

## Winter Season 2004-2005

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The winter season of 2004-2005 was characterized by variable temperatures, with several abnormally warm periods interspersed with short bouts of below-average readings. The season's most severe outbreak of cold weather occurred during the last week of December; in fact, the minimum reading at Louisville for the winter was 2°F on Christmas morning. Overall, precipitation was near normal, but significant snowstorms were conspicuous by their absence. A brief period of above-average precipitation occurred in early January, resulting in the formation of some water at the transient lakes in southern Warren County, but it did not last long enough to allow them to persist for more than a few weeks.

Rarity highlights of the season included a state-first Bullock's Oriole, a state-second Common Ground-Dove, and a likely returning Spotted Towhee. As expected based on the number of fall reports, a less active winter for western hummingbirds occurred. Winter finches and Red-breasted Nuthatches ended up occurring in relatively small numbers statewide. A remarkable scarcity of hard and soft mast in at least some portions of the state resulted in much reduced numbers of some woodpeckers, Blue Jays, Cedar Waxwings, and Yellow-rumped Warblers.

Publication of any unusual sightings in the seasonal report does not imply that these reports have been accepted as records for the official checklist of Kentucky birds. Observers are cautioned that records of out-of-season birds and all rarities must be accompanied with good details or documentation for acceptance. Documentation must be submitted to the Kentucky Bird Records Committee (KBRC). Decisions regarding the official Kentucky list are made by the KBRC and are reported periodically in *The Kentucky Warbler*.

**Abbreviations – Miscellaneous:** county names appear in *italics*; when used to separate dates, the “/” symbol is used in place of “and”; “ph.” next to an observer’s initials indicates that the observation was documented with photograph(s); “vt.” next to an observer’s initials indicates that the observation was documented on videotape; “\*” next to an observer’s initials indicates that written details were submitted with the report; ad. = adult; imm. = immature; juv. = juvenile; yg. = young; KDFWR = Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources. **Place names:** Ano = reclaimed surface mines near Ano, e. *Pulaski*; Audubon State Park = J.J. Audubon State Park, *Henderson*; Ballard = Ballard WMA, *Ballard*; Barkley Dam = Barkley Dam, *Lyon/Livingston*; Barren = Barren River Lake, *Allen/Barren* (unless otherwise noted); Beargrass Creek = Beargrass Creek State Nature Preserve, *Jefferson*; Bernheim Forest = Bernheim Forest, *Bullitt/Nelson*; Blanton Forest = Blanton Forest State Nature Preserve, *Harlan*; Blood River = Blood River embayment of Kentucky Lake, *Calloway*; Briarwood = Briarwood, *Jefferson*; Camp #9 = Peabody Camp #9 coal facility, *Union*; Camp #11 = Peabody Camp #11 mine, *Union*; Cape Hills = Cape Hills Unit Sloughs WMA, *Henderson*; Caperton = Caperton Swamp Nature Preserve, *Jefferson*; Cave Hill Cemetery = Cave Hill Cemetery, *Jefferson*; Chaney Lake = Chaney Lake State Nature Preserve, *Warren*; DBNF = Daniel Boone National Forest; Eddy Creek = Eddy Creek embayment of Lake Barkley, *Lyon*; Evergreen Cemetery = Evergreen Cemetery, *Campbell*; Falls of the Ohio = Falls of the Ohio, *Jefferson*; Fishing Creek = Fishing Creek embayment of Lake Cumberland, *Pulaski*; Homestead = Homestead Unit Peabody WMA, *Ohio*; Island No. 1 = Mississippi River sandbars opposite Island No. 1, *Carlisle*; Jonathan Creek = Jonathan Creek embayment of Kentucky Lake, *Marshall*; Kuttawa = Lake Barkley at Kuttawa, *Lyon*; Ky Dam = Kentucky Dam, *Livingston/Marshall*; Ky Dam Village = Kentucky Dam Village State Resort Park, *Marshall*; Ky Lake = Kentucky Lake, *Marshall* (unless otherwise noted); Kuttawa = Lake Barkley at Kuttawa, *Lyon*; Lake Barkley = Lake Barkley, *Livingston/Lyon/Trigg*; Lake No. 9 = Lake No. 9, *Fulton*; Lake Peewee = Lake Peewee, *Hopkins*; Laketon = Mississippi River sandbars at and immediately upstream of Laketon boat ramp, *Carlisle*; LBL = Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area, *Lyon/Trigg*; Little Lick = Little Lick Recreation Area, *DBNF, Pulaski*; Little River = Little River embayment of Lake Barkley, *Trigg*; Long Run Park = Long Run Park, e. *Jefferson*; Mark = Mark, e. *Pulaski*; McElroy = McElroy Lake, *Warren*; Miles Park = Miles Park, e. *Jefferson*; Minor Clark = Minor Clark Fish Hatchery, *Rowan*; Mitchell Lake = Mitchell Lake, *Ballard WMA, Ballard*; Mt. Zion = Mt. Zion, *Pulaski*; Murray = Murray, *Calloway*; Paradise = Paradise Power Plant impoundments, *Muhlenberg*; Sauerheber = Sauerheber Unit of Sloughs WMA, *Henderson*; Shaker Mill = Shaker Mill, *Warren*; Shawnee Park = Shawnee Park, *Jefferson*; Sinclair = Sinclair Unit Peabody WMA, *Muhlenberg*; Smithland Dam = Smithland Dam on the Ohio River, *Livingston*; Surrey Hills Farm = Surrey Hills Farm, ne. *Jefferson*; Tom Sawyer = E.P. "Tom" Sawyer State Park, *Jefferson*; Waitsboro = Waitsboro Recreation Area, *Lake Cumberland, Pulaski*; Westvaco = Mississippi River sandbars at Westvaco WMA, *Carlisle* (unless otherwise noted); WKU Farm/Woods = Western Kentucky University Farm and Woods, s. *Warren*; WMA = Wildlife Management Area.

