

MICHIGAN BIRDS

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Cover: This King Rail was photographed extraordinarily well as it walked across the county line from Bay into Arenac on 27 June 2008. Photo by Doug Jackson.



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The 2008 Kirtland's Warbler Census

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The first Kirtland's Warbler (*Dendroica kirtlandii*) census of singing males was conducted in 1951, and repeated in 1961 and 1971 (Weinrich 1996). As the 1971 census recorded a singing male decline of 60% from the 1961 census, a decision was made to conduct an annual census starting in 1972 to closely monitor the population (Mayfield 1972). See Ryel (1976) for census methods.

The 2008 census was conducted from 6-15 June, and recorded 1792 singing males in Michigan, of which 1758 were located in the Lower Peninsula (LP) and 34 in the Upper Peninsula (UP) (Table 1). Wisconsin reported nine males, and Ontario reported three males, for a North American total of 1804. This represents almost a 6% increase from the 1707 males reported in 2007, and is the highest total ever recorded. The warbler population has been on an upward climb since a low of 167 males in 1987 (Figure 1). The 1792 Michigan males counted this year are over 10 times more than the 1987 count.

Kirtland's Warblers were found in the same 12 LP and 5 UP counties as in 2007 (Table 1.). Ogemaw had the highest county count with 628 males, up from 529 in 2007 (Table 1.). This is over twice as many as Crawford, the next highest county, which had 288 males. One 760 acre plantation and one 640 acre plantation in Ogemaw Co. was occupied by 124 and 118 males respectively. Those two areas combine for over 13% of the world's population. Wisconsin reported five female Kirtland's Warblers and five nests (Trick 2008). Ontario reported nesting for a second consecutive year, with a pair producing four young (Canada Forces 2008). Eleven female Kirtland's Warblers were reported in the UP.



Table 1. Census of Singing Male Kirtland's Warblers by County 1951-2008

Location	1951	1961	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979
MI LP Counties											
Alcona	4										
Clare											
Crawford	142	52	101	101	114	88	90	95	78	74	75
Grand Traverse											
Iosco	74	30	1							2	1
Kalkaska	28	32					3	7	11	16	21
Montmorency	43	61	1								
Ogemaw		114	47	49	51	35	46	51	62	40	40
Oscoda	103	152	48	48	47	41	35	44	59	62	71
Otsego		14	3								
Presque Isle	34	34									
Roscommon	4	13				1	4	2	7	2	2
Wexford				2	4	2	1	1	1		
LP Total	432	502	201	200	216	167	179	200	218	196	210
MI UP Counties											
Baraga											
Chippewa											
Delta											
Luce											
Marquette											
Schoolcraft											
UP Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MI Total	432	502	201	200	216	167	179	200	218	196	210
Wisconsin											
										2	1
Ontario											
									1	1	
Quebec											
										1	
N.A. Total	432	502	201	200	216	167	179	200	219	200	211

Table 1. Census of Singing Male Kirtland's Warblers by County 1951-2008

Location	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989
MI LP Counties										
Alcona						1	1	1	6	6
Clare										
Crawford	93	72	67	72	81	80	84	66	63	55
Grand Traverse										
Iosco	3	3	1	1	3	7	3		3	8
Kalkaska	38	32	17	15	15	21	16	10	11	7
Montmorency				2	1					
Ogemaw	46	50	44	42	43	22	17	13	15	12
Oscoda	58	67	72	81	71	80	81	68	100	115
Otsego										
Presque Isle										
Roscommon	4	8	5	1	1	5	8	9	9	9
Wexford										
LP Total	242	232	206	214	215	216	210	167	207	212
MI UP Counties										
Baraga										
Chippewa										
Delta										
Luce										
Marquette			1	1						
Schoolcraft										
UP Total	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
MI Total	242	232	207	215	215	216	210	167	207	212
Wisconsin	1								8	2
Ontario						1				
Quebec										
N.A. Total	243	232	207	215	215	217	210	167	215	214



Table 1. Census of Singing Male Kirtland's Warblers by County 1951-2008

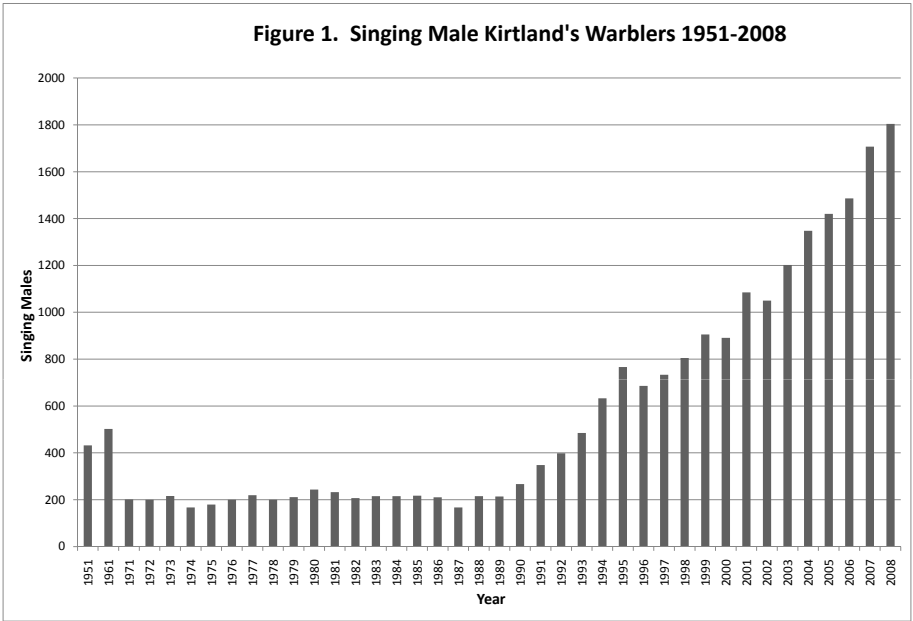
Location	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
MI LP Counties										
Alcona	4	7	8	11	23	36	41	50	68	122
Clare						2	1	5	4	4
Crawford	59	65	52	34	46	75	75	119	175	200
Grand Traverse										
Iosco	5		4	3	16	8	10	23	31	41
Kalkaska	5	7	4	4	3	1	6	23	24	28
Montmorency						4	1	2	2	1
Ogemaw	17	35	51	81	153	225	191	187	231	215
Oscoda	166	226	274	344	381	391	324	264	236	245
Otsego				3	2	14	19	26	10	22
Presque Isle										2
Roscommon	9	7	4	4	5	2	4	10	9	5
Wexford										
LP Total	265	347	397	484	631	757	671	709	790	885
MI UP Counties										
Baraga					1	1	1			
Chippewa										
Delta						4	2	4	3	3
Luce										
Marquette						1	5	8	5	12
Schoolcraft				1	1	2	6	7	6	4
UP Total	0	0	0	1	2	8	14	19	14	19
MI Total	265	347	397	485	633	765	685	728	804	904
Wisconsin	1	1	1			1	1	5	1	
Ontario	1									1
Quebec										
N.A. Total	267	348	398	485	633	766	686	733	805	905

Table 1. Census of Singing Male Kirtland's Warblers by County 1951-2008

Location	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
MI LP Counties									
Alcona	120	132	124	160	171	140	170	175	207
Clare	3	11	6	48	64	113	138	147	141
Crawford	241	266	236	209	224	227	276	290	288
Grand Traverse			1	1	1	1	2	1	2
Iosco	41	50	74	110	105	131	168	238	192
Kalkaska	32	20	23	24	19	11	4	4	10
Montmorency	2		6	7	7	14	10	14	11
Ogemaw	212	385	380	435	451	480	493	529	628
Oscoda	215	190	174	170	225	209	149	198	209
Otsego	15	9	17	3	35	47	35	43	40
Presque Isle					1			6	5
Roscommon	2	14	3	21	36	26	13	20	25
Wexford									
LP Total	883	1077	1044	1188	1339	1399	1458	1665	1758
MI UP Counties									
Baraga	2		1	1		2		1	0
Chippewa					1	2	5	8	12
Delta	4	4	3	8	3	6	7	7	10
Luce					1	4			1
Marquette	1	2	1				3	8	6
Schoolcraft	1	2	1	5	4	4	6	8	5
UP Total	8	8	6	14	9	18	21	32	34
MI Total	891	1085	1050	1202	1348	1417	1479	1697	1792
Wisconsin						3	4	8	9
Ontario							3	2	3
Quebec									
N.A. Total	891	1085	1050	1202	1348	1420	1486	1707	1804



Figure 1. Singing Male Kirtland's Warblers 1951-2008



Acknowledgements

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Seasonal Use of Snags and Downed Logs by Vertebrates in a Small Wetland in Livingston County, Michigan

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Introduction

The use of snags by vertebrates in managed and old-growth forests has received attention by foresters and biologists attempting to understand and maintain biological diversity within forested tracts (Mannan, et al. 1980, Davis, et al. 1983, Mannan and Meslow 1984). The use of similar coarse woody debris (CWD) in the form of upright snags or as downed logs within wetland ecosystems has not received attention in the Great Lakes Region or elsewhere as it contributes to the provision of wildlife habitat and seasonal use of wetland resources (Swift, Larson, et al. 1984, Craig and Barclay 1992). The composition of the vertebrate faunal community associated with wetland type and ecological variables including wetland size, proximity to roadways or other human infrastructure, and physical habitat structure remains largely unexplored. This paper describes the use of CWD classed into two types used by vertebrate species within a small, isolated wetland in an interior county of southern Michigan.

The study wetland is characterized as palustrine emergent/deciduous scrub-shrub with semi-permanent hydrology under the Cowardin classification system (Cowardin, et al. 1979). This classification system allows for the description of the dominant vegetative cover type(s), persistence of hydrology, and other geomorphological attributes in a landscape context.

Snags are generally defined as standing dead or dying trees suitable as a perch or nest site for cavity-using birds and mammals. Those portions of trees that have fallen over and lie on the ground or at the water surface are referred to as downed logs. Both snags and downed logs are classified as CWD.



Methods

A small 3.1 ac (1.25 ha) wetland (Unadilla Twp., T1N-R3E, Sec. 20) located along a paved secondary road in rural Livingston County was selected as a study site due to its accessibility, size, and abundance of snags and downed logs. The site is small enough to enable a comprehensive view of the entire wetland from a single vantage point and allows ready identification to species level of most birds observed by use of 7 X 50 binoculars or 20x spotting scope.

Avian use and abundance was determined by use of standardized 10-minute point counts, with the observer limited to an area within 10 ft of the count center point. The boundary of the wetland served as the limit of the count area (see Figure 1). Incidental bird observations (i.e., not obtained during a point count) were used only for species documentation and were not used in the calculation of any of the indices. Data collection of non-avian vertebrates was not tied to point counts and the use of observations from various locations along the roadway was used to maximize detection; therefore early morning or evening observations were used for the detection of amphibians by call counts or crepuscular activity by members of all vertebrate groups. No directed effort was undertaken (i.e. trapping) to document small mammal use, so incidental visual observations comprise the entire dataset for this group.

Two types of CWD were identified based upon biological and physical attributes. Snags are either living trees with some dead branches or dead trees in various stages of decomposition. Downed logs are those portions of dead trees that have fallen off into the water (stumps are also included in this category) and are resting upon the substrate.

Observation of use was noted for each species observed during the study and use of CWD was recorded when individuals physically intercepted the substrate. In order to characterize year-round use the observations were grouped by time of year (winter, spring, summer, and fall) based upon dates established for seasonal bird survey reports published in *North American Birds* and *Michigan Birds and Natural History*. Birds and other vertebrate species that were not observed using CWD were placed in a “use” category to capture their presence and use of the wetland. Birds, as the largest user group of the wetland and as the focal point of the point count methodology, were selected for quantitative analysis. Seasonal use of the wetland was characterized by calculating the species richness for each time period. Birds observed flying over are not included in the count totals for wetland use.

