The 51st consecutive Elizabethton Fall Count was held on 26 September 2020 with 48 observers in 18 parties. We were dispersed more than normal due to social-distancing protocols.

The area covered was Carter Co, plus parts of adjacent Johnson, Sullivan, Unicoi, and Washington Cos.

132 species were tallied, which is above the recent 30-year average of 125 species. The all-time high on this count was 137 species set in 1993.

The list:

Canada Goose 1220
Wood Duck 71
Mallard 219
Blue-winged Teal 27
N. Bobwhite 10 - - a small covey near Bowmantown (rare in recent years)
Ruffed Grouse 2
Wild Turkey 66
Com. Loon 1
Pied-billed Grebe 11
Dbl-cr. Cormorant 62
Great Blue Heron 37
Great Egret 5
Green Heron 4
Black-cr. Night-Heron 2
Yellow-cr. Night-Heron 1
Black Vulture 141
Turkey Vulture 191
Osprey 14
N. Harrier 1
Sharp-shinned Hawk 3
Cooper's Hawk 11
Bald Eagle 15
Red-shouldered Hawk 2
Broad-winged Hawk 4
Red-tailed Hawk 14
Killdeer 54
Gr. Yellowlegs 1
Am. Woodcock 1
Caspian Tern 3
Rock Pigeon 629
Eur. Collared-Dove 11
Mourning Dove 355
Yellow-billed Cuckoo 4
E. Screech-Owl 28
Great Horned Owl 2
Barred Owl 6
N. Saw-whet Owl 1
Com. Nighthawk 46
Chimney Swift 478
Ruby-thr. Hummingbird 34
Belted Kingfisher 29
Red-headed Woodpecker 2
Red-bellied Woodpecker 103
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker 6
Downy Woodpecker 82
Hairy Woodpecker 18
N. Flicker 80
Pileated Woodpecker 36
Am. Kestrel 17
Merlin 2
Peregrine Falcon 1
E. Wood-Pewee 34
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher 1
Least Flycatcher 2
Empidonax sp. 13 - - does not count toward species total
E. Phoebe 124
E. Kingbird 4
White-eyed Vireo 3
Yellow-thr. Vireo 5

Blue-headed Vireo 16
Warbling Vireo 1
Philadelphia Vireo 1
Red-eyed Vireo 34
Blue Jay 578
Am. Crow 503
Com. Raven 14
Tree Swallow 274
Barn Swallow 15
Carolina Chickadee 251
Tufted Titmouse 208
Red-br. Nuthatch 18
White-br. Nuthatch 80
Brown Creeper 1
House Wren 10
Carolina Wren 285
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher 10
Golden-cr. Kinglet 7
Ruby-cr. Kinglet 2
E. Bluebird 246
Veery 3
Gray-cheeked Thrush 10
Swainson's Thrush 193
Hermit Thrush 1
Wood Thrush 19
Am. Robin 574
Gray Catbird 85
Brown Thrasher 27
N. Mockingbird 126
Eur. Starling 1757
Am. Pipit 2
Cedar Waxwing 312

warblers (23 species)
Ovenbird 2
N. Waterthrush 12
Golden-winged 1
Black-and-white 2
Tennessee 52
Com. Yellowthroat 32
Hooded 9
Am. Redstart 90
Cape May 32
N. Parula 12
Magnolia 29
Bay-breasted 45
Blackburnian 16
Chestnut-sided 15
Blackpoll 3
Black-thr. Blue 4
Palm 65
Pine 16
Yellow-throated 7
Prairie 2
Black-thr. Green 18
Canada 2
Wilson's 2

E. Towhee 80
Chipping Sparrow 41
Field Sparrow 26
Song Sparrow 116
Swamp Sparrow 1
Dark-eyed Junco 26
Summer Tanager 3
Scarlet Tanager 40
N. Cardinal 251
Rose-br. Grosbeak 119
Indigo Bunting 37
Red-wg. Blackbird 209
E. Meadowlark 17
Com. Grackle 54

Brown-hd. Cowbird 8
House Finch 76
Pine Siskin 4
Am. Goldfinch 303
House Sparrow 18
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132 species, plus Empidonax sp.

There were no glaring misses. Shorebirds were scarce (not much available habitat this year).
Birds we might have gotten, but didn't - - - Loggerhead Shrike, Winter Wren, Yellow-rumped Warbler,
Savannah Sparrow, Blue Grosbeak, Bobolink.

All-in-all, it was a very good count. Thanks to all who participated.

participants: Fred Alsop, Rob Armistead, Betty Bailey, Gary Bailey, Jerry Bevins, Rob Biller, Debi Campbell, J.G. Campbell, Ron Carrico, Robin Cooper, Catherine Cummins, Dianne Draper, Glen Eller, Harry Lee Farthing, Bambi Fincher, Dave Gardner, Tammy Griffey, Bill Grigsby, Jean Henson, Neal Henson, Jacki Hinshaw, Don Holt, David Kirschke, Rick Knight (compiler), Roy Knispel, Richard Lewis, Dianna Lynne, Vern Maddux, Joe McGuiness, Cathy McNeil, Tom McNeil, Eric Middlemas, Harry Norman, Susan Peters, Brookie Potter, Jean Potter, Sherrie Quillen, Pete Range, Ken Rea, Judith Reid, Judi Sawyer, Chris Soto, Michele Sparks, Bryan Stevens, Kim Stroud, Scott Turner, Charles Warden, Joyce Watson; plus Connie Irick, David Irick, and Peggy Stevens as feeder watchers.

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Rick Knight, compiler