**Mute Swan** – there were a number of reports this season, likely as a result of the coldest temperatures in a few years: 2 continued from the fall season near Prospect, *Jefferson*, to 22 January (J&PB, BBC); 1 in *Bourbon* 5 December (SM); a juv. at Owensboro, *Daviess*, in mid-December (DA); 6 at Bernheim Forest, *Bullitt*, 21 December (MS); an adult at Ballard 21 December (BP) – 15 January (SR); 1 above

Meldahl Dam 26 December (LM); 21 at Cooley's Pond 27 December (ph.RD et al.); 6 at Petros Pond 28 December-8 February (DR et al.); 2 at Ken Hopewell 2 January (MS, EH) with 8 there 9 January (BP, MS); 10 that moved back and forth between McElroy and Chapman's Pond, *Warren*, 16 January-14 February (DR et al.); 11 on Lake Herrington, *Boyle/Garrard*, 25 January (B&MC) with perhaps some of the same in a flock of 12 on Lake Herrington, *Mercer/Garrard*, 30 January (BF, fide SV); up to 14 (perhaps some of the same from Lake Herrington), se. of Danville, *Boyle*, in late February (ph.WC); and 1 at Owsley Fork Lake, *Madison*, 28 January (PH).

**Tundra Swan** – the flock at Sauerheber numbered up to 27 birds in early January (MMr); also reported were 2 imms. at Cooley's Pond 27 December (ph.RDn et al.) and an imm. at London, *Laurel*, 24-26 January (GC, ph.RDn).

**Greater White-fronted Goose** – as has become the norm, large numbers wintered at three w. Kentucky locales represented by the following peak counts: 2000 at Long Point 18 December (KL, NM et al.) with 1000 still in the vicinity 23 February (ME et al.); 2050 at Sauerheber 6 January (MMr); and 900-1000 at Ballard 19 December (CW); also reported were a few in s. *Warren* 7 December (DR) – 30 January (BP, BY); 9 at Homestead 11 December (RDv, KOS); 1 at Conley Bottom 12 December (RDn); and 2 near Oakville, *Logan*, 29 December (DR).

