

Red Slough Bird Surveys 2021
Red Slough Bird Survey – December 28, 2021

It was heavy overcast, mild, misting rain, with light wind, turning partly cloudy, warm, and very windy in the afternoon. 57 species were found. Here is my list for today:

Ross' Geese - 4
Canada Geese – 57
Wood Duck – 14
Gadwall – 786
American Wigeon – 11
Mallard – 181
Northern Shoveler - 233
Green-winged Teal – 146
Ring-necked Duck – 982
Bufflehead – 5
Hooded Merganser - 9
Ruddy Duck - 9
Pied-billed Grebe – 8
Double-crested Cormorant - 9
Great-blue Heron – 9
Great Egret - 2
Black Vulture - 110
Turkey Vulture – 36
Bald Eagle – 1 imm.
Northern Harrier – 4
Red-tailed Hawk – 1
American Kestrel – 1
King Rail - 1
American Coot – 585
Killdeer – 1
Greater Yellowlegs – 27
Least Sandpiper – 15
Wilson's Snipe – 1
Eastern Screech-Owl - 1
Red-bellied Woodpecker – 1
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker – 1
Downy Woodpecker - 1
Northern Flicker – 5
Eastern Phoebe – 4
American Crow – 130
Fish Crow – 4
Carolina Chickadee – 3
Tufted Titmouse - 1
Carolina Wren – 6
Sedge Wren - 3
Marsh Wren – 1
Ruby-crowned Kinglet - 3
Brown Thrasher – 4

American Pipit – 1
Yellow-rumped Warbler - 1
Common Yellowthroat – 3
Eastern Towhee – 3
Fox Sparrow - 2
Song Sparrow – 11
Swamp Sparrow - 10
White-throated Sparrow – 8
White-crowned Sparrow - 2
Dark-eyed Junco - 1
Northern Cardinal – 8
Red-winged Blackbird – 95
Common Grackle – 78
American Goldfinch – 27

Odonates:

Common Green Darner
Variegated Meadowhawk

Herps:

American Alligator
Red-eared Slider
Spring Peepers - calling

Good birding!

David Arbour
De Queen, AR

Red Slough Bird Survey – December 22, 2021

It was clear, calm, and cold turning mild and windy on the bird survey yesterday. 59 species were found. The only highlight was a group of 3 Common Gallinules who apparently are planning on wintering. Here is my list for today:

Greater White-fronted Geese – 6
Snow Geese - 3
Canada Geese – 28
Wood Duck – 13
Gadwall – 1317
American Wigeon – 16
Mallard – 313
Northern Shoveler - 181
Northern Pintail – 56
Green-winged Teal – 100
Ring-necked Duck – 1,180
Bufflehead – 2

Ruddy Duck - 23
Pied-billed Grebe – 16
Double-crested Cormorant - 155
Great-blue Heron – 12
Black Vulture - 14
Turkey Vulture – 31
Bald Eagle – 2 (adults)
Northern Harrier – 2
Cooper's Hawk – 1
Red-tailed Hawk – 4
Common Gallinule – 3 (2 adults & 1 juv.)
American Coot – 591
Killdeer – 22
Greater Yellowlegs – 12
Least Sandpiper – 15
Wilson's Snipe - 7
Red-bellied Woodpecker – 2
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker – 2
Downy Woodpecker - 1
Hairy Woodpecker - 1
Northern Flicker – 4
Eastern Phoebe – 5
Blue Jay - 6
American Crow – 251
Fish Crow – 24
Carolina Chickadee – 7
Carolina Wren – 5
Marsh Wren – 1
Golden-crowned Kinglet – 1
Ruby-crowned Kinglet - 4
American Robin – 26
Northern Mockingbird – 1
Brown Thrasher – 3
American Pipit – 1
Cedar Waxwing – 40
Yellow-rumped Warbler - 15
Common Yellowthroat – 2
Eastern Towhee – 1
Chipping Sparrow - 10
Savannah Sparrow – 1
Song Sparrow – 1
Swamp Sparrow - 7
White-throated Sparrow – 8
Dark-eyed Junco - 3
Northern Cardinal – 4
Red-winged Blackbird – 166
Common Grackle – 1

Good birding!

David Arbour
De Queen, AR

Red Slough Bird Survey – December 15, 2021

It was mostly overcast, mild, and very windy on the bird survey today. 51 species were found. The high wind, which was already blowing strong when I arrived in the dark this morning, made it very difficult to find and hear birds, especially the smaller Passerines. In contrast I worked this mostly same route yesterday on the CBC and found 66 species for my part of the CBC. Amazing what a difference one day can make. Here is my list for today:

Canada Geese – 2
Wood Duck – 10
Gadwall – 905
American Wigeon – 14
Mallard – 276
Blue-winged Teal - 2
Northern Shoveler - 227
Northern Pintail – 49
Green-winged Teal – 139
Ring-necked Duck – 1,745
Bufflehead – 8
Hooded Merganser - 5
Ruddy Duck - 9
Pied-billed Grebe – 7
Double-crested Cormorant - 7
Great-blue Heron – 9
Black Vulture - 16
Turkey Vulture – 57
Bald Eagle – 2 (1 adult & 1 imm.)
Northern Harrier – 1
Cooper's Hawk – 1
Red-tailed Hawk – 1
King Rail – 4
Virginia Rail - 1
Common Gallinule – 2 (1 adult & 1 juv.)
American Coot – 495
Killdeer – 1
Belted Kingfisher - 1
Red-bellied Woodpecker – 1
Hairy Woodpecker - 1
Northern Flicker – 7
Eastern Phoebe – 4
American Crow – 50
Fish Crow – 62
Carolina Chickadee – 2
Tufted Titmouse - 1

Carolina Wren – 4
House Wren – 1
Marsh Wren – 1
American Robin – 1
Common Yellowthroat – 2
Savannah Sparrow – 1
Fox Sparrow - 2
Song Sparrow – 3
Lincoln's Sparrow - 1
White-throated Sparrow – 2
Harris' Sparrow – 3
White-crowned Sparrow - 3
Northern Cardinal – 3
Red-winged Blackbird – 120
Common Grackle – 2185

Herps:

Spring Peeper (calling)
Leopard Frog (calling)
Red-eared Slider

Odonates:

Variegated Meadowhawk

Good birding!

David Arbour
De Queen, AR

Red Slough Bird Survey – December 7, 2021

It was cold, windy, and overcast to partly cloudy on the bird survey today. 62 species were found