

also identifies all count records. The 65 new records have been identified by an asterisk (*) and the 22 records that tied the previous high have been identified by the pound sign (#). *Fifteen new records increased the number of counties reporting the species*; some of the largest or most interesting increases were the Common Loon (up 5 counties), Ross's Goose (up from 1 county to 2 counties), Bald Eagle (up 7 counties), Cooper's Hawk (up 5 counties), Wild Turkey (up 4 counties), Willet (up 3 counties), Eurasian Collared-Dove (up 7 counties), Pileated Woodpecker (up 3 counties) and Yellow-throated Warbler (up 3 counties). *Thirty-five new records increased the total number of birds reported for those species in a single count year*; some of the largest and most interesting gains were the American White Pelican (up 53 birds, 15%), Double-crested Cormorant (up 1520 birds, 19%), Turkey Vulture (up 197 birds, 5%), Greater White-fronted Goose (up 50 birds, 555%), Mute Swan (up 18 birds, 14%), Gadwall (up 193 birds, 39%), Bald Eagle (up 34 birds, 54%), Cooper's Hawk (up 28 birds, 15%), Red-tailed Hawk (up 82 birds, 5%), Wild Turkey (up 54 birds, 6%), Pectoral Sandpiper (up 944 birds, 23%); Eurasian Collared-Dove (up 25 birds, 76%), Barred Owls (up 87 birds, 18%), Hairy Woodpecker (up 55 birds, 12%), Red-bellied Woodpecker (up 730 birds, 31%), Pileated Woodpecker (up 33 birds, 10%), Eastern Phoebe (up 197 birds, 15%), White-eyed Vireo (up 40 birds, 6%), Warbling Vireo (up 183 birds, 9%), Black-capped Chickadee (672 birds, 14%), White-breasted Nuthatch (up 542 birds, 29%), Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (up 134 birds, 5%), Eastern Bluebird (up 560 birds, 17%), Northern Cardinal (up 1800+ birds, 15%) and American Goldfinch (up 2000+ birds, 12%). *Fifteen new records*

increased the total number of birds reported for those species for a single county; some of the largest or most interesting increases were Greater White-fronted Goose (Monroe County, up 49 birds), Gadwall (up 400+ birds, Putnam County), White-rumped Sandpiper (up 13 birds, Brown County), Pectoral Sandpiper (up 430 birds, Champaign County) and Monk Parakeet (up 23 birds, Cook County).

Species Comments

1) After an absence of two years, the Ringed Turtle-Dove was once again found on Count Day; 14 birds were reported from Will County; 2) the Eurasian Collared-Dove gained 7 more counties again this year – (any guesses as to what year the species will be reported in every county?); 3) the Gray Partridge – just how long will they continue to be on this annual report?; 4) neither the 2001 nesting Scissor-tailed Flycatchers of Union County nor the Painted Buntings of Madison County were reported for the Count this year; the Scissor-taileds never did return, the Painted Buntings did; however, two other Painted Buntings were tallied for the count in McDonough County; 5) neither the Lawrence's nor Brewster's warblers were found this year; 6) a Eurasian Tree Sparrow (referred to locally as the "ETS") was reported for the first time ever on the Spring Bird Count in Randolph County (considerably south of its expected range); 7) 15 Red Crossbills were present at the Bjorklund feeder on May 3rd and 22 on May 6th (Mason County), but "none" could be found on count day; and 8) with the addition of the Ferruginous Hawk to the Statewide compilation, the composite list has increased to 322 species.

Other Comments

Although the 2002 count was considerably better in many respects than the 2001 count, there

were many similarities. The majority of the new records that were set were only slight advances over previous records; the species that had been hard hit by the severe winter of 2000/2001 (such as the Carolina Wren) were still low in numbers; thrushes (including Swainson's) were extremely scarce and most transient warblers continued to be reported in low numbers. Other scarcities included the Red-eyed Vireo, Vesper and Savannah sparrows. On the positive side, most vireos were well-represented statewide; there were excellent numbers of Baltimore Orioles along the Mississippi River and Rose-breasted Grosbeaks along the Illinois River; plenty of catbirds and Yellow Warblers in the northern counties; and an excellent number of migrating Eastern Kingbirds, Indigo Buntings, Dickcissels and Bobolinks in the southern counties. Finally, there were no Purple Martins in Du Page County, no Mallards in Jersey County, an unusually high number of Mourning Warblers (5) in McDonough County (compared to singles in only three other counties), too many Canada Geese in the northeast, and a few early Willow Flycatchers in the northern counties.

Perhaps **Table 7** is the most useful table in the entire report since it provides the County Statistics. Without the details of this table the results of the annual Spring Bird Count could not be analyzed and compared in a meaningful way. The columns in Table 7 include: 1) the county name; 2) the area (1, 2, 3 or 4) within the state that the county occurs; 3) the number of species identified; 4) the number of countable birds reported; 5) the number of participating birders in the county; 6) the number of birding parties in the county; 7) the beginning and ending birding times (in the 24-hour