**Ross's Goose** – the s. *Ohio* bird that has been seen off-and-on for a few years was present 11 December (RDv, KOS) but not later, suggesting that something unfortunate happened to it; an impressive count of 54 was made at Long Point 18 December (KL, NM, MG) followed by a count of 37 near Open Pond, *Fulton*, in early February (JW); also reported were at least 3 at Ballard 21 December (BP, SR); an ad. at Griffin Park 1 January (DR, CH); an ad. at Camp Ernst Lake, *Boone*, 17 January (LM); an imm. at Griffin Park 18 January (DR); and 7 in w. *Fulton* 29 January (HC, ME).

**Snow Goose** – peak counts at the usual wintering locales included 3000 at Long Point 18 December (KL, NM et al.) and 8000 in w. *Fulton* 29 January (HC, ME); 40,000-50,000 at Ballard 26 December (CW); and 650 at Sauerheber 19 January (MMr); other reports of interest included a few birds observed off and on in s. *Warren* 9-24 January (DR); and 21 w. of Bernheim Forest, *Bullitt*, 22 February (BP, MG).

**Cackling Goose** – because this was the first winter season subsequent to the elevation of this form to full species level, all reports are included: 1-9 at Griffin Park 19 December – 24 January (ph.DR et al.); at least 35 at the Reformatory Lake, *Oldham*, 16 December (\*BP) with at least 10 still there 20 December (BP, RDv); 1 at Bernheim Forest, *Bullitt*, 28 December (MMn, BP); 5 near Rich Pond, *Warren*, 12 January (ph.DR); 1 in the Devil's Elbow area of LBL, *Trigg*, 18 January (BL); 1 in s. *Warren* 25 January (DR); 1 near Worthington, *Jefferson*, 29 January (vt.BY); 1 at Ballard 31 January (SR); and 12 in the Ohio River bottoms n. of Maceo, *Daviess* 21 February (DA).

**Canada Goose** – numbers were certainly below average this winter; peak counts included 6150 at Sauerheber 20 December (MMr); 1300 at Griffin Park 28 December (DR); and a paltry 8000 at Ballard in late December (CW).

**Wood Duck** – there seemed to be an above-average number of birds reported through the winter season, but this may just be a trend that recent milder-than-normal winters have caused; 1-14 were reported on eight CBCs.

**Blue-winged Teal** – quite unusual was a female that apparently wintered in s. *Warren* that was observed at McElroy 19/28 December and 28 January (DR); another rare winter record was provided by a pair at Long Point 18 December (MG, JW). Earliest spring arrival reports were for a pair at Long Point (MT) and 2 near Petersburg, *Boone* (LM), both 21 February; and 2 at Blood River 22 February (HC).

**American Wigeon** – peak count was for 100+ at Sauerheber 14 December (DR).

**Northern Pintail** – generally unimpressive peak counts included 18 at Walton's Pond 7 December (DR); a flock of 30 over Gibraltar 2 January (BP, AC); and 300 in the lower Hickman bottoms 23 February (ME et al.).

**Green-winged Teal** – good numbers remained through the season; peak counts included 50+ at Sauerheber 14 December (DR); 75+ at Ballard 21 December (BP, SR); and 500 in the lower Hickman bottoms 23 February (ME et al.).

**Canvasback** – winter numbers were generally small in most areas; peak count was for 100+ on Lake Barkley above the dam 10 January (DR, RDv); an apparent late season push back northward included 20 at McElroy 28 January (DR); 20+ at Petros 31 January (DR); and 2 at Fishpond Lake, *Letcher*, 4 February (JC), which were relatively unusual for se. Kentucky.

**Redhead** – a few birds were present following late December's cold weather (4-12 birds on three CBCs); however, by mid-January, birds were probably moving back northward, accounting for the season's peak counts including 20 at Petros Pond 15 January (DR, JR, CH) and 30 January (BP, BY); 17 on the Ohio River at Covington, *Kenton*, 26 January (FR); 75 at McElroy and 6 at Petros Pond 28 January (DR); 109 at Waitsboro 13 February (RDn); and 112 at Cooley's Pond 25 February (RDn).

**Greater Scaup** – peak counts included 50+ on Ky Lake, *Marshall*, 8 December (DR) and 100+ on Lake Barkley, *Lyon*, 10 January (DR); other reports of interest included 9 in each of two mixed-species flocks of scaup on Ohio River at Louisville 19 December (BP); 5 at Ballard 21 December (BP, SR); and 4 at Thurston's Pond, *Wayne*, 22 January (RDn).