Figure 1. Aerial View of the Dexter Trail Wetland Study Area



Results

Summary of Effort

A total of 10.3 hours was spent conducting 62 point counts over the course of the study. A summary of effort by season and month is presented in Table 1. The total number of point counts conducted each year was 13 (2003), 38 (2004), and 11 (2005).

Use of Coarse Woody Debris

A total of 56 vertebrate species were observed within the confines of the wetland out of a total of 58 species recorded. Of these, 48 (84.2%) were observed to utilize snags or downed logs at least once, while nine (15.8%) were observed using wetland resources, though not CWD during the study, and two birds were seen flying overhead. The total number of species observed by group using the wetland consisted of 2 amphibians, 3 reptiles, 1 mammal, and 50 birds.

A total of 51 bird species were observed while conducting point counts, with 32 (62.7%) observed using snags and 13 (25.5%) using only downed logs, while 6 species were observed in the wetland not using CWD. Three

bird species were observed using both snags and downed logs during the study, representing 5.9% of the species recorded. Two species (3.9%) were only observed flying over the wetland— Northern Pintail (*Anas acuta*) and Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*). One additional bird species, a Cooper's Hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*), was observed as an incidental observation, landing in the wetland on 21 June 2004. A summary of the observations collected during this study is presented for mammals, reptiles, amphibians in Table 2 and birds in Table 3 (point count data only).

Seasonal Dynamics

Non-bird vertebrate use observed during the year records a seasonal shift of low diversity and numbers during the winter to increasing numbers and species during the warmer months of the year (Table 4).

Avian populations show a similar pattern (Figure 2), with species richness and relative abundance changing over the course of the year.

Discussion

The study wetland is typical of many small, isolated wetlands in southern Michigan having shallow (less than 3 feet [1.1 m] deep) ponded water, with a mixture of herbaceous vegetation in the shallow open areas, and a fringe of shrubs and trees at the margins or interspersed within the wetland. Snags, both dead trees and living trees with large dead limbs are mostly American Elm (*Ulmus americana*), Black Willow (*Salix nigra*), and Eastern Cottonwood (*Populus deltoides*); all soft-wooded species. The prevalence of standing dead snags may be the result of pond construction immediately across the road that increased the duration and depth of standing water (J. Battle, pers. comm.) in the recent past. The shrub fringe contains Gray Dogwood (*Cornus foemina*), Michigan Holly (*Ilex verticillata*), and Elderberry (*Sambucus canadensis*). The herbaceous vegetation is a mix of sedges (*Carex* spp.) and cattail (*Typha* sp.).

Use of wetland resources by wildlife in Michigan generally follows the seasonal nature of temperate climates with distinctive seasons. The trend of a decline in avian species richness has been documented for temperate wetlands by Craig and Barclay (op cit.) in Connecticut, though differences by wetland type are suspected. This seasonal reduction in species richness has also been reported for terrestrial temperate forests (Morrison, et al. 1986 and Yahner 1986). Overall species richness is influenced by the presence of both local and long-distance avian migrants and by local, resident populations of amphibians, reptiles, mammals, and birds as influenced by

the natural history traits of each particular species. The location of specific habitats required for use over an annual cycle by these species also plays a role in wetland use on a landscape level. Birds as long-distance migrants use wetland resources for shorter periods of time than do permanent residents and their presence adds to seasonal richness scores.

The numbers of individuals of each species varied seasonally, with turtles and amphibians showing pronounced periods of activity as evidenced by the total number encountered by season. Maximum counts for Painted Turtle during a single visit in spring was 15 individuals, with 6 in summer, and 4 in the fall. Likewise for Blanding's Turtle, with a maximum count of 9, 4 (two dates), and 3 for spring, summer, and fall, respectively. Amphibian calling accounted for maximum counts of single individuals for Western Chorus Frog on 3 visits, while the Green Frog ranged from 2 to 3 individuals during spring and summer on 7 visits. Since species richness scores were based upon actual observation of each species the seasonal data is biased by the methodology used. The largest single counts of turtle species occur just after ice-out in the spring, when turtles are emerging from the sediments of the wetland and are basking upon downed logs after their winter beneath the ice. Much the same can be said for the Green Frog and Western Chorus Frog. Therefore, it could be argued that the species richness scores would be relatively stable throughout the year for reptiles and amphibians if it is accepted that they are present, but not visible.

Mammal use is also likely under reported due to the methods used; as evidence of presence in the form of tracks and scat were not used in the analysis. Tracks in the mud, snow, and ice showed animals crossing, and possibly using the wetland for drinking, food, and cover during the year. When evidence in the form of road killed animals from Dexter Trail are included, an additional 4 species would be added to the species list (Eastern Cottontail (*Sylvilagus floridanus*), Raccoon (*Procyon lotor*), Virginia Opossum (*Didelphis marsupialis*), and White-tailed Deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*).

Studies of breeding bird use of wetland snags by birds is not well documented in small wetlands, though their use in larger forested wetlands (Swift, op cit.) has been included as a habitat variable and found to be significantly correlated with the feeding guild of ground and herb foragers. Of the 8 species documented nesting within the wetland during the study, 5 are previously documented as using wetlands for breeding (Brewer, et al. 1983) including Canada Goose (*Branta canadensis*), Northern Flicker (*Colaptes auratus*) in shrub wetland, Tree Swallow (*Tachycineta bicolor*) in open water, American Robin (*Turdus migratorius*) in all but open wetland, and Red-winged



Blackbird (*Agelaius phoeniceus*) in shrub and open wetland. The remaining 3 species, Red-headed Woodpecker (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*), Red-bellied Woodpecker (*M. carolinus*), and House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) are cavity nesters not noted for breeding in wetlands. The remaining species are open-cup nesters that are not dependent upon CWD for building or placement of their nests. The Tree Swallow and House Sparrow (a species that sometimes builds bulky vegetative nests when cavities are not to be had) are obligate cavity nesters that primarily depend upon the availability of cavities excavated by woodpeckers in dead wood or in artificial cavities associated with human habitation. Nesting by the Red-headed Woodpecker in wetlands is not uncommon in southern Michigan, but is quite unusual for the Red-bellied (Wolinski, pers. ob.).

Avian species use the CWD in different ways, with activities ranging from excavation and nest placement, use as perches for hunting, eating, or resting, and as foraging substrates, or as a larder site. The use of upright snags for perching by Red-tailed Hawk (*Buteo jamaciensis*) and American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius*) includes their use to observe the surrounding agricultural land for prey and for consumption of prey items that have been captured (American Kestrel). Many of the passerine species used snags as perches between feeding bouts (swallows, flycatchers, blackbirds, Cedar Waxwing (*Bombycilla cedorum*), and European Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*), or as temporary perches for preening. Bark foragers- woodpeckers and White-breasted Nuthatch (*Sitta carolinensis*), were all observed searching snags during foraging bouts. Both Red-headed and Red-bellied woodpeckers used the tops of broken snags as larder sites to cache acorns from adjacent upland oaks (*Quercus* spp.) that were retrieved over the winter months. Such larder sites may be superior to terrestrial sites as the water barrier prevents access by squirrels during periods of open water, while the open character and relative isolation from other cover while frozen may make them an unappealing destination during colder weather when ice forms. Such larder sites may also reduce raiding by other species such as Blue Jay (*Cyanocitta cristata*) and American Crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*) as they were seldom observed (or were not recorded) using wetland snags.

Avian use of downed logs was dominated by herons and waterfowl, though their actual use was somewhat different. Waterfowl used the logs as loafing sites where they rested and preened, while the herons used them as access points for foraging and secondarily for loafing. Sandhill Crane (*Grus canadensis*) use was limited to use as a loafing site. Passerine

use of downed logs was of brief duration—usually for drinking (American Goldfinch, *Carduelis pinus*) and foraging (Red-winged Blackbird and Common Grackle, *Quiscalus quisicala*).

Conclusions

Though the methodology used during this study was not optimized for the collection of behavioral data for all vertebrate groups it does illustrate the usefulness of collecting certain types of ecological data by use of standardized point counts. Longer count periods would probably have resulted in observations of CWD use of some of the species for which such use was not documented (Hooded Merganser, *Lophodytes cucullatus*). Some smaller passerine species observed on the far side of the wetland foraging in the shrub border were beyond the detection limits of the optical equipment used in the study and may have contributed a few more species to the wetland use category, though not necessarily to the use of CWD.

Observations made during this study illustrate how CWD in the form of downed logs and upright snags function within small, isolated forested wetlands in the provision of resources to vertebrate species. Their use by wildlife is varied and the specific habitat resources and opportunities they provide are often not available in terrestrial ecosystems that surround them. The provision of secure loafing, nesting, and foraging sites, and their value as over-wintering sites for amphibians and reptiles in an otherwise terrestrial landscape has the potential to increase the overall biological diversity of relatively small geographical areas. The inclusion of CWD in the design of wetland mitigation sites should increase the value of such wetlands in the replacement of wildlife functions and value and serve to increase the biological diversity where such resources are either lacking, or are in short supply, in the surrounding landscape.

Figure 2. Avian Species Richness 2003 - 2005

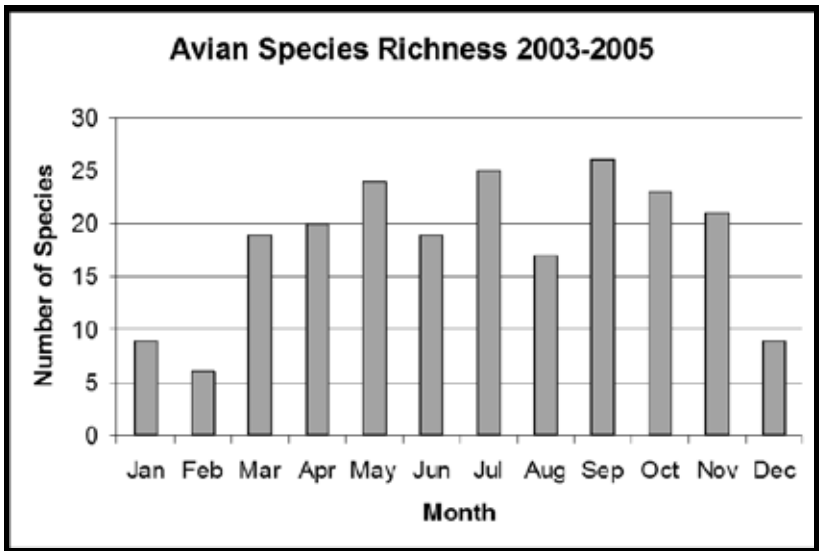


Table 1. Summary of Effort 2003-2005

TIME	Winter			Spring			Summer			Fall		
	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
Min.	70	40	50	70	40	40	40	60	30	50	30	90
Hrs	1.2	0.7	0.8	1.2	0.7	0.7	0.7	1	0.5	0.8	0.5	1.5

Table 2. Seasonal Use of Wetland and Coarse Woody Debris 2003-2005: Non-bird vertebrates

Common Name	Scientific Name	Use	Snag	DLog	Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall
MAMMALS								
Muskrat	<i>Ondatra zibethica</i>	U			U		U	
REPTILES								
Snapping Turtle	<i>Chelydra serpentina</i>			x			x	
Midland Painted Turtle	<i>Chrysemys picta picta</i>			x		x	x	x
Blanding's Turtle	<i>Emydoidea blandingi</i>			x		x	x	x
AMPHIBIANS								
Green Frog	<i>Rana calmitans</i>	U				U	U	
Western Chorus Frog	<i>Pseudacris crepitans</i>	U				U		

