

The 78th consecutive Elizabethton Spring Bird Count was held 1 May 2021, covering Carter County plus parts of adjacent Johnson, Sullivan, Unicoi and Washington Cos.

Forty observers in 13 parties plus 4 feeder watchers participated. It was a beautiful sunny day, although most areas had temperatures in the upper 30s at sunrise. It warmed up into the 70s.

We tallied 153 species, which is slightly above the recent 30 year average of 150 species. The all-time high on this count was 166 species in 2016.

participants: Fred Alsop, Rob Armistead, Betty Bailey, Gary Bailey, Jerry Bevins, Rob Biller, Ron Carrico, Catherine Cummins, Todd Eastin, Glen Eller, Harry Lee Farthing, Bambi Fincher, Dave Gardner, Tammy Griffey, Jean Henson, Neal Henson, Jacki Hinshaw, Lance Jessee, Jennifer Kennedy, David Kirschke, Rick Knight (compiler), Roy Knispel, Richard Lewis, Dianna Lynne, Vern Maddux, Frank McCollum, Larry McDaniel, Joe McGuinness, Cathy McNeil, Tom McNeil, Harry Norman, Susan Peters, Brookie Potter, Jean Potter, Sherrie Quillen, Pete Range, Judi Sawyer, Chris Soto, Michele Sparks, Bryan Stevens, Peggy Stevens, Kim Stroud, Charles Warden, Rex Whitfield.

Misses: Pied-billed Grebe, Com. Nighthawk, Acadian Flycatcher (just 7th miss in last 50 years), Loggerhead Shrike, Horned Lark, Summer Tanager, & Bobolink.

The List, with a few comments.

Canada Goose 412
Wood Duck 31
Mallard 89
Blue-wg. Teal 13
Bufflehead 6
Hooded Merganser 1
Red-br. Merganser 5
Ruddy Duck 1 - just the 2nd time on this count
N. Bobwhite 5 - just 6th time in last 18 years
Ruffed Grouse 4
Wild Turkey 28
Com. Loon 2
Dbl-cr. Cormorant 48
Great Blue Heron 69
Green Heron 17
Black-cr. Night-Heron 2 - including 1 in Carter Co, where rare
Yellow-cr. Night-Heron 5
Black Vulture 60
Turkey Vulture 128
Osprey 10
Sharp-sh. Hawk 1
Cooper's Hawk 6
Bald Eagle 11
Broad-wg. Hawk 11
Red-tailed Hawk 21
Virginia Rail 2
Sora 2
Killdeer 32
Spotted Sandpiper 32
Solitary Sandpiper 31
Greater Yellowlegs 3
Willet 10 - 2nd time on this count
Lesser Yellowlegs 2
Wilson's Snipe 1
Bonaparte's Gull 9
Ring-billed Gull 6
Rock Pigeon 106
Eur. Collared-Dove 6 - annual last 15 years
Mourning Dove 284
Yellow-billed Cuckoo 4
E. Screech-Owl 13
Great Horned Owl 1
Barred Owl 2
Chuck-will's-widow 16
E. Whip-poor-will 27
Chimney Swift 92
Ruby-thr. Hummingbird 34
Belted Kingfisher 14
Red-headed Woodpecker 4 - including 1 each in Carter & Unicoi Cos.
Red-bellied Woodpecker 125
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker 7

Downy Woodpecker 44
Hairy Woodpecker 9
N. Flicker 41
Pileated Woodpecker 55
Am. Kestrel 9
E. Wood-Pewee 6
Least Flycatcher 5
E. Phoebe 119
Great Crested Flycatcher 12
E. Kingbird 59
White-eyed Vireo 15
Yellow-thr. Vireo 15
Blue-headed Vireo 76
Warbling Vireo 11
Red-eyed Vireo 228
Blue Jay 329
Am. Crow 358
Fish Crow 1 - found 5 of last 6 years
Com. Raven 20
N. Rough-wg. Swallow 95
Purple Martin 71
Tree Swallow 235
Barn Swallow 218
Cliff Swallow 473
Carolina Chickadee 139
Tufted Titmouse 199
Red-br. Nuthatch 10
White-br. Nuthatch 43
Brown-hd. Nuthatch 2 - 1st time on this count
Brown Creeper 5
House Wren 60
Winter Wren 5
Marsh Wren 1 - 7th time in last 30 years
Carolina Wren 202
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher 75
Golden-cr. Kinglet 6
Ruby-cr. Kinglet 4
E. Bluebird 157
Veery 17
Hermit Thrush 3
Wood Thrush 80
Am. Robin 801 - most numerous species on count
Gray Catbird 80
Brown Thrasher 66
N. Mockingbird 121
Eur. Starling 618
Cedar Waxwing 15
Ovenbird 157
Worm-eating Warbler 35
Louisiana Waterthrush 29
Northern Waterthrush 5
Golden-wg. Warbler 2
Black-and-white Warbler 79
Prothonotary Warbler 1 - 3rd time in last 15 years
Swainson's Warbler 7
Nashville Warbler 1
Kentucky Warbler 2
Com. Yellowthroat 20
Hooded Warbler 163
Am. Redstart 11
Cape May Warbler 6
N. Parula 53
Magnolia Warbler 4
Bay-breasted Warbler 1
Blackburnian Warbler 13
Yellow Warbler 16
Chestnut-sided Warbler 17
Black-thr. Blue Warbler 77
Palm Warbler 5
Pine Warbler 15
Yellow-rumped Warbler 16
Yellow-throated Warbler 25

Prairie Warbler 4
Black-thr. Green Warbler 95
Canada Warbler 18
Yellow-br. Chat 9
E. Towhee 213
Chipping Sparrow 117
Field Sparrow 79
Savannah Sparrow 4
Grasshopper Sparrow 1
Song Sparrow 299
Swamp Sparrow 9
White-thr. Sparrow 27
White-cr. Sparrow 8
Dark-eyed Junco 68
Scarlet Tanager 96
N. Cardinal 359
Rose-br. Grosbeak 36
Blue Grosbeak 2
Indigo Bunting 62
Red-wg. Blackbird 550
E. Meadowlark 82
Com. Grackle 324
Brown-hd. Cowbird 99
Orchard Oriole 29
Baltimore Oriole 18
House Finch 84
Pine Siskin 31
Am. Goldfinch 283
Evening Grosbeak 48 - 1st on this count since 2000, previously 20 times from 1969-2000.
House Sparrow 70

153 species

Thanks to all participants for another successful count.

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Rick Knight
Johnson City, TN