**Lesser Scaup** – as usual, peak counts came from the Land Between the Lakes area and included 5000+ on Lake Barkley, *Lyon*, and 2000+ on Ky Lake, *Marshall*, both 10 January (DR, RDv).

**Black Scoter** – only report was for a female/imm. on the Ohio River at Louisville 19 December (BP et al.).

**Surf Scoter** – only reports were for an ad. male at Waitsboro 12 December (RDn); and a female/imm. on the Ohio River at Louisville 5 February (MS, BY).

**Long-tailed Duck** – only report was for an ad. male on Lake Barkley above the dam, 6 January (DR).

**Common Goldeneye** – relatively unimpressive peak counts included 300+ on Ky Lake, *Marshall*, 8 December (DR); and 200+ on Lake Barkley, *Lyon*, and 400+ on Ky Lake, *Marshall*, both 10 January (DR).

**Common Merganser** – a few were present following the mid-December cold snap including 7 at Barren 31 December (DR, SS); 7 at Doe Valley Lake, *Meade*, 31 December (RDv, MW); a female at Long Run Park, *Jefferson*, 18 January (BW); a pair at Homestead 17-27 January (BP et al); and a female at the Reformatory Lake, *Oldham*, 3 February (BW).

**Red-breasted Merganser** – relatively unusual for mid-winter was a count of 90 on Lake Barkley, *Lyon*, 10 January (DR, RDv); otherwise only a few scattered individuals were observed during mid-winter.

**Ruddy Duck** – peak counts included 175 on Lake Barkley, *Lyon*, 10 January (DR, RDv) and 300 on Lake Barkley above the dam 15 February (DR).

**Pacific Loon** – the only report was for a juv. on Lake Barkley at Demumbers Bay, *Lyon*, 18 December (\*BL). KBRC review required.

**Common Loon** – a total of 43 on the Land Between the Lakes CBC, 18 December (CM et al.) represented mostly lingering individuals; evidence of overwintering was limited to a few singles on the larger reservoirs in January and early February.

**Horned Grebe** – peak counts included 125+ on Ky Lake/Lake Barkley 8 December (DR); 51 on Lake Cumberland, *Wayne*, 28 December (RDn); and 125 on Lake Barkley, *Lyon*, and 200+ on Ky Lake, *Marshall*, both 10 January (DR); the last represent impressive mid-winter totals.

**American White Pelican** – lingering birds were represented by 150 at Kuttawa 8 December (DR) and 35+ on Lake Barkley, *Lyon*, 18 December (MB) while 125 on Ky Lake, *Calloway*, 1 January (HC) may have been overwintering. By mid-February, numbers began to build back up with 120 on Lake Barkley from Boyd's Landing to Kuttawa 15 February (DR); 292 at Blood River 22 February (HC); and ca. 50 over the lower Hickman bottoms, *Fulton*, 23 February (ME et al.).

**Great Blue Heron** – locally nesting birds were present at several traditional colony sites by mid-February.

**Black-crowned Night-Heron** – a few birds lingered into winter with 9 on the Louisville CBC 19 December (J&PB, BBC) and 1 on the Lexington CBC 14 December (fide RM); at least 2 adults wintered at St. Matthews, *Jefferson* (BW).

**Northern Harrier** – peak count was for ca. 20 at Peabody, *Ohio*, including 14 at a likely roost spot, 9 January (BP, MS).

**Red-tailed Hawk** – all reports of western forms are included: ad. *B. j. krideri* in *Muhlenberg* 2 December (DR); ad. light morph *B. j. harlani* continuing in s. *Warren* through the period; (DR); ad. dark morph *B. j. harlani* along Pleasant Hill Rd., *Trigg*, 25 December (BL, PL); ad. light morph *B. j. calurus* and juv. dark or intermediate morph *B. j. calurus*, both in *Logan* 29 December (DR); ad. intermediate morph *B. j. calurus* at McElroy 1 January (vt.DR, CH); ad. intermediate morph *B. j. calurus* at Gibraltar 2 January (BP, AC); ad. dark or intermediate morph *B. j. calurus* near Monkey's Eyebrow, *Ballard*, 7 January (SR); ad. dark or intermediate morph in e. *Muhlenberg* 17 January (BP, AC); ad. dark morph *B. j. harlani* with partially banded tail near Monkey's Eyebrow, *Ballard*, 18/23 January/24 February (ph.SR).