U= wetland use observed, but not use of CWD

X= indicates use of CWD by type and season

Table 3. Seasonal Use of Wetland and Coarse Woody Debris 2003-2005: Birds*

Common Name	Scientific Name	Use	Snag	DLog	W	S	S	F
Canada Goose**	<i>Branta canadensis</i>			x		x	x	x
Wood Duck	<i>Aix sponsa</i>			x		x	x	x
Green-winged Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>			x				
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>			x		x	x	x
Blue-winged Teal	<i>Anas bicolor</i>			x				
Bufflehead	<i>Bucephala albeola</i>	U				U		U
Hooded Merganser	<i>Mergus cucullata</i>	U				U		
Green Heron	<i>Butorides virescens</i>			x			x	
Red-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo jamaicensis</i>		X					X
American Kestrel	<i>Falco sparverius</i>		X		X			X
Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>			x		x		
Sandhill Crane	<i>Grus canadensis</i>			x				x
Mourning Dove	<i>Zenaida macroura</i>		X			X	X	X
Belted Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle alcyon</i>		X			X	X	
Red-headed Woodpecker**	<i>Melanerpes erythrocephalus</i>		X		X	X	X	X
Red-bellied Woodpecker**	<i>Melanerpes carolinus</i>		X		X	X	X	X
Downy Woodpecker	<i>Picoides pubescens</i>		X		X	X	X	X
Hairy Woodpecker	<i>Picoides villosus</i>		X		X	X		X
Northern Flicker	<i>Colaptes auratus</i>		X		X	X	X	X
Eastern Phoebe	<i>Sayornis phoebe</i>		X					X
Eastern Kingbird	<i>Tryannus tyrannus</i>		X				X	
Blue Jay	<i>Cyanocitta cristata</i>		X			X		X
American Crow	<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>		X		X	X		X
Warbling Vireo	<i>Vireo gilvus</i>		X			X		
Cedar Waxwing	<i>Bombycilla cedorum</i>		X		X		X	X
Eastern Bluebird	<i>Sialia sialis</i>		X		X			X
American Robin**	<i>Turdus migratorius</i>		X			X	X	
Gray Catbird	<i>Dumetella carolinana</i>	U						U
Brown Thrasher	<i>Toxostoma rufum</i>	U						U
European Starling**	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>		X		X	X	X	X
White-breasted Nuthatch	<i>Sitta carolinensis</i>		X					X
Tree Swallow**	<i>Tachycineta bicolor</i>		X			X	X	
N. Rough-wing. Swallow	<i>Stelgidopteryx serripennis</i>					X		
Bank Swallow	<i>Riparia riparia</i>		X			X		
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>		X			X	X	
Black-capped Chickadee	<i>Poecile atricapillus</i>		X					X
Tufted Titmouse	<i>Baeolophus bicolor</i>		X	x				X
House Sparrow**	<i>Passer domesticus</i>		X			X	X	X
American Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis tristis</i>		X	x			Xx	X
House Finch	<i>Carpodacus mexicanus</i>		X			X	X	X
Yellow Warbler	<i>Dendroica petechia</i>			x		x		
Yellow-rumped Warbler	<i>Dendroica coronata</i>							Xx
Common Yellowthroat	<i>Geothlypis trichas</i>	U						U
Song Sparrow	<i>Melospiza melodia</i>		X				X	
Northern Cardinal	<i>Cardinalis cardinalis</i>	U				U		U
Red-winged Blackbird**	<i>Agelaius phoeniceus</i>		X	x		Xx	Xx	X
Common Grackle	<i>Quiscalus quisculas</i>		X	x	X	Xx	X	X
Rusty Blackbird	<i>Euphagus carolinus</i>		X					X
Brown-headed Cowbird	<i>Molothrus ater</i>		X			X		X
Totals	49	6	32	13	11	29	26	31

*Based upon point count data only

**Nesting documented

U= wetland use observed, but not use of CWD

X= indicates use of CWD by type and season



Table 4. Non-bird Vertebrate Use (number of individuals) by Season 2003- 2005

Common Name	Scientific Name	Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall
MAMMALS					
Muskrat	<i>Ondatra zibethica</i>	1	0	1	1
REPTILES					
Snapping Turtle	<i>Chelydra serpentina</i>	0	0	1	0
Painted Turtle	<i>Chrysemys picta picta</i>	0	60	32	15
Blanding's Turtle	<i>Emydoidea blandingi</i>	0	27	14	6
AMPHIBIANS					
Green Frog	<i>Rana calmitans</i>	0	3	14	0
Western Chorus Frog	<i>Pseudacris crepitans</i>	0	3	0	0
Number of Species		1	4	5	3

Acknowledgements

My thanks to Steve Fowler for assistance in the preparation of Figure 1.

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Michigan Bird Survey: Summer 2008 (1 June - 31 July)

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A total of 262 species was documented in Michigan in Summer 2008. Additionally, one hybrid form and one released exotic are mentioned below. Observations in one form or another were received from 140 observers. Coverage in the state was somewhat uneven, with the Upper Peninsula, the southern Lower Peninsula, and the Saginaw Bay area receiving the most thorough coverage.

June brought above normal precipitation in most of the state, except in the western Lower Peninsula. Rainfall was more than 150% above normal in most of the Upper Peninsula. Temperatures were slightly above normal in June, except in the western Upper Peninsula. Temperatures were slightly below normal in July, with precipitation slightly above normal except in some northern areas.

Waterfowl numbers of both common and scarcer species were generally unremarkable.

Black-necked Stilts nested in Michigan yet again, this year at Pointe Mouillee State Game Area, Monroe County. Piping Plover fared well in spite of some rough weather. Migrant shorebirds were mostly seen in expected numbers and dates, except in the Upper Peninsula, where high water levels kept stopover habitat to a minimum. Yellow Rails made a strong showing at Seney National Wildlife Refuge, Schoolcraft County, after last year's discouraging near-absence. A King Rail was photographed north of normal, along the Bay/Arenac County line, but none were found further to the south.

A number of northerly flycatcher and warbler species were seen migrating in early June, as was expected with the late arrival of spring.

Kirtland's Warblers had another record-breaking year. Of course, we know that their numbers, like the stock market, cannot keep going up indefinitely. As the acreage of suitable habitat in the Lower Peninsula certainly must

be approaching its peak, it is encouraging to see this species possibly becoming established in the Upper Peninsula.

The most noteworthy influx of the summer may have been that of White-winged Crossbills, which were found in impressive numbers throughout the Upper Peninsula, with some reaching the Northern Lower Peninsula.

The most outstanding rarities were the state's 4th record of Heermann's Gull, its 3rd record of Green Violetear, and 10th record of Northern Wheatear. Other rarities included Pacific Loon (continuing from spring), Little Blue Heron, both Marbled and Hudsonian Godwits, Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, Western Kingbird, and Lark Sparrow. Out-of-season birds included Snow Goose, White-winged Scoter, and Orange-crowned Warbler.

Species not recorded included Buff-breasted Sandpiper, Worm-eating Warbler, and Summer Tanager.

I thank everyone who sent in their individual sightings, David J. Peters for compiling Saginaw Bay Area sightings, Jonathan T. Wuepper for compiling Berrien County sightings, Adam M. Byrne and Allen T. Chartier for reviewing the manuscript, and Skye Haas for compiling and reviewing Upper Peninsula data.

Abbreviations (County names are in *italics*):

ad(s). = adult(s)

ASGA = Allegan State Game Area, *Allegan*

DNR = Department of Natural Resources

FFM = First Fall Migrant

HRT = Highest Reported Total

imm(s). = immature(s)

juv(s). = juvenile(s)

LP = Lower Peninsula

LSM = Last Spring Migrant

MBRC = Michigan Bird Records Committee

m.ob. = many observers

MWS = Muskegon Wastewater System, *Muskegon*

NLP = Northern Lower Peninsula (counties including and to the north of *Oceana* in the west to *Bay* in the east, excluding the Thumb)

NWR = National Wildlife Refuge

p.a. = pending acceptance (by Michigan Bird Records Committee)

PM = Point Mouillee State Game Area, *Monroe*

SGA = State Game Area



SLP = Southern Lower Peninsula (counties including and to the south of *Huron, Kent, Gratiot, Montcalm, Muskegon, Saginaw, and Tuscola*)

SNWR = Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge, *Saginaw*

SP = State Park

TP = Through Period

Twp. = Township

UP = Upper Peninsula

WP = Whitefish Point, *Chippewa*

Numbers in parentheses following each species name refer to the number of counties reporting from the UP, NLP, and SLP, respectively. If a species was reported from all 83 counties, the numbers would be (15,33,35). Species that are accidental, casual, or otherwise noteworthy are in all CAPS.

SPECIES ACCOUNTS

SNOW GOOSE (0,0,1) One “blue” morph found 28 Jun at the Galien sewage ponds, *Berrien* (JTW,TBa) remained TP. Very unusual for the summer.

Canada Goose (12,16,29) HRT – 320 on 20 Jul at PM (AMB). Another high count was 217 on 17 Jul at SNWR (DJP).

Mute Swan (5,10,24) HRT – 330 on 25 Jun at Sunshine Point DNR access site, *Macomb* (ATC). UP sightings were all near Lake Michigan except for one at *Marquette, Marquette*, where the species has not been recorded in 10 years (SkH).

Trumpeter Swan (4,3,1) Remains established at Seney NWR, *Schoolcraft*, where the species had a “fair year”: 236 birds were present during the summer, and a

total of 90 cygnets hatched out of 33 nests observed (DO). Bred at Tuttle Marsh, *Iosco* (MSJ). Other sightings in the Saginaw Bay area included 7 on 11 Jul along the Lake Huron shoreline in *Iosco* (RE). Other counties reporting were *Alger, Bay, Delta, Kalkaska, and Saginaw*.

Wood Duck (12,13,23) Widespread statewide. HRT – 172 on 20 Jun at PM (AMB). Another high count was 129 on 17 Jul at SNWR (DJP).

Gadwall (1,1,3) Hens with ducklings noted on 19 Jun at SNWR (DJP), and on 20 Jul at Sugar Island, *Chippewa* (LJD). HRT – 15 on 27 Jul at MWS (ATC). Also noted in *Midland*.

American Wigeon (2,1,2) HRT – 6 on 28 Jun at PM (AMB). Four on 27 Jul at MWS (ATC). One on 10 Jul at the Dow ponds, *Midland* (RD).

American Black Duck (8,1,5) Widespread, but in small numbers; only NLP county reporting was Wexford. HRT – 5 on 28 Jun at PM (AMB) and on 25 Jul at SNWR (SG).

Mallard (12,19,26) HRT – 725 on 20 Jun at PM (AMB), 350 on 27 Jul at MWS (ATC), and 245 on 26 Jun at SNWR (DJP).

Blue-winged Teal (9,1,6) HRT – 200 on 27 Jul at MWS (ATC). The high count at PM was just 22 on 28 Jun (AMB). Other LP reports came from Arenac, Gratiot, Hillsdale, Macomb, and Saginaw.

Northern Shoveler (1,1,4) HRT – 10 on 27 Jul at MWS (ATC). Other reports came from Chippewa, Midland (3 on 18 Jul at the Dow ponds, MKE), Monroe (with a peak of 5 at PM on 28 Jun, AMB), Saginaw (4 on 10 Jun at SNWRA, DJP), and Wayne (4 on 27 Jul, WGP).

Green-winged Teal (5,4,4) HRT – 49 at both PM on 20 Jul (AMB) and SNWR on 26 Jun (DJP). FFM in Berrien was 1 on 27 Jul (JTW).

