-tailed Kite on the 4<sup>th</sup> with 19 on the 22<sup>nd</sup>; these May counts relate to failed breeders. The same may be true of the next species the Mississippi Kite as there were five adults from the 22<sup>nd</sup> to the end of the month (there was a juvenile on June 1). The last Bald Eagle was seen on the 1<sup>st</sup> and the last Northern Harrier was on the 8<sup>th</sup>. So far I may have identified four pairs of Cooper's Hawks. Wild Turkeys continued at the Sand Farm with two at the Sod Farm on the 4<sup>th</sup>. King Rails are all but absent this summer not sure why. Up to 12 a day Purple Gallinules located have not attempted to work out how many pairs. American Coot were present all month (up to 13 a day) but no evidence of breeding. Sandhill Cranes still present but no evidence of breeding.

There were four Semipalmated Plovers on the 1<sup>st</sup> with two on the 4<sup>th</sup>. There have been six broods so far of Black-necked Stilts. Greater Yellowlegs were seen to the 11<sup>th</sup> with six on the 8<sup>th</sup>. Lesser Yellowlegs were also seen to the 11<sup>th</sup> with 13 on the 8<sup>th</sup>. Solitary Sandpipers peaked at nine on the 8<sup>th</sup>; the 11<sup>th</sup> was also their last date. Single Spotted Sandpipers were seen on the 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>. Semipalmated Sandpipers were seen to the 25<sup>th</sup> with nine on the 8<sup>th</sup>. Western Sandpipers on the other hand were only seen on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. Least Sandpipers peaked at 18 on the 8<sup>th</sup> with the last on the 18<sup>th</sup>. White-rumped Sandpipers were scarce there were two on the 1<sup>st</sup> with singles on the 4<sup>th</sup> and the 8<sup>th</sup>. There were 16 Stilt Sandpipers on the 1<sup>st</sup> the only record for the month. There were two Short-billed Dowitchers on the 4<sup>th</sup> with seven Long-billed Dowitchers on the 1<sup>st</sup> and four on the 4<sup>th</sup>. The last Wilson's Snipe was seen on the 1<sup>st</sup>. There were



Pied-billed Grebe	7	4	3	7	4	3	5	7	8
Double-crested Cormorant	22	31	12	21	15	19	12	26	13
Anhinga	126	120	84	86	130	134	127	190	126
American Bittern	1								
Least Bittern	7	5	6	6	7	2	4	5	4
Great Blue Heron	19	24	17	26	31	25	30	16	28
Great White Heron	1								
Great Egret	21	55	23	95	19	19	25	27	78
Snowy Egret	65	190	7	210	72	95	110	65	42
Little Blue Heron	8	16	20	13	20	18	21	18	31
Tricolored Heron	10	11	17	18	15	15	13	20	12
Cattle Egret	59	52	54	15	49	32	38	76	36
Green Heron	26	28	13	27	31	29	38	32	27
Black-crowned Night-Heron	38	40		33	27	27	4	4	
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron	1		1						
White Ibis	21	20	12	10	38	25	32	13	38
Glossy Ibis	12	31	21	50	52	49	61	85	122
Roseate Spoonbill	1	1	1	1	2	2	3		5
Wood Stork		1	4	1		1		3	5
Black Vulture	3	3	15	8	37	5	8	8	2
Turkey Vulture	3	16	7	7	20	26	10	16	13
Black-bellied Whistling-Duck	17	47	2				19	24	
Fulvous Whistling-Duck	14	6	4	12	9	11	9	10	14
Wood Duck	4		1						
Mallard	1		1						1
Mottled Duck	3	1	1	8	6	3	10	6	5
Blue-winged Teal	3	1					2	4	

Ruddy Duck							1		
<b>Species</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>5.11</b>	<b>5.15</b>	<b>5.18</b>	<b>5.22</b>	<b>5.25</b>	<b>5.30</b>
Osprey	40	38	23	34	26	39	45	61	16
Swallow-tailed Kite		1			1	1	19	1	6
Mississippi Kite							5	1	5
Bald Eagle	1								
Northern Harrier	1		1						
Cooper's Hawk	1	2				1			
Red-shouldered Hawk	4	2	5	7	8	5	7	4	2
Red-tailed Hawk	1		1			1			1
American Kestrel			1		1				
Wild Turkey		2	3						
Northern Bobwhite			6						
King Rail	3			1	1	1			
Purple Gallinule	11	8	5	11	8	6	12	12	1
Common Gallinule	900	900	900	900	900	900	900	900	900
American Coot	8	8	10	7	8	10	13	9	11
Limpkin		1	1			3	4	1	1
Sandhill Crane	2	4	3	4	2			2	2
Semipalmated Plover	4	2							
Killdeer	1	1	5	2	2	1	1	1	2
Black-necked Stilt	15	25	16	26	24	30	11	10	33
Greater Yellowlegs	2	3	6	1					
Lesser Yellowlegs	8	7	13	5					
Solitary Sandpiper	2	4	9	3					
Spotted Sandpiper				1		1			
Semipalmated Sandpiper	7	8	9	1		7		6	

Western Sandpiper		1	1						
Least Sandpiper	12	3	18	10	2	2			
White-rumped Sandpiper	2	1	1						
<b>Species</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>5.11</b>	<b>5.15</b>	<b>5.18</b>	<b>5.22</b>	<b>5.25</b>	<b>5.30</b>
Stilt Sandpiper	16								
Short-billed Dowitcher		2							
Long-billed Dowitcher	7	4							
Wilson's Snipe	1								
Laughing Gull		3					2		
Caspian Tern							2		
Forster's Tern	2								
Least Tern		1							
White-winged Dove	5	2	2	6	11	12	12	1	2
Mourning Dove	9	10	17	8	14	23	21	12	17
Common Ground-Dove	10	17	2	13	9	16	11	9	4
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	3	1		2	3	2	4	1	1
Barn Owl				2	1	1		1	
Eastern Screech-Owl						1			
Great Horned Owl						1			
Barred Owl			1	2					
Common Nighthawk					3	4	1	2	
Chuck-will's-widow	1		4		2	4	1	1	
Chimney Swift				1				1	
Red-bellied Woodpecker	11	13	28	14	12	13	10	8	4
Downy Woodpecker		1			1				
Northern Flicker	1	1	3		1	2	1	2	1
Pileated Woodpecker			2	1					



American Redstart					1		1		
Northern Waterthrush	2			3	3				
Common Yellowthroat	6	6	8	8	11	2			
Yellow-breasted Chat		1	3		1	1	2	1	1
Eastern Towhee	11	10	27	17	14	15	24	9	12
Northern Cardinal	66	60	64	78	77	112	118	39	39
Blue Grosbeak	3	2	4	2	1	1	3		1
<b>Species</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>5.11</b>	<b>5.15</b>	<b>5.18</b>	<b>5.22</b>	<b>5.25</b>	<b>5.30</b>
Indigo Bunting	2	2	6	5	3	1	4	3	1
Painted Bunting			1						
Bobolink	245	21	167 5	16	18	1			
Red-winged Blackbird	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600
Eastern Meadowlark			2		1			2	
Common Grackle	9	18	3	9	17	9	14	12	3
Boat-tailed Grackle	95	155	105	155	215	170	200	155	75
Orchard Oriole	11	9	2	11	10	11	14	11	4

The entries in red indicate the highest counts ever for Zellwood.

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.

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	92	96	130	142	137	125	123
2017	132	127	131	130	120							