**Rough-legged Hawk** – not numerous at Peabody WMA this winter; peak counts included 4 at Ken Hopewell/Homestead 19 January (DR) and 12 February (J&PB et al.).

**Golden Eagle** – single birds were at Bernheim Forest 2 December (BP) and 28 December (BP, MM); a juv. was observed in LBL, *Lyon*, 18 December (BL); and a sub-adult was observed near Swifton, *Wayne*, 27 December 2004 (SS) for a first county record.

**Merlin** – there were three reports: 1 at Long Point 18 December (KL, NM et al.); 1 over n. *Warren* 24 December (GR); and 1 near St. Matthews, *Jefferson*, in mid-January (BW).

**Peregrine Falcon** – only reports were for 1 in downtown Louisville in mid-December (AM); 1 at Barkley Dam 10 January (DR, RDv); 1 near Kingston, *Madison*, 3 February (EO); and 1 at Murray, *Calloway*, 25 February (HC).

**Virginia Rail** – 3 different birds (2 at Gibraltar and 1 at Sinclair) answered tapes on the Paradise CBC 2 January (BP, AC, RDn, HC).

**Sandhill Crane** – a moderate series of s. flights continued through December, with a few small flocks noted into early January; as has typically been the case, mid-January saw flocks of birds moving both s. and n. with a pronounced n. flight occurring by mid-February. Peak counts for the season included several hundred over *Woodford* (ME), hundreds over Paris, *Bourbon* (MH), and up to 2000 over Elizabethtown, *Hardin*, (JN), all on 14 December; ca. 100 over Shelbyville, *Shelby*, 15 December (HB); 1200 over Woodburn 28 January (DR); and 250 on the ground w. of Chaney Lake 30 January (BP, BY). A few that were w. of the normal migratory corridor included 9 near Dawson Springs, *Hopkins*, 13 December (ER) and a small flock in s. *Christian* 13 February (SR); birds along the e. side of the corridor included three flocks of ca. 40 each over Berea 15 December (PH). A flock apparently wintered again in s. *Todd* nr. Guthrie (fide DM).

**Least Sandpiper** – lingering birds were represented by 50 in w. *Fulton* 4 December (HC, ME); birds were found on 4 CBCs including 3 nw. of Davistown, nw. *Garrard*, 18 December (ph. G&NE); 2 near Prospect, *Jefferson*, 19 December (JK et al.); 1 at Ballard 21 December (HC, RDn, RDv); and 7 at Blood River 1 January (HC); later in the season, the only report was for 4 at Jonathan Creek 5 February (ME).

**Dunlin** –2 lingerers were still in w. *Fulton* 4 December (HC, ME).

**Wilson's Snipe** – peak count was for 100 in w. *Fulton* 4 December (HC, ME).

**American Woodcock** – there were a few reports during the season; all are included: 1 at Paintsville Lake WMA, *Johnson*, 12 December (SF); 3 at Sinclair 2 January (RDn); by mid-February, numbers had returned to local breeding sites including 1 at Ragland, *McCracken*, 10 February (SR); 1 near Rock Bridge, DBNF, *Wolfe*, 19 February (FR) and 10 at Ano 22 February 2005 (RDn et al.).

**Laughing Gull** – likely continuing from late fall was a second-year bird at Ky Dam 15 December (HC, MR) and 10 January (DR, RDv, HC).

**Bonaparte's Gull** – peak counts included 500+ at Barren 8 December (DR); 1801 on the LBL CBC 18 December (CM et al.); 826 on the *Calloway* CBC 1 January (HC, et al.); and 3500-4000 at Kuttawa 15 February (DR).

**Ring-billed Gull** –peak counts included 4600 at the roost at Barren 31 December (DR, SS); 300 at McElroy 2 January (DR); and 1000+ at Barren 21 January (DR); a significant influx arrived with the cold front of 19 December (BP, DR).