Canvasback (1,0,2) All reports were of single birds except for 2 on 4 Jul at PM (AMB). Mackinac and Muskegon provided the other sightings.

Redhead (2,2,3) HRT – 73 on 20 Jun at PM (AMB). 12 on 6 Jun at Crow Island SGA, Saginaw (JS). Single birds reported from Au Train

Lake, Alger on 13 Jun (SCH) and Bay City SRA on 14 Jul (GP, EP).

Ring-necked Duck (8,1,1) The SLP report was of a male on 6 Jun at Crow Island SGA, Saginaw (JS). The NLP report was of 4 on 21 Jun at the Ludington sewage ponds, Mason (DCD). Widespread in the UP.

Greater Scaup (0,0,1) Reported from PM (TW).

Lesser Scaup (4,1,3) HRT – 8 on 20 Jun at PM (AMB). 4 on 10 Jul at the Dow ponds, Midland (RD). Two on 8 Jun at Marquette, Marquette (SkH). Other reports were of single birds from Mackinac, Muskegon (27 Jul at MWS, ATC), and Wayne (8 Jun at Willow Metropark, WGP).

WHITE-WINGED SCOTER (2,0,0) One male on 18 Jul in Houghton (JK). Two stopped in at the Dollarville flooding, Luce on 29 Jun (AV, MOV).

Bufflehead (2,0,2) Two sightings in SLP, where unusual in the summer: 1 on 20 Jun at PM (AMB) and 1 on 6 Jun at Crow Island SGA, Saginaw (JS). Two UP reports: 1 female continued from spring until 17 Jun at Presque Isle Park, Marquette (SkH) and 1 at the Baraga sewage ponds, Baraga on 13 Jul (JY).

Common Goldeneye (8,1,0) 1 on 18 & 29 Jul at the Dow ponds, Midland was unusually far south for the season (MKE). Nesting was confirmed in Luce and Menominee.



Hooded Merganser (11,6,9)
Nesting noted in *Eaton* (RCF), and *Manistee* (AVP). The highest number at PM was 5 on 20 Jul (AMB).

Common Merganser (13,5,3) SLP reports (unusual in the summer) included a male on 28 Jun at PM (AMB), 1 female on 10 & 19 Jun at Kensington Metropark, *Oakland* (RWH). Also reported from *Saginaw*. NLP reports extended as far south as *Grand Traverse* and *Iosco*.

Red-breasted Merganser (7,5,0)
NLP reports came from *Alcona*, *Alpena*, *Emmet*, *Iosco* and *Mason*.

Ruddy Duck (1,1,5) HRT – 250 on 27 Jul at MWS (ATC). The UP report was of 9 on 13 Jun at the Baraga sewage ponds, *Baraga*. The NLP reports were of 8 on 10 Jul at the Dow ponds, *Midland* (RD) and 1 on 21 Jun at the Ludington sewage ponds, *Mason* (CDC).

Ring-necked Pheasant (2,7,28)
Widespread nesting reported from SLP and north to *Isabella*, *Mecosta*, and *Osceola* (MP). UP reports came from expected *Delta* and *Menominee* sites.

Ruffed Grouse (12,6,3) Reported south to *Kalamazoo*, *Saginaw*, and *Tuscola*.

Spruce Grouse (6,0,0) Reported from *Baraga*, *Chippewa*, *Delta*, *Luce*, *Marquette*, and *Schoolcraft*.

Sharp-tailed Grouse (4,0,0)
Reported from *Alger*, *Chippewa*, *Delta*, and *Schoolcraft*.

Wild Turkey (7,18,24) Remains widespread, including areas of the UP where formerly considered a novelty.

Northern Bobwhite (0,1,5) The NLP report was from Pinconning Twp., *Bay* (DJ). In SLP, reported only from *Calhoun*, *Hillsdale*, *Lenawee*, *Macomb*, and *St. Clair*. Jack Reinoehl's comment "scarce everywhere" sums up this species' status this season.

Red-throated Loon (1,0,0) One from the spring at Marquette's upper harbor, *Marquette* was seen again on 2 Jun (ARL).

PACIFIC LOON (1,0,0) The bird from May in *Marquette* (accepted by MBRC) was seen again on 2 Jun (ARL).

Common Loon (11,9,0) Reported south to *Iosco*, *Lake*, and *Missaukee*.

Pied-billed Grebe (9,5,12) HRT – 217 on 20 Jul at PM (AMB).

Horned Grebe (1,0,0) Two birds lingered until 4 Jun at Lake Ottawa, *Iron* (GC).

Red-necked Grebe (1,0,0)
Noteworthy, though now expected, was a confirmed nesting in *Delta* (SkH, RR).

EARED GREBE (0,0,2) A bird that abandoned a nest in May at Crow Island, *Saginaw*, was seen through 10 Jun (MyW, JZ). Also 1 on 23 Jul at MWS (BJ).

American White Pelican (7,0,1) Most reports were from the western UP, with flocks of over 20 birds reported from *Baraga*, *Delta*, *Houghton*, and *Marquette*. Also reported from *Iron* and *Mackinac*. HRT – 80 on 11 Jun in *Menominee* (SkH). The SLP report was 1 on 16-19 Jun at SNWR (KK, DJP).

Double-crested Cormorant (10,8,12) A total of 371 nests were visible from the mainland on 15 Jun in *Pere Marquette Twp.*, *Mason* (DCD). The highest count at PM was 43 on 20 Jul (AMB).

American Bittern (9,5,3) Reported from all eastern UP counties, west to *Marquette* and *Menominee*, and also in *Ontonagon*. NLP reports were all from counties along *Lake Huron*, and in *Midland*. SLP reports came from *Jackson* (1 on 13 Jul, SS), *Lapeer*, and *Saginaw*.

Least Bittern (2,2,4) Heard at *Dollarville Flooding*, *Luce* on 7 Jun (LC) and 3 Jul (JR). NLP reports came from *Bay* and *Midland*. SLP reports came from *Berrien*, *Cass*, *Monroe*, and *Saginaw*.

Great Blue Heron (12,16,28) HRT – 238 on 20 Jun at PM (AMB).

Great Egret (1,4,15) The only UP report was from *Menominee*; the lack of reports from *Delta* was notable. NLP reports came from *Arenac*, *Bay*, *Iosco*, and *Midland*. HRT – 373 on 20 Jun at PM (AMB). Another high count was 144 on 17 Jul at SNWR (DJP).

Snowy Egret (0,1,2) Northernmost was 1 on 31 Jul along the northern *Bay* border (DJ). Sightings on 2 & 17 Jul at SNWR (DJP, JSo, BG) were believed to be likely the same bird. Also reported from *Monroe*.

LITTLE BLUE HERON (0,1,0) One on 14 Jun and 9 Jul at a *Great Egret* and *Black-crowned Night-Heron* rookery, *Bay* appeared to be “holding territory”, though no mate was evident on either visit (MyW)

Green Heron (5,13,28) HRT – 9 on 24 Jul at SNWR (DJP). Confirmed nesting in *Barry* (RLL).

Black-crowned Night Heron (2,2,5) UP reports were near *Lake Michigan* in *Menominee* and *Schoolcraft*. NLP reports were from *Bay* and *Midland*. SLP reports were from *Huron*, *Monroe*, *Oakland*, *Saginaw*, and *Wayne*. HRT – 129 on 20 Jun at PM (AMB).

Turkey Vulture (13,20,29) Widespread, mostly reported without comment.

Osprey (9,7,9) “Seen at 2 sites in *Hillsdale* for the first time in summer” (JR).



Bald Eagle (13,14,11) Widely reported, mostly without comment, a sign of the species' recovery in the state.

Northern Harrier (9,6,7) Widespread in eastern UP. LP reports from every corner, but concentrated in Saginaw Bay area.

Sharp-shinned Hawk (8,3,6) Reported south to *Calhoun* and *Wayne* in the SLP.

Cooper's Hawk (7,6,18) Widespread, commonest in SLP.

Northern Goshawk (4,1,0) Scarce. Birds along the Lake Superior shore on 1 Jun at Shelter Bay, *Alger* (SCH) and *WP* (JR) may have been late migrants. Also reported from *Mackinac* and *Marquette*. The only NLP location was in *Manistee* (CMS).

Red-shouldered Hawk (8,6,8) Reports concentrated in eastern and central UP, eastern and northern NLP, and southern SLP.

Broad-winged Hawk (12,7,6) The migrant concentration point of Port Crescent SP, *Huron* produced 2 imms. on 27 Jun (MKE). Other SLP reports came from *Berrien*, *Calhoun*, *Macomb*, *Saginaw*, and *Van Buren*.

Red-tailed Hawk (10,15,27) Widely reported. HRT – 10 on 24 Jul at SNWR (DJP).

Rough-legged Hawk (1,0,0) A late spring migrant on 3 Jun at Manitou Island, *Keweenaw* (JK).

American Kestrel (10,12,19) Possibly becoming more scarce, though widely reported.

Merlin (12,4,1) Nesting noted south to *Iosco* (RE) and *Oceana* (ATC). The unusual *Monroe* report was of 1 on 18 Jun in Berlin Twp. (WGP).

Peregrine Falcon (1,0,1) The only reports submitted to the compiler were from *Marquette* and *Wayne*. Several urban centers in the SLP have documented nesting of this species; the author apologizes for not seeking out these reports in time to include in this survey.

Yellow Rail (1,0,0) After poor showings in recent years, this species rebounded at *Seney NWR*, *Schoolcraft*, where at least 30 birds were present (*fide* SkH).

KING RAIL (0,2,0) Unusually far north was one that cooperated nicely for photographs in *Bay* on 27 Jun (DJ). To make even more of an impression, this bird made a point of crossing the line into *Arenac*, for a first county record. Accepted by MBRC.

Virginia Rail (4,2,8) UP reports came from *Alger*, *Delta*, *Menominee*, and *Schoolcraft*. NLP reports came from *Bay* and *Iosco*.

Sora (7,3,4) Few reports received, most widespread in eastern and central UP.

Common Moorhen (0,2,5) HRT – 27 on 17 Jul at SNWR (DJP). NLP reports came from Bay and Gladwin.

American Coot (1,3,9) HRT – 291 on 20 Jul at PM (AMB). North of SLP, the only reports were from Arenac, Cheboygan, Delta, and Midland.

Sandhill Crane (13,15,25) Holding its own, with reports from all parts of the state. HRT – 85 on 17 Jul at Wigwam Bay, Arenac (DJ).

Black-bellied Plover (2,0,0) Reported only from Alger and Chippewa.

American Golden Plover (0,0,1) One on 26 Jul at PM (TW).

Semipalmated Plover (2,3,7) One on the somewhat unusual date of 20 Jun at PM appeared to be injured (AMB). Other reports on more expected dates (early Jun & late Jul) scattered throughout state.

Piping Plover (4,6,1) A total of 52 pairs fledged 102 chicks in Michigan, with an additional 28 chicks released by a captive-rearing program. Either flooding or predation prevented three pairs at Escanaba, Delta from successfully producing young, but chicks fledged from five other UP locations, the most productive area being Grand Marais, Alger, where 4 pairs fledged 10 young. All other UP locations were along the Lake

Michigan shores of Delta, Mackinac, and Schoolcraft. In the NLP, a pair nested on the 5th Avenue beach at Manistee, Manistee for the first time, fledging 4 chicks. At Ludington SP, Mason, 4 pairs produced six nests and fledged 9 chicks, in spite of “horrendous flooding” in the park. Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore, in Benzie and Leelanau hosted 22 pairs that fledged 55 chicks. Emmet had 5 pairs that fledged 11 chicks (most from Cross Village & Bliss Twps., but only 1 pair from Wilderness SP). No nesting occurred at Beaver, Fox, or High Islands (the *Great Lakes Piping Plover Call* [University of Minnesota, 17 Sep 2008, Erin Roche, Ed.]). Other sightings include 1 ad. on 14 Jul at St. Joseph, Berrien (MH), 1 on 21 Jun at Tawas Point SP, Iosco (DD), and 1 on 28 Jul along the Lake Huron shore of Iosco (RE).

