

**The 50th Nacogdoches, TX Christmas Bird Count  
(December 15, 2019)**

It's hard to believe, but this was our **50th Nacogdoches Christmas Bird Count**, held on Sunday **December 15, 2019**. A big thank you goes to all who helped to make it a success! We had a good turnout and we welcome you first-timers to this count. Our final **species total** was **110**, just 3 under our 30-year average, plus 3 species for count week but not on count day. The **weather was against us** – it was a warm and windy day, not a good birding condition. Birds were hard to find much of the day! Plus, **many species seem to be in very low numbers so far this winter**. It may be too mild to push them southward.

In many ways this count was similar to last year, with **good numbers of “mild-winter” species and low numbers of those that are hardier**. The **only real rarity** was a Crested Caracara seen by Cliff Shackelford and Ron Thill, but there were also some **“good birds”** that aren't often found, including a Common Gallinule (JS boat party on Kurth Lake); a Greater Yellowlegs (Rick Schaefer); a Herring Gull (Gary Hunter et al); a Neotropic Cormorant (Kurth Lake); 3 White-eyed Vireos; a record high count of 6 Gray Catbirds; and a Western Meadowlark (David Wolf). Thanks to those of you who provided documentation for these. Completely **missed** were Eurasian Collared-Dove, Great Horned Owl, Loggerhead Shrike (for the 1<sup>st</sup> time in 50 years), Harris's Sparrow, Rusty Blackbird and Pine Siskin.

What does all of this mean? Well, find out by visiting the National Audubon Society website. There is a wealth of information to be found there.

Thanks again for your participation and keep those winter sightings coming in -- David & Mimi Wolf, compilers ([dewolfnac@gmail.com](mailto:dewolfnac@gmail.com)) phone: (936) 569-6531

**Species List: (cw = count week, but not on count day).**

Wood Duck – 231; Gadwall – 223; American Wigeon - 245; Mallard – 34; Northern Shoveler – 197; Northern Pintail - 3; Am. Green-winged Teal - 122; Canvasback – 395; Redhead - 125; Ring-necked Duck - 88; Lesser Scaup - 235; Bufflehead - 7 (low); Hooded Merganser - 37; Ruddy Duck - 31; duck sp? – 34; Common Loon - 1; Pied-billed Grebe - 127; Horned Grebe – cw; **Neotropic Cormorant** - 1; Double-crested Cormorant - 132; American White Pelican – 1; Great Blue Heron - 12; Great Egret - 19; Black Vulture - 213; Turkey Vulture - 256; **Osprey** - cw; Northern Harrier - 1; Sharp-shinned Hawk - 1; Cooper's Hawk - 4; Bald Eagle – 8; Red-shouldered Hawk - 25; Red-tailed Hawk - 26; Common Gallinule - 1; American Coot - 8900; Killdeer - 79; Spotted Sandpiper – 1; Wilson's Snipe - 13; American Woodcock - 5; Greater Yellowlegs - 1; Bonaparte's Gull - 5; Ring-billed Gull - 4; **Herring Gull** - 1; Forster's Tern - 14 (high); Rock Pigeon - 142; Inca Dove – 9; Mourning Dove - 88; Greater Roadrunner - 1; Eastern Screech-Owl - 9; Great Horned Owl - cw; Barred Owl - 9; Belted Kingfisher - 8; Red-headed Woodpecker - 12; Red-bellied Woodpecker - 119; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker - 28 (low); Downy Woodpecker - 44; Hairy Woodpecker – 9; Northern Flicker - 33 (low); Pileated Woodpecker - 35; American Kestrel - 11; Eastern Phoebe – 95; White-eyed Vireo - 3; Blue-headed Vireo - 25; Blue Jay – 171; American Crow - 250; Carolina Chickadee - 180; Tufted Titmouse - 130; White-breasted Nuthatch – 3; Brown-headed Nuthatch - 2; Brown Creeper – 4 (low); House Wren - 36; Winter Wren - 18; Sedge Wren - 6; Marsh Wren - 1; Carolina Wren - 219; Bewick's Wren - 1; Blue-gray Gnatcatcher – 10; Golden-crowned Kinglet – 7 (low); Ruby-crowned Kinglet - 146; Eastern Bluebird - 179 (low); Hermit Thrush – 27 (low); American Robin – 2069; Gray Catbird – **6** (high); Brown Thrasher - 20 (low); Northern Mockingbird - 55; European

Starling - 486; American Pipit -85; Sprague's Pipit – 6; Cedar Waxwing - 1242; Orange-crowned Warbler - 35; Pine Warbler – 262; Yellow-rumped Warbler - 305; LeConte's Sparrow – 1; Chipping Sparrow - 982; Field Sparrow – 67; Fox Sparrow – 1 (low); Dark-eyed (“Slate-colored”) Junco – 54 (low); White-crowned Sparrow - 6; White-throated Sparrow – 365 (low); Vesper Sparrow - 16; Savannah Sparrow – 242; Song Sparrow – 115; Lincoln's Sparrow - 15; Swamp Sparrow – 85; Eastern Towhee - 2 (low); Spotted/Eastern towhee sp? - 3; Northern Cardinal – 449; Red-winged Blackbird – 75,227; **Western Meadowlark** - 1; Eastern Meadowlark - 17; Western/Eastern meadowlark sp? – 13; Common Grackle – 5254; Brown-headed Cowbird – 501; blackbird sp? – 7450; House Finch - 20; American Goldfinch – 177 (low); House Sparrow – 50. **Total Species:** 110 (plus 3 count week but not on count day).

**32 Observers in 15 Field Parties:** Abigail Bell, David Bell, John Curucuto, John Dalmas, Thelma Dalmas, John Gorham, Kathy Griffin; Ruth Heino, Gary Hunter, Craig Jones, Susie Lower, Dave Richardson, Tim Scallon, Maggie Schaefer, Owen Schaefer, Rick Schaefer, Cliff Shackelford, Julie Shackelford, John Smelser; Sarah Stovall, Ron Thill; Eamonn Thurmond, Anne Tindell, Robert Truss, Ashley Wahlberg, Dave Wallace, Vickie Wallace, Carol Wells, Laura Wilson, Bob White, David Wolf (compiler), Mimi Wolf (co-compiler) = **32 observers in 15 parties, plus 6 feeder-watchers** (Lou Ann Dean, Carol Delaney; Steve & Billie Kinnaird; Jack Rohrer; Howard Williamson). **Compilers:** David & Mimi Wolf (936) 569-6531; e-mail: [dewolfnac@gmail.com](mailto:dewolfnac@gmail.com)