**Thayer's Gull** – all reports are included: 1-2 ads. at Barkley Dam 8 December – 15 February (DR, HC et al.); a first-winter bird at Barkley Dam 14 December (HC, MR); an ad. and a first-winter bird at Ky Dam 18 December (MB et al.); a first-winter bird below Barkley Dam 26 January (BL).

**Herring Gull** – interesting counts included 26+ in a significant movement of gulls along the Ohio River at Louisville 19 December (BP) and 9 first-winter birds at Barren 31 December (DR, SS).

**Lesser Black-backed Gull** – all reports are included: ad. below Ky Dam 18 December (MB); ad. at Barkley Dam 6 January (DR); ad. at Ky Dam 10 January (DR, RDv); ad. above Ky Dam 15 January (BY); first-winter bird at Ky Dam 26 January (BL, SR) and 15 February (DR); and a first-winter bird just e. of Long Point 21 February (ph.MT) that provided a first county record.

**Great Black-backed Gull** – a first-winter bird was present at Ky Dam 6-10 January (ph.DR, HC). KBRC review required.

**Forster's Tern** – as usual, a few birds lingered through winter at Jonathan Creek with no less than 25 there 5 December (HC); 7 there 18 December (HC, ME); 1 there 5 February (ME) and 3 there 18 February (ME); the species appeared at Blood River 8 February (HC) with 6 there 22 February (HC).

**Eurasian Collared-Dove** – the only new location reported for the season was Science Hill, *Pulaski*, where 5 were observed 17 January (RDn).

**Common Ground-Dove** – a bird was present off and on in a yard ne. of Union Mills, *Jessamine*, from late December through the period (EB, GB, ph.MM). KBRC review required.

**Barn Owl** – singles were reported on the Louisville (DP) and *Calloway* (HC) CBCs; also reported was 1 along Pleasant Hill Rd., *Trigg*, 6 February (BL, PL).

**Short-eared Owl** – the species was not numerous this winter; all reports are included: 1 on the Shelbyville CBC, 26 December (WB et al.); 1 near Flaherty, *Meade*, 31 December (DP, RC, BP); 3 at Ken Hopewell (RDv, MW) and 1 at Sinclair (RDn), both 2 January; 2 at Ken Hopewell 9 January (BP, MS); 1 near Kingston, *Madison*, 16 January (GR) and 3 February (EO); and 4 at Ken Hopewell 12 February (J&PB et al.).

**Rufous Hummingbird** – 4 *Selasphorus* hummingbirds were confirmed to be Rufous as follows: a first-year male at Shaker Mill was seen through 2 December (ph.DR, \*RS); an ad. female banded at Lexington 11 December (CS) was seen through 17 December (ph.LR); an ad. female banded at Cynthia, *Harrison*, 11 December (CS) was seen through 31 January (R&JH; ph.BP); and an ad. male banded at Louisville 11 December (CS) was seen through 15 February (I&DW; ph.JE).

**Selasphorus hummingbird** – 2 additional hummers were not definitively identified and must be left as Rufous/Allen's types: a probable ad. female at Bowling Green seen through 23 December (JF; ph.JE) and a probable ad. female at Kuttawa, *Lyon*, also seen through 23 December (ph.P&RK).

**Red-headed Woodpecker** – the species was scarce this winter, with only 33 individuals reported on 12 CBCs; this included only 1 on the *Ballard* count where hundreds are sometimes present.

**Eastern Phoebe** – a relatively impressive early winter showing was 1-10 birds on 17 CBCs.

**Loggerhead Shrike** – a few birds were reported during the season including singles at feeding stations at Shaker Mill (JR, DR); in *Anderson* (SL) and in n. *Jessamine* (JW).

**Blue-headed Vireo** – an unlucky bird struck a window and died at Richmond 6 December (CO).

**Horned Lark** – peak counts occurred in late December and January, following the coldest weather of the season and included 400 at Surrey Hills Farm 26 December (BP); 250+ near Petersburg, *Boone*, 26 December (KC, JC); 1455 on the Olmstead, *Logan*, CBC 29 December (MB et al.); and 300+ at and near Woodburn, *Warren*, 3 January (DR).