Killdeer (12, 18,31) HRT – 177 on 31 Jul at SNWR (DJP). Another notable number was 173 on 28 Jun at PM (AMB).

BLACK-NECKED STILT (0,0,1) A pair nested at PM, where they nested two years ago, with 4 young observed on 20 Jul (AMB).

American Avocet (0,1,3) One on 11 Jun at the Dow ponds, Midland (JZ, MKE, DMc); 1 on 28 Jun at PM (AMB); and 2 on 26 Jul in Covert Twp., Van Buren (JTW). All other reports came from Berrien, where it



is more or less expected, including 2 on 13 Jul at St. Joseph (TBa); another was spotted the same day at Warren Dunes SP (MK); finally one was at Benton Harbor on 26 Jul (MMa, JTW).

Spotted Sandpiper (11,10,15)
HRT – 55 on 20 Jul at PM (AMB).
Another high count was 40 on 27 Jul at MWS (ATC).

Solitary Sandpiper (1,3,10) FFM – 1 on 10 Jul in Alger (SCH). HRT – 16 on 30 Jul at Carleton Farms, Wayne (WGP).

Greater Yellowlegs (5,2,6) The only Jun reports were from PM: 1 on 20 Jun and 2 on 28 Jun (AMB). HRT – 35 on 15 Jul at Jean Klock Park, Benton Harbor, Berrien (MH).

Willet (0,0,2) One on 20 Jun at PM (AMB). Several sightings in Berrien, including at least 12 on 12 Jul at St. Joseph (MO).



This group of Willets was at Tiscornia Beach, Berrien County in June 2008.
Photo by Tim Baerwald.

Lesser Yellowlegs (6,5,8) The only Jun report was of 6 on 28

Jun at PM (AMB), which probably represents early fall migrants. Two records on 4 Jul (2 in Wexford, CMS; and 6 at PM, AMB).

Appeared as far south as Hillsdale on 9 Jul (JR), and by the last third of the month was widespread and numerous. HRT – 98 on 17 Jul at SNWR (DJP)

Upland Sandpiper (7,10,3) HRT – 14 on 24 Jul at MWS (BJ, CWe). An ad. with 2 fledglings on 15 Jun confirmed nesting at Willow Run Airport, Washtenaw (MSJ). Other SLP reports came from Huron and Muskegon.

Whimbrel (1,1,1) More unusual was one a bit late, and further west than regularly seen in the LP, on 20 Jun at MWS (CF). One at Eagle Harbor, Keweenaw on 31 Jul may have been a fall migrant (MR).

Hudsonian Godwit (1,0,0) One on Manitou Island, Keweenaw on 1 Jun (JK).

Marbled Godwit (2,0,2) The 5-6 reported over the season were more than usual. Late spring migrants were 1 on 1 Jun (continuing from the spring) at Portage Marsh, Delta (LJ), and 1 on 14 Jun at Grand Marais, Alger (JC). Jul sightings (presumed fall migrants) were 1 on 12 Jul (TBa) and 2 on 13 Jul at St. Joseph, Berrien; and 1 on 25 Jul at PM (KO).

Ruddy Turnstone (0,2,0) 2 on 1 Jun at Tawas Point SP (SS, DF) and 1 on 11 Jun at the Dow ponds, *Midland*, (JZ, DMc).

Sanderling (4,1,1) HRT – 180 on 1 Jun at AuGres, *Arenac* (RE) was a remarkable concentration.

Semipalmated Sandpiper (3,3,6) HRT – 44 on 5 Jun at SNWR (DJP). A sighting of 3 on 20 Jun at PM (AMB) might represent southbound or wandering birds rather than late spring migrants. Other earlier Jun sightings came from *Chippewa*, *Hillsdale*, *Monroe*, and *Wexford*. A notable Jul sighting was 24 on 20 Jul at PM (AMB).

Least Sandpiper (4,4,8) FFM – 9 on 28 Jun at PM (AMB). HRT – 92 on 17 Jul at SNWR (DJP).

White-rumped Sandpiper (2,2,2) HRT – 16 on 5 Jun at SNWR (DJP). All other reports of 1-2 birds from 1-28 Jun.

Baird's Sandpiper (2,1,0) Reported only from *Alger*, *Marquette*, and *Roscommon*.

Pectoral Sandpiper (1,1,6) LSM – 1 on 1 Jun in *Wexford* (CMS). FFM – 2 on 17 Jul at SNWR (DJP). HRT – 19 on 27 Jul at Carleton Farms, *Wayne* (WGP).

Dunlin (2,5,5) HRT – 210 on 1 Jun at AuGres, *Arenac* (RE). All other reports of 4 or fewer birds, most in the first and last weeks of Jun. The

only Jul report was 1 on 20 Jul at PM (AMB).

Stilt Sandpiper (0,1,3) Considered very early were 2 on 3 Jul at SNWR, where the HRT was 9 on 24 Jul (both DJP). Also reported from *Monroe*, *Roscommon*, and *Wayne*.

Short-billed Dowitcher (0,3,4) A count of 41 on 4 Jul at PM (AMB) was both the FFM and HRT.

Long-billed Dowitcher (0,0,1) One calling ad. on 20 Jul at PM (AMB).

Wilson's Snipe (9,5,2) Scarce in SLP, where reported from only *Monroe* and *Saginaw*.

American Woodcock (5,5,3) Reported from *Berrien*, *Hillsdale*, and *Kalamazoo* in the SLP.

Wilson's Phalarope (0,1,1) A male seen on 4 Jun in *Alpena* may have indicated possible breeding, but was not relocated (LJD). FFM – 1 on 10 Jul at SNWR (DJP).

Red-necked Phalarope (0,0,2) Two reports on 24 Jul: 1 at PM (DF) and a molting ad. male at MWS (BJ, CWe).

Bonaparte's Gull (2,2,4) HRT – 26 on 7 Jun at Pinconning Park, *Bay* (GP, MyW). Other reports scattered throughout the summer, including 9 on 11 Jun at ASGA (RGS), 13 on 24 Jul (BJ, CWe), 15 on 27 Jul (ATC) at MWS, and 1-15 on several dates at PM (AMB).



FRANKLIN'S GULL (0,1,0) An ad. on 7 Jun at Pinconning Park, Bay (GP).

HEERMANN'S GULL (1,0,0) An outstanding find was a juv./first cycle bird on 18 Jul standing with Ring-billed Gulls on the beach at Chassel, Houghton (JY). Accepted by MBRC as Michigan's 4th record (though likely only the second individual documented in the state, since the first three records almost surely refer to one bird that visited the same location for three winters).



Only the second Heerman's Gull to ever visit Michigan, this juvenile turned up in Houghton Co. on 18 July 2008. Photo by Joe Youngman.

Ring-billed Gull (12,20,26) Widespread and numerous. HRT – 983 on 20 Jun at PM (AMB).

Herring Gull (11,10,11) SLP reports were concentrated in the east, but also seen in *Berrien* and *Muskegon*. A total of 30 nests were counted atop flat roofs of Consumers Power buildings in Pere Marquette Twp., Mason (DCD). HRT – 181 on 20 Jul at PM (AMB).

Great Black-backed Gull (0,0,1) One TP at Lake Erie Metropark, Wayne (WGP) was the only report.

Caspian Tern (6,11,10) Most UP reports were near expected Lake Michigan sites; 1 on 26 Jun at Chassel, Houghton was unusual (JY). HRT – 164 on 20 Jul at PM (AMB).

Black Tern (4,4,4) Notably widespread and reported in good numbers statewide. HRT – 100+ on 24 Jun at Wigwam Bay, Arenac (DJ).

Common Tern (6,7,6) Nested at the Dow ponds, Midland, possibly for the first time since the late 1990's (JZ). HRT – 80 on 28 Jun at PM (AMB).

Forster's Tern (2,5,7) Most LP reports near the shores of Lakes Huron, St. Clair, and Erie, but also in *Berrien*, *Midland*, and *Saginaw*. UP reports came from *Chippewa* and *Delta*. HRT – 187 on 20 Jun at PM (AMB).

Rock Pigeon (11,13,26) Widespread, especially in SLP.

Mourning Dove (13,21,31) Widespread and common.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo (2,14,24) Numerous in SLP. Widespread in NLP north to *Alpena* and *Antrim*. UP reports came from only *Menominee* and *Schoolcraft*.

Black-billed Cuckoo (11,13,11) Many did not arrive on territory in the UP until mid-Jun (SkH). Somewhat scarce through much of state, though noted in good

numbers in the western UP counties of Gogebic and Ontonagon, where there was a notable tent caterpillar outbreak (RR).

Eastern Screech-Owl (0,1,7) Nesting noted in *St. Clair* (REE). The only NLP report was from *Midland*.

Great Horned Owl (4,0,8) UP reports came from *Delta*, *Keweenaw*, *Marquette*, and *Schoolcraft*. SLP reports came from *Allegan*, *Berrien*, *Lapeer*, *Livingston*, *Monroe*, *Oakland*, *Saginaw*, and *Van Buren*.

Barred Owl (10,7,4) An ad. with 2 well-grown young on 1 Jul in *Bay* confirmed breeding there (DJ, MyW). SLP counties reporting were *Barry*, *Berrien*, *Ingham*, and *Kalamazoo*.

Northern Saw-whet Owl (1,0,0) Reported only from WP, where numbers banded in Jun were considered low (CNe).

Common Nighthawk (7,8,7) Nested at *Ferndale*, *Oakland* (SAJ). Not reported as numerous anywhere.

CHUCK-WILL'S-WIDOW (0,0,1) For the 4th consecutive summer, one was present in *Berrien Twp.*, *Berrien* (MB); it was last heard on 5 Jul.

Whip-poor-will (7,5,4) SLP reports came from *Berrien*, *Huron* (1 on 26 Jun at Port Crescent SP, MKE), *Kalamazoo*, and *Washtenaw* (1 on 20 Jun along Sylvan Road, MSJ).

Chimney Swift (12,16,26) Widespread. HRT – 83 on 19 Jun at SNWR (DJP).

GREEN VIOLETEAR (1,0,0) One on 5-6 Jul at Shelter Bay, *Alger* (SCH) was accepted by MBRC as the 3rd state record.



Michigan's third Green Violetear turned up at Shelter Bay, *Alger* Co. but as is typical for the species its stay was short. Photo on 6 July 2008 by Kirk Zufelt.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird (13,19,26) Widespread. HRT – 85 on 30 Jun in *Calhoun* was the result of a concentrated effort by ATC.

Belted Kingfisher (12,18,24) Widespread.

Red-headed Woodpecker (3,7,14) Most numerous in southern half of SLP. Nesting noted near *Olivet*, *Eaton* (RCF), *Iosco* (a pair with 1 nestling on 19 Jul, RE), and on a golf course in *St. Clair* (HJD). Reported north to *Cheboygan* and *Emmet* in NLP. UP reports came from *Alger*, *Delta*, and *Menominee* (where several were present in the Shakey Lakes area, SkH).



Red-bellied Woodpecker (5,14,30)

For the 2nd summer in a row, reported in more UP counties than Red-headed Woodpecker (these being *Alger, Delta, Mackinac, Marquette, and Menominee*). Widespread in SLP and north to *Cheboygan* in NLP.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (12, 18,2) Notably far south was a nest in *Albee Twp., Saginaw* (JSo). Also reported from *Tuscola* in SLP. Widespread in UP and NLP south to *Bay, Clare, Lake, and Midland*.

Downy Woodpecker (12,18,31)
Widespread and common.

Hairy Woodpecker (12,15,25)
Widespread and common.

Black-backed Woodpecker (8,0,0)
Joe Youngman provides this remarkable account from *Baraga*: "I found 21 nests in approximately 400 acres. Seven were in a 45 acre stand of burned jack pine. Three nests seemed to fail. The remaining 18 nests reached the stage of noisy, large young birds poking their heads out from cavities. In each case the next visit to the nest found it empty." Breeding also reported from the *Sleeper Lake* burn, *Luce, and Marquette*. Also reported from *Chippewa, Delta, Gogebic, Keweenaw, and Schoolcraft*.

Northern Flicker (13,21,29)
Widespread and common.

Pileated Woodpecker (12,15,15) In SLP, most numerous in southwest, but reported east to *Lapeer, Oakland, and St. Clair* as well. Widespread in NLP and UP.

Olive-sided Flycatcher (7,2,2)
One on 1 Jun near *Trout Lake, Chippewa* may have already been on territory (JR), but 1 on 2 Jun at *Warren Dunes SP, Berrien* (JSh) and 1 on 4 Jun in *Midland* (JZ) were late migrants. FFM – 1 on 24 Jul in *Hebron Twp., Wayne* (WGP).

Eastern Wood-Pewee (12,18,30)
Widespread and common.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher (10,1,1)
A notable concentration of 50-60 late migrants on 2 Jun at *Manitou Island, Keweenaw* (JY, ZG). Also notable were 10+ on 3 Jun at *Presque Isle Park, Marquette* (SkH). Late migrants in the LP were 1 on 4 Jun and another on 5 Jun in *Wayne* (WGP) and 2 on 3 Jun in *Alcona* (LJD).

Acadian Flycatcher (0,0,20)
Reported north to *Gratiot* (1 on 18 Jul at *Gratiot-Saginaw SGA, JR*), *Huron* (2 on 26 Jun along *Loosemore Road, MKE, Kent, and Tuscola* (2 on 8 Jun at *Murphy Lake SGA, SG, LA*).

Alder Flycatcher (7,10,11) Many migrants still heading north in Jun in UP, with a concentration of 20+ on 3 Jun at *Presque Isle Park, Marquette* (SkH).

Willow Flycatcher (2,9,24) Most common in southern half of SLP. A nest with 3 nestlings was found on 29 Jun in Newaygo (SAJ). Reported north to *Emmet* and *Presque Isle* in NLP. UP reports came from *Delta* and *Menominee*.

Least Flycatcher (13,15,18) A notable concentration of 20-30 late migrants on 2 Jun at Manitou Island, *Keweenaw* (JY, ZG). Widely reported through the summer statewide.

Eastern Phoebe (12,16,25) Widespread.

Great Crested Flycatcher (12,18,27) Widespread and common.

WESTERN KINGBIRD (1,0,1) One on 2 Jun at WP (*vide* CNe). Another was well-documented on 11 Jun at Crosswinds Marsh, *Monroe* (WGP).

Eastern Kingbird (12,20,32) Widespread and common.

SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER (1,0,0) One on 2-3 Jun near Paradise, *Chippewa*: discovered at the Whitefish Point Harbor of Refuge on 2 Jun (KHL); relocated the next day along the Lake Superior shore about 15 miles to the south.

White-eyed Vireo (0,0,5) Most sightings in the far south. HRT – 4 singing males over the course of the season at Lost Nation SGA, *Hillsdale*

(JR). Also reported from *Berrien* and *Monroe*. More northern reports were 1 on 5 Jun at Metro Beach Metropark, *Macomb* (ATC), and 1 on 15 Jun at Port Huron SGA, *St. Clair* (ATC).

Yellow-throated Vireo (5,10,27) Two reports from *Chippewa*, including a breeding confirmation, were a surprise that far north: 1 on 5 Jun at Trout Lake (CP) and an ad. feeding a fledgling on 21 Jul near McNearny Lake (LJD). Other UP reports were from farther west, where more expected (*Delta*, *Dickinson*, *Iron*, and *Menominee*). Reported north in NLP to *Cheboygan*, *Emmet*, and *Presque Isle*.

Blue-headed Vireo (15,9,2) SLP reports came from *Kalamazoo* and *St. Clair*. Southernmost NLP reports were from *Arenac* and *Newaygo*.

Warbling Vireo (9,15,27) HRT – 12 on 7 Jun in Pinconning Twp., *Bay* (GP, MyW).

Philadelphia Vireo (4,0,0) Remains very scarce in the summer, though Breeding Bird Atlas work turned up at least seven birds in four counties. Nesting confirmed near Little Girl's Point, *Gogebic* and *Grand Island*, *Alger* (both RR).

Red-eyed Vireo (15,23,32) Widespread and common. HRT – 79 on an *Alger* Breeding Bird Survey route, the highest total this observer has recorded (JR).



Gray Jay (10,0,0) Reported from *Baraga, Chippewa, Dickinson, Gogebic, Iron, Keweenaw, Luce, Marquette, Ontonagon, and Schoolcraft.*

Blue Jay (15,22,30) Widespread and common.

American Crow (15,23,31) Widespread and common.

Common Raven (15,14,1) Unusually far south was 1 on 15 Jun at ASGA (RGS), thought to be the same bird the observer saw there in late May. In NLP, reported south to *Arenac, Mason, and Newaygo.*

Horned Lark (0,5,25) NLP reports came from *Arenac, Bay, Iosco, Midland, and Newaygo.*

Purple Martin (2,8,18) The only UP reports were from *Delta* and *Menominee*, where increasingly scarce. Northernmost NLP reports were from *Alcona* and *Alpena.*

Tree Swallow (14,19,31) Widespread, though not as numerous as usual, possibly because of high mortality in the spring. HRT – 2500 on 27 Jul at MWS (ATC).

Northern Rough-winged Swallow (8,12,19) HRT – 66 on 11 Jul at SNWR (DJP).

Bank Swallow (8,10,24) HRT – 275 on 30 Jul in Hampton Twp., *Bay* (JS). Another high count was 150 on 27 Jul at MWS (ATC).

Cliff Swallow (7,11,18) “Nested under all bridges over the Saginaw River in Bay City” (JS). A total of 75+ nests and 150 birds was counted on 9 Jul in Macomb Twp., *Macomb* (ATC).

Barn Swallow (15,20,31) HRT – 500 on 27 Jul at MWS (ATC).

Black-capped Chickadee (15,22,30) Widespread and common.

Boreal Chickadee (8,0,0) Reported from *Alger, Chippewa, Dickinson, Gogebic, Iron, Keweenaw, Luce, and Marquette.*

Tufted Titmouse (0,11,29) Northernmost reports were from *Alcona, Cheboygan, and Grand Traverse.*

Red-breasted Nuthatch (15,15,10) Reported in typical numbers following last year’s influx. Reported south to *Berrien, Cass, and Washtenaw.*

White-breasted Nuthatch (14,18,26) Widespread and common.

Brown Creeper (15,7,5) One on 26 Jul at Bridgman (BA) was *Berrien’s* first summer record since 2001. Other SLP reports came from *Allegan, Oakland, Saginaw, and Washtenaw.*

Carolina Wren (0,0,16) Most reports came from the southern three tiers of counties. Also

reported from *St. Clair*, and at two *Saginaw* locations: 1 on 2 Jul at SNWR (DMc, TW), and 4 on 29 Jul in Bridgeport Twp. (CS).

House Wren (14,17,31)
Widespread.

Winter Wren (15,7,2) Reported from *Van Buren* (1 on 18 Jun, MHW) and *Wayne* in SLP. The southernmost NLP reports were from *Clare*, *Iosco*, and *Mason*. Widespread and common in UP.

Sedge Wren (10,11,14) Patchily distributed in suitable habitat throughout state.

Marsh Wren (5,3,14) UP reports came from *Delta*, *Dickinson* (where unusual), *Houghton*, *Menominee*, and *Schoolcraft*. NLP reports came from *Arenac*, *Bay*, and *Midland*. SLP reports came from *Gratiot*, *Huron* and *Saginaw* in the north and *Berrien* in the southwest; but most reports were clustered in the southeastern counties from *Branch* to *St. Clair*. HRT – 100+ on 18 Jul at Nayanquing Point SWA (JCD).

Golden-crowned Kinglet (14,0,1)
The unusual SLP report was of 2 on 16 Jul near Stinchfield Woods, *Washtenaw* (ATC). Widespread in UP.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet (7,0,0)
Reported in small numbers from *Alger*, *Chippewa*, *Iron*, *Keweenaw*, *Luce*, *Marquette*, and *Schoolcraft*.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (2,8,24)
UP reports came from *Delta* and *Menominee*. Northernmost reports in NLP were from *Alpena* and *Iosco*. All other LP reports were from *Arenac*, *Lake*, and *Mason* south.

NORTHERN WHEATEAR (1,0,0)
One female on 6 Jun at Grand Marais, *Alger* (PMc, SCH, m.ob.). Though a “one-day wonder”, it was in view from the discoverer’s backyard *all day*, where it was enjoyed by many. This 10th state record was the first of a presumed spring migrant; all previous records are from the fall.



Primarily a fall vagrant to the northeastern U.S., this Northern Wheatear was a startling find in a backyard in Grand Marais, Alger County on 6 June 2008, the first spring record for the state. *Photo by Skye Haas.*

Eastern Bluebird (12,19,29)
Widespread.

Veery (11,19,20) Widespread.

Swainson’s Thrush (11,0,2) One on 26 Jun in Hume Twp., *Huron* (MKE), where this species may be



a rare breeder. The other SLP report was from *Berrien*. Reported as common through much of the western UP (SkH).

Hermit Thrush (15,13,3) SLP reports include a territorial male on 26 Jul in *Barry* (SAJ) and 2 heard singing on 29 Jun at ASGA (RGS). Also reported from *Gratiot*. Reported south to *Arenac* and *Lake* in NLP. Numbers seemed low in the UP, as last year (SkH).

Wood Thrush (9,12,28) Widespread and common in SLP. Reported from scattered counties in NLP north to *Cheboygan* and *Emmet*. UP reports were mostly from central counties, though also in *Baraga*, *Chippewa*, *Mackinac*, and *Ontonagon*.

American Robin (15,22,31) Widespread and common.

Gray Catbird (14,19,30) Widespread and common. HRT – 19 on 28 Jun at SNWR (DJP).

Northern Mockingbird (2,0,4) 2 on 2 Jun at Manitou Island, *Keweenaw* (JY, ZG). A pair on 14 Jun in *Washtenaw* (MSJ). Also reported from *Berrien*, *Chippewa*, *Macomb*, and *St. Joseph*.

Brown Thrasher (14,19,21) Widespread.

European Starling (15,19,31) Widespread and abundant.

Cedar Waxwing (15,23,30) One observer commented that this species was “everywhere”, but few other comments were received.

Blue-winged Warbler (1,5,18) The UP report was 1 on 12 Jun in the Shaky Lakes area of *Menominee* (SkH, RR). The northernmost NLP report was from *Roscommon*; also reported from *Bay*, *Clare*, *Lake*, and *Midland*.

Golden-winged Warbler (11,7,1) Widespread, but in low numbers in the UP. Numbers disturbingly low in NLP, usually the species’ stronghold in the state. Notable were two reports from *Bay*: 2 on 22 Jun in Mt. Forest Twp. (DJ) and 2 on 1 Jul in Gibson Twp. (DJ, MyW). Other NLP reports came from *Alcona* (where confirmed breeding, LJD), *Clare*, *Iosco*, *Manistee*, *Newaygo*, and *Wexford*. In the SLP, reported from two *St. Clair* locations: 4 on 15 Jun and 2 on 19 Jun at Port Huron SGA (ATC), and 1 on 17 Jun in Kimball Twp. (ATC).