**Purple Martin** – earliest report was for se. *Monroe* 24 February (JT).

**Tree Swallow** – quite early was a bird below Ky Dam 15 February (DR).

**Red-breasted Nuthatch** – 1-9 on 15 CBCs represented a decent but far from extraordinary presence during the winter season.

**House Wren** – there were two reports: 1 near Burnside, *Pulaski*, 1 January (SS) and 1 at Mt. Zion 19 February (RDn).

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet** – a total of 17 on the Ballard CBC was relatively impressive (BP et al.).

**Gray Catbird** – 1 was reported on the Richmond CBC, *Madison*, 18 December (KT).

**American Pipit** – the species was fairly well represented on the CBCs with 1-72 individuals reported on 8 counts. Peak count for the season was 140 at McElroy 16 December (DR).

**Cedar Waxwing** – the species was well below-average on CBCs with only 1-38 individuals reported on 9 counts.

**Pine Warbler** – there were a few winter reports including 1 in s. *Jefferson* in mid-December (DP); 1 at a feeding station in *Webster*, 25 December (SA); 2 at Barren River Lake SP, *Barren*, 31 December (DR, SS); 2 in *Calloway* 1 January (HC); 1 at Lake Cumberland SP, *Russell*, 17 January (CN, GHo); and 1 at Murray 26 January (ME).

**Palm Warbler** – only a few were reported on CBCs including 3 at Lexington 14 December; also reported later in the season were singles at Griffin Park 24/25 January (DR) and McElroy 30 January (BP, BY); 2 at Cooley's Pond 28 December (RDn); and 1 on Frazier Rd., *Wayne*, 8 February (RDn).

**Common Yellowthroat** – quite unusual was a female adjacent to Ballard 21 December (\*BP).

**Spotted Towhee** – presumably the male that was found in w. *McCracken* last winter was present at the same location 21 December (\*BP, SR). There were no other reports of it.

**Savannah Sparrow** – an interesting report involved at least 32 individuals eating cracked corn along the edge of a small weed patch on Surrey Hills Farm 27 December (BP).

**Chipping Sparrow** – again this winter, increasing numbers of wintering birds were reported; 1-40 were reported on 15 CBCs including 40 below Dewey Dam, *Floyd*, 27 December (TE et al.); birds were confirmed overwintering at Shaker Mill – up to 21 birds 23 December (DR); and at Surrey Hills Farm – at least 40 birds 27 December (BP); also reported were 2 at Barren, *Barren*, 20 December and 1 there 21 January (DR); 2-4 at Pleasant Hill during most of the winter (BL, PL); 1 at Lake Cumberland at Mystic View, *Wayne*, 8 February (RDn); and a few in sw. *Jefferson* 20 February (EH, BBC).

**Amer. Tree Sparrow** – peak count was for ca. 50 at Surrey Hills Farm 23 December (BP).

**Lapland Longspur** – there were reports from several areas as follows: ca. 25 along the Ohio River at Louisville (BP) and at least 1 in ne. *Jefferson* (MM), both 19 December; at least 2 near Petersburg, *Boone*, 26 December (KC, JC); 3 near Dot, *Logan*, 26 December (FL); at least 17 in s. *Logan* 29 December (MB, DR); up to 10+ at Surrey Hills Farm during the last week of December (BP); 5 in w. *Calloway* 28 December (ME); flocks in s. *Warren* throughout the season (DR) with a peak count of 100-125+ at McElroy 30 January (BP, BY); at least 5 near Oscar, *Ballard*, 7 January (SR); at least 50 near Open Pond, *Fulton*, 15 January (BY); and 11 in s. *Ohio* 12 February (DR).

**Snow Bunting** – the late-December cold spell brought a few birds into the n.-cen. part of the state; all reports are included: 1 at Surrey Hills Farm 23/26 December (BP); 9 near Petersburg, *Boone*, 26 December (KC, JC).

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak** – a male lingered at a yard near Cox's Creek, *Nelson*, to 1 December (ph.GHa).

**Indigo Bunting** – quite tardy in departing was a bird near Lake No. 9, *Fulton*, 4 December (HC, ME).

**Eastern Meadowlark** – likely indicative of the commencement of the species' spring migratory period was a bird in suburban Frankfort 16 February (BP).