“Brewster’s Warbler” (0,2,0) One on 26 Jun in *Cheboygan* was rather far north (LJD). Another singing male was found on 1 Jul in Gibson Twp., *Bay* (DJ, MyW)

Tennessee Warbler (3,0,2) Late migrants account for the two SLP reports: 1 on 1 Jun at Warren Dunes SP, *Berrien* (MZ) and 1 on 5 Jun at Metro Beach Metropark, *Macomb* (ATC). Territorial males

were found in *Luce*. Also reported from *Alger* and *Chippewa*.

Orange-crowned Warbler (1,0,0)

A singing male accompanied a flock of other late migrant warblers on 1 Jun along the Lake Superior shore at Porcupine Mountains SP, *Ontonagon* (SkH).

Nashville Warbler (15,14,2) In SLP, 1 was present TP at Port Crescent SP, *Huron* (MKE), and 1 singing male was seen on 19 Jun at Port Huron SGA, *St. Clair* (ATC). Otherwise reported south to *Arenac*, *Gladwin*, and *Manistee*. HRT – 36 on 7 Jun in Humboldt Twp., *Marquette* (BJ).

Northern Parula (15,1,6)

Widespread in the UP, but only reported from *Alpena* in the NLP. SLP sightings included a singing male at Lost Nation SGA, *Hillsdale* (JR), where the observer reports that “individuals singing in early June that then disappear are becoming the norm”; and 1 on 4 & 20 Jun at Stinchfield Woods, *Washtenaw* (MSJ). Other SLP reports came from *Allegan*, *Berrien*, *Monroe*, and *Van Buren*.

Yellow Warbler (15,16,29) Widely reported throughout the state. HRT -108 on 19 Jun along the Kalamazoo River, ASGA (RGS).

Chestnut-sided Warbler (15,14,17)

Widespread and common in UP. Reported from all parts of LP.

Magnolia Warbler (15,3,5) As last year, a singing male was present at Lost Nation SGA, *Hillsdale* (JR), and another through Jun at Warren Dunes SP, *Berrien* (BA). Other SLP reports came from *Allegan*, *Gratiot*, and *Kalamazoo*, all likely late spring migrants. NLP reports came from *Cheboygan*, *Alpena*, and *Roscommon*.

Cape May Warbler (12,0,0) One on 1 Jun at WP was likely a late migrant (JR). Several observers commented that the species was notably numerous this summer. Confirmed nesting in *Gogebic* (RR) and *Luce* (LJD).

Black-throated Blue Warbler

(15,10,7) An unusual late Jun report was 1 on 30 Jun in Bangor Twp., *Bay* (GPEP). Also unusual were 3 on 8 Jun at Murphy Lake SGA, *Tuscola* (SG, LA). Other SLP reports came from *Allegan*, *Berrien*, *Kalamazoo*, *St. Clair*, *Sanilac*, and *Washtenaw*. Most NLP reports came from *Alcona* and *Grand Traverse* north, with the aforementioned *Bay* sighting, *Iosco*, and *Newaygo* being the exceptions. Widespread in the UP.

Yellow-rumped Warbler (15,7,3)

A singing male of this typically early migrant was last recorded on the very late date of 6 Jun at Baw Beese Lake, the “latest lingerer by far for *Hillsdale*” (JR). 2 were present TP at Port Crescent SP, *Huron* (MKE), a location where

seemingly suitable breeding habitat exists (MKE). NLP reports came in south to *Iosco* and *Roscommon*. Widespread and common in the UP.

Black-throated Green Warbler

(15,10,7) Quite a few SLP reports, such as 3 on 8 Jun at Murphy Lake SGA, *Tuscola* (SG,LA). Other SLP reports came from *Allegan*, *Berrien*, *Kalamazoo*, *St. Clair*, *Sanilac*, and *Washtenaw*. An unusual report for Bay was 1 on 30 Jun in Bangor Twp. (GP, EP). Other than *Iosco* and *Newaygo*, other NLP reports came from *Alcona*, *Crawford*, and *Grand Traverse* north. Widespread and common in the UP.

Blackburnian Warbler (15,3,6)

One on 14 Jun in *Washtenaw* was unusually late (MSJ). One on 26 Jun near Port Crescent SP, *Huron* was more likely a local breeder. One on 3 Jun in Burtchville Twp., *St. Clair* was more likely a late migrant (ATC), as were reports from *Allegan*, *Berrien*, and *Kalamazoo*. NLP reports came in for *Alcona*, *Cheboygan*, and *Roscommon*. Remains widespread and common in UP.

Yellow-throated Warbler (1,0,3)

Very far north was a bird singing on 19-22 Jul along the Dead River within the city limits of Marquette, *Marquette* (SkH) providing a first county and 6th UP record. A bit north of usual was 1 on 21 Jul at ASGA (RB). A bit unusual was 1

on 20 Jun at Stinchfield Woods, *Washtenaw* (MSJ). Also reported from *Berrien*, the only county where expected.



Another southern species that found its way to the Upper Peninsula this summer was this Yellow-throated Warbler in Marquette, which only stayed a short time. Photo on 20 July 2008 by Beth Olsen.

Kirtland's Warbler (6,12,0) This year's DNR census total of 1792 singing males was the highest ever, and almost 6% higher than the 2007 total. Singing males were counted in 12 NLP counties and five UP counties. Adding to the UP total was a bird found on 2 Jun near Wetmore, *Alger*, but not seen again (SCH). Numbers of singing males censused were as follows: UP - *Chippewa* (12), *Delta* (10), *Luce* (1), *Marquette* (6), and *Schoolcraft* (5); NLP - *Alcona* (207), *Clare* (141), *Crawford* (288), *Grand Traverse* (2), *Iosco* (192), *Kalkaska* (10), *Montmorency* (11), *Ogemaw* (627), *Oscoda* (209), *Otsego* (40), *Presque Isle* (5), and *Roscommon* (25).

Prairie Warbler (0,0,1) Reported only from *Berrien*, where it maintains its stronghold at Warren Dunes SP.

Palm Warbler (7,0,0) 5 on 1 Jul near Shingleton, *Alger*, 1 carrying food for young (SCH).

Bay-breasted Warbler (1,0,0) Very scarce as a breeder: 1 was on territory on 22 Jun in *Iron* (GC).

Blackpoll Warbler (0,0,2) With such a late spring, it is surprising that this late migrating species was not more widespread in early Jun. The two reports received were of 1 on 5 Jun at Metro Beach Metropark, *Macomb* (ATC) and 1 on 14 Jun at Stinchfield Woods, *Washtenaw* (MSJ).

Cerulean Warbler (1,2,10) HRT – 31 on 19 Jun along the Kalamazoo River, *ASGA* (RGS). Most other SLP reports came from the southern two tiers of counties; also reported from *Oakland* and *St. Clair*. The unusual NLP reports were of 1 on 1 Jun at Santiago Road, *Arenac* (SS, DF) and 1 on 23 Jun at Patterson Road, *Midland* (MKE). Furthest north was a long-staying bird in *Marquette* present from 5 Jun-4 Jul (BO).

Black-and-white Warbler (15,9,6) Widely reported in UP. Reported south in NLP to *Arenac*, *Iosco*, and *Manistee*. Seen in several scattered counties in SLP: *Allegan*, *Berrien*, *Jackson*, *Saginaw*, *St. Clair*, and *Tuscola*.



Cerulean Warbler is very unusual in the Upper Peninsula, and this one in *Marquette* stayed an unusually long time. Photo by Beth Olsen.

Prothonotary Warbler (0,1,7) More unusual than having 1 found by a kayaker in Apr in *Benzie*, far north of its usual range in the state, was to have the bird relocated on 7 Jun (fide KW). HRT – 51 on 19 Jun along the Kalamazoo River at *ASGA* (RGS). 4 were seen on 24 Jun at *SNWR* (SG). Also reported from *Berrien*, *Cass*, *Calhoun*, *Gratiot*, and *Saginaw*.

Ovenbird (15,22,22) Abundant in UP and NLP. Widely reported in SLP south to *Berrien*, *Hillsdale*, and *Monroe*.

Northern Waterthrush (15,9,2) Widespread in UP. Reported from scattered locations in NLP south to *Arenac*, *Clare*, and *Newaygo*. SLP reports came from *St. Clair*, where 1 on 17 Jun in *Kimball Twp.* was unusual (ATC), and *Tuscola*, where it has summered historically.



Louisiana Waterthrush (0,1,5)
Infrequently reported in NLP, so 1 on 29 Jun at Taft Lake, Newaygo (SAJ) was noteworthy. Reported from its usual location at Murphy Lake SGA, Tuscola. One on 17 Jun in Kimball Twp., St. Clair (ATC). Two on 19 Jun along Kalamazoo River at ASGA (RGS). The only other reports were from Berrien and Hillsdale.

Kentucky Warbler (0,0,2) One on 2 Jun at Petersburg SGA, Monroe (RK), last encountered on 14 Jun. Two were found in Hillsdale: 1 detected on 4 Jun, another from the spring remained until 4 Jun (JR).

Connecticut Warbler (2,0,0)
Remains very scarce. 2 singing males present at the traditional site near Trout Lake, Chippewa. The only other report was from Keweenaw.

Mourning Warbler (15,9,8)
Southernmost reports were from Berrien, Jackson (1 on 14 Jun, SAJ), Macomb, and St. Clair (3 on 17 Jun in Kimball Twp., ATC). Also reported from Huron, Saginaw, and Tuscola in SLP. Widespread in UP and in eastern NLP.

Common Yellowthroat (15,23,29)
Remains the most widespread summering warbler in the state.

Hooded Warbler (0,0,10) Reported north to Rose Lake Research Area, Clinton, where 1 was present on 22 Jun (DF) and St. Clair (ATC).

2 on 17 Jun at Island Lake SRA, Livingston (DF). Other counties reporting were Allegan, Berrien, Hillsdale, Jackson, Kalamazoo, Oakland, and Washtenaw.

Wilson's Warbler (6,0,1)
Surprisingly few late migrants in early Jun, given the late arrival of spring. One on 5 Jun at Metro Beach Metropark, Macomb (ATC) was the only LP report. The only other Jun migrant was 1 on 1 Jun at WP (JR). Breeding was suspected near the Tahquamenon River mouth, Chippewa; near Newberry, Luce; and at a site in Keweenaw. Other reports came from Alger, Delta, and Ontonagon.

Canada Warbler (14,3,2) One on 2 Jun in Tuscola (DJ, MyW) may have been a late migrant, though it has bred historically in the county. The other SLP report was from Berrien. Scarce in NLP, where reported only from Alcona, Emmet, and Presque Isle. Widespread in UP, where reported from every county except Houghton.

Yellow-breasted Chat (0,0,6)
The northernmost report was of 1 singing on 15 Jun at Ionia SRA, Ionia (DF,SS). One on 5 Jun at Oakwoods Metropark, Wayne (WGP). All other reports were from the southern border counties of Berrien, Lenawee, Monroe, and St. Joseph.

Scarlet Tanager (14,16,28) Widely reported statewide, especially in SLP.

Eastern Towhee (4,13,29) Common in SLP, widespread in NLP. Scarce in UP, with all reports coming from central UP counties of *Delta*, *Marquette*, *Menominee*, and *Schoolcraft*.

Chipping Sparrow (15,22,31) Widespread and common. HRT – 63 on 19 Jun in Riley Twp., *St. Clair* (ATC).

Clay-colored Sparrow (15,13,7) 3 on 21 Jun in *Sanilac* (ATC) was a notable concentration for the SLP. Other SLP counties reporting were *Clinton*, *Gratiot*, *Macomb*, *Monroe*, and *St. Clair*.

Field Sparrow (3,16,28) One on 2 Jun at Manitou Island, *Keweenaw* (ZG) was far north. Other UP reports came from *Marquette* and *Menominee*. Widely reported in LP, north to *Alpena*, *Cheboygan*, and *Presque Isle*.

Vesper Sparrow (13,20,16) Reported in all UP counties except *Dickinson* and *Keweenaw*. Widespread in NLP. SLP reports were somewhat concentrated to the southwest, though reports came from *Gratiot*, *Macomb*, *Monroe*, *Muskegon*, *Saginaw*, *St. Clair*, and *Sanilac*.

LARK SPARROW (1,0,0) One on 16 Jun in Gogebic (DV, accepted by MBRC).

Savannah Sparrow (15,18,28) Widely reported statewide. HRT – 66 on 19 Jun in Riley Twp., *St. Clair* (ATC).

Grasshopper Sparrow (6,8,16) Some of the more unusual records were 2 on 21 Jul in *Macomb* Twp., *Macomb*, where considered rare (ATC). HRT – 36 on 4 Jun at MWS (BJ). UP records were all in the central and western counties, including 2 on 14 Jun at the Baraga Plains, *Baraga* (JY) and 2 on 15 Jun at a DNR waterfowl refuge near *Limestone*, *Alger* (SCH). Other UP counties reporting were *Delta*, *Marquette*, *Menominee*, and *Ontonagon*. NLP counties reporting were mostly concentrated toward the northwest (*Antrim*, *Arenac*, *Cheboygan*, *Crawford*, *Emmet*, *Iosco*, *Leelanau*, and *Wexford*). SLP reports were widely scattered throughout the region.

Henslow's Sparrow (1,2,9). Has not been reported in *Menominee* in recent years, so up to 3 at *Stevenson* 11 Jun-7 Jul was noteworthy (SkH, RR). NLP reports came from *Gladwin* (1 singing on 5 Jul, SAJ) and *Lake*. Reported in small numbers in expected locations in SLP. At *Waterloo* SGA, *Jackson*, 7 singing males and 2 females carrying food for young were noted on 18 Jul (ATC); the species is rarely confirmed nesting in the state. Reinoehl notes that "in one well-watched field [in *Hillsdale*]

that had been mowed last fall, the species did not appear until 25 Jun". Other SLP reports came from Barry, Berrien, Eaton, Gratiot, Monroe, St. Clair, and Washtenaw.



This Henslow's Sparrow, photographed on 14 June 2008 in Menominee County, provided the first Upper Peninsula record in some time. Photo by Kirk Zufelt.

LeConte's Sparrow (10,0,0)
Widely reported through UP.

Song Sparrow (15,22,30)
Widespread and common. HRT – 117 along the Kalamazoo River, ASGA (RGS).

Lincoln's Sparrow (11,6,0)
Widespread in UP. NLP reports came from Cheboygan, Missaukee, Ogemaw, Oscoda, Presque Isle, and Roscommon.

Swamp Sparrow (15,13,24)
Widely reported in UP and SLP. NLP reports widely scattered with a concentration of reports coming from counties near the Saginaw Bay.

White-throated Sparrow (15,9,0)
2 on 29 Jun in Arenac (DJ) was the southernmost report. Other reports were received south to Iosco and Missaukee. Widespread and common in UP.

White-crowned Sparrow (2,0,0)
Lingerers into Jun were 1 on 1 Jun at WP (JR) and 1 at Big Bay, Marquette (SkH).

Dark-eyed Junco (13,2,2) SLP reports came from Berrien and Van Buren (1 on 2-4 Jun at South Haven, JM). Unusually few NLP reports came only from Oscoda and Roscommon. Widespread in UP, though not reported from Dickinson or Iron.

Northern Cardinal (7,17,31)
Widespread throughout LP. Increasing in UP, where reported from Alger, Delta, Dickinson, Keweenaw, Mackinac, Marquette, and Menominee.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak (15,20,30) Widespread and common throughout.

Indigo Bunting (15,23,32)
Widespread and common throughout. HRT – 92 on 19 Jun along Kalamazoo River, ASGA (RGS).

Dickcissel (3,2,5) Has returned to more normal (low) numbers in the state after the influxes of the last two years. UP reports were all from the southwestern counties

of *Dickinson*, *Iron*, and *Menominee*.

The only NLP reports were 1 on 14 Jun in *Eden Twp.*, *Mason* (DCD) and 1 on 16 Jun in *Leelanau* (GB). In the SLP, 1 on 21 Jul in *Macomb* (ATC) was the only report from the eastern part of the state. "Only 2 found in *Hillsdale* this summer at a single location, none until 9 Jul" (JR). HRT – 6 (3 males & 3 females) on 23 Jul at *MWS* (BJ).

Bobolink (13,16,19) Widely reported throughout state, with reports somewhat concentrated in southwestern SLP and central NLP. Reported from all UP counties except *Houghton* and *Keweenaw*. A total of 8 on 14 Jun near *Shingleton*, *Alger* (SCH) was a high number for that far north.

Red-winged Blackbird (15,23,32) Widespread and common.

Eastern Meadowlark (14,14,28) Widespread.

Western Meadowlark (5,0,0) Reported only from the UP counties of *Alger*, *Chippewa*, *Iron*, *Marquette*, *Menominee*, and *Ontonagon*. One on 8 Jun at the Big Bay Lighthouse, *Marquette* was a late migrant (SkH); the others were in potential breeding habitat.

Yellow-headed Blackbird (1,1,1) A pair on 2 Jun in *Houghton* (PG). One on 6-8 Jun at Crow Island SGA, *Saginaw* (JS, SG, RH). HRT – 6 on 31 Jul at *Nayanquing Point SGA*, *Bay* (DJ).

Brewer's Blackbird (9,2,0) Widespread in UP. HRT – 43 on 31 Jul at *Pickford*, *Chippewa* (BJ). The only LP reports were from *Alcona* and *Missaukee*.

Common Grackle (15,22,30) Widespread and common. HRT – 2130 in one flock on 9 Jul at *SNWR* (DJP).

Brown-headed Cowbird (15,20,30) Widespread and common.

Orchard Oriole (0,5,19) Unusually frequent in the SLP. NLP reports came from *Arenac*, *Bay*, *Iosco*, *Midland*, and *Newaygo*.

Baltimore Oriole (11,18,28) Widespread and common in LP. In UP, not reported from *Baraga*, *Houghton*, *Keweenaw*, or *Mackinac*.

Purple Finch (15,15,2) Two SLP reports, where unusual in summer: 2 on 23 Jun in *Burtchville Twp.*, *St. Clair* (ATC) and 1 on 6 Jul near *Three Oaks*, *Berrien* (CM). Widespread and common south to *Arenac*, *Clare*, *Gladwin*, and *Lake*.

House Finch (13,11,29) Widely reported, but mostly without comment, even in UP, where sighted in every county except *Chippewa* and *Mackinac*.

Red Crossbill (7,0,0) Reported in small numbers, and only in the UP.



White-winged Crossbill (15,4,0)

An invasion began early in the season. By mid-Jul, flocks were being seen all over the UP, where territorial behavior was suggestive of breeding. NLP reports came from as far south as *Alcona* and *Benzie* (3+ near Wallin, *fide* ATC). Other NLP reports came from *Emmet* (“100 or so” on 20 Jul at Wilderness SP, GE, ME), and *Leelanau*.

Pine Siskin (10,0,1) Widespread in UP, though generally not in high numbers. The SLP report was from *Berrien*, where “a flock lingered into early Jun in Niles Twp.” (MK).

American Goldfinch (15,22,32) Widespread and common throughout. HRT – 39 on 1 Jul at Sterling Heights, *Macomb* (ATC).

Evening Grosbeak (8,2,0)

The only NLP sightings involved single birds from Cooke Dam area, *Iosco* (WWS) and *Roscommon* (NMB). Only scattered reports of small numbers were received from the UP.

House Sparrow (15,18,30) Very rare in *Keweenaw*, but especially unexpected on Manitou Island, where a female was seen on 3 Jun (JK).

Exotics:

WHOOPIING CRANE (0,1,0) A radio transmitter-fitted bird from the eastern migratory reintroduction project was tracked to the vicinity of Wigwam Bay SGA, *Arenac*, where it was present 14 Jul-TP (*fide* DJP).

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Suggestions to Authors

Michigan Birds and Natural History welcomes articles and short notes on appropriate topics. See past issues for guidance.

Submit two double-spaced copies to the Editor along with all tables and figures. Include a computer diskette or CD labeled with the file names of the manuscript (which should be single-spaced on disk), tables and figures; software version used for each file (Microsoft Word and WordPerfect preferred for text); and author(s) name. Tables and figures should not be integrated into the text, and should be provided in the format in which they were originally created (i.e., Excel, Adobe Illustrator, etc.). Large tables and charts should be tall rather than wide. Electronic submissions are welcome; text should be transmitted as document files (*.doc). Figures should be sent in native format.

No abstract is necessary. Measurements should be given in English units (e.g., inches, acres) followed by metric units (e.g., centimeters, hectares). Use continental dating (e.g., 17 December 1962) and the 24-hour clock (e.g., 0800 and 1345) and standard time (not daylight savings time). Common names of birds (and other organisms) should be capitalized (e.g., Least Bittern). Italicized scientific names should follow the first mention of a species, and conform to the A.O.U.'s *Checklist of North American Birds*, 7th edition (1998) and its supplements, and the current accepted authoritative reference for other organisms (available from editors upon request). Sequence of bird lists should similarly follow A.O.U. sequence. Material in tables should not duplicate data in text. Tables and figures should be numbered separately and sequentially, and have a short title.

Text citations should include author and year (e.g., Craves 1995), and multiple citations should be in chronological order. Citations at end of text should be listed as "Literature Cited." If you use web pages in your references, please follow the following format:

Author(s). Name of page. Date of posting/revision. Date of access. <electronic address> (i.e., URL). For format of other references, please see past issues.

Photographs can be submitted as prints, 35mm slides, or high resolution JPEG files (larger is better) on a disk. Photos of rarities from each season are particularly sought, on a timely basis, and excellent photos of other Michigan species are also desired.

All articles will be sent out for peer review. Based on the reviews, the article will be revised and accepted for publication (if revisions are primarily grammatical and not of a substantive nature), or returned to the author to be rewritten. We reserve the right to review and edit articles according to style, grammar, accuracy, and readability.

Submission Deadlines for MBNH

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January 1.....	No. 1 (Jan-Mar)
March 1	No. 2 (Apr-May)
May 1.....	No. 3 (Jun-Aug)
August 1.....	No. 4 (Sep-Oct)
October 1.....	No. 5 (Nov-Dec)

Send all submissions to:
Caroline de Mauriac, Managing Editor
mas@michiganaudubon.org

Become a MBS Participant

The mission of the Michigan Bird Survey (MBS) is to provide a forum for the publication of bird observations in Michigan. The survey consists of the following four seasons:

Winter: December — February

compiler — Jon Wuepper
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Spring: March — May

compiler — Jack Reinoehl
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Summer: June — July

compiler — Louis Dombroski
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Fall: August — November

compiler — Adam M. Byrne
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To participate in the survey you can be placed on the mailing list by sending your name and address to:

Kalamazoo Nature Center/MAS Seasonal Bird Survey
7000 N. Westnedge Ave.
Kalamazoo, Michigan 49009

The forms are also available from the MAS website at:

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or just go to the downloads menu on the MAS home page.

Butterfly Records Wanted

Please participate in the Michigan Butterfly Survey by sending your observations to:

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