**Western Meadowlark** – 7 were reported in the Lower Hickman bottoms, *Fulton*, 6 February (JW); also, 1 was present at Walton's Pond 14 February (ph.DR).

**Rusty Blackbird** – 1 to 100 were reported on eight CBCs; peak counts included 100 on the Upton, *Hart*, CBC 18 December (JB et al.); 80 at McElroy 28 January (DR) and 200 at Chaney Lake 30 January (BP, BY).

**Brewer's Blackbird** – the only reports were for 4 near Open Pond, *Fulton*, 4 December (HC, ME) and 40 along Smokey Road, *Ballard*, 21 December (SR, BP).

**Bullock's Oriole** – a male that will represent a first state record was first noted at a feeding station outside of Lawrenceburg, *Anderson*, in early January and was seen by many in February (ph.A&BR et al.). The bird lingered through the end of February. KBRC review required.

**Pine Siskin** – small numbers of birds lingered throughout the season; 2-6 were reported on only four CBCs; peak count was up to 40+ at Panorama Shores, *Calloway*, in early to mid-January (KCo).

**Purple Finch** – small numbers lingered at many areas through the season; 1-16 were reported on 19 CBCs; peak counts included ca. 25 near Fisherville, *Jefferson*, in mid- to late February (E&JH); 20 at a feeding station in s. *Ohio* 19 January (DR) and 15 at LBL, *Lyon*, 30 January (BL).

Observers: Win Ahrens (WA); David Ayer (DA); Jane & Pat Bell (J&PB); Mark Bennett (MB); Karon Broadbent (KB); Fred Busroe (FB); Joan Carr (JC); Hap Chambers (HC); Elizabeth Ciuzio (EC); Katharine Cohen (KC); Amy Covert (AC); Charlie Crawford (CC); Roseanna Denton (RDn); Bonnie Dever (BDv); Robert Dever (RDv); Beth Diggs (BDg); David Dister (DD); Tom Durbin (TD); Melissa Easley (ME); Bradford Elmore (BE); Diane Elmore (DE); Jackie Elmore (JE); Scott Freidhof (SF); Donald Frick (DF); Tom Fusco (TF); Brad Goodrich (BG); Gail Hart (GHa); Lana Hays (LH); Rex & Jan Hiday (R&JH); Gay Hodges (GHo); Carter Hooks (CH); Tim Houghton (TH); Eddie Huber (EH); Jennifer Huber (JH); Bob Johnson (BJ); Paula & Randall Kepner (P&RK); James Kiser (JK); Celia Lawrence (CL); Linda Lawrence (LL); Gary Libby (GL); Bill Lisowsky (BL); Paula Lisowsky (PL); Roly Lloyd (RL); Frank Lyne (FL); Scott Marsh (SM); Lee McNeely (LM); Mark Monroe (MMn); Nancy Moore (NM); Ann Morgan (AM); Bob Morris (BM); Arlene Morton (AM); Mike Morton (MMr); Daniel Moss (DM); Susan Neace (SN); Connie Neeley (CN); Wendell Neeley (WN); Laura Obiso (LO); Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. (BP); David Patrick (DP); Joyce Porter (JP); Nicole Ranalli (NR); Ed Ray (ER); Scott Record (SR); Frank Renfrow (FR); Alicia Rodrian (AR); David Roemer (DR); Joan Roemer (JR); Wayne Rosso (WR); Leisa Royce (LR); Robert Sargent (RS); Kurt Schwarz (KSc); Jackie Seaton (JS); Kristin Secaur (KSe); Chris Sloan (CS); Travis Snyder (TS); Bob Staib (BS); Stephen Stedman (SS); Matt Stickel (MS); Jon Summers (JS); Kayde Thompson (KT); Joas Troyers (JT); Shawchyi Vorisek (SV); Winston Walden (WW); Mary Walter (MW); Dick & Irene Ward (D&IW); Eileen Wicker (EW); Jim Williams (JW); Barbara Woerner (BW); Donna Wolfe (DW); Ben Yandell (BY); Justin Yandell (JY); Beckham Bird Club (BBC); Ky. Ornithological Society (KOS); Ky. Society of Natural History (KSNH); Northern Ky. Bird Club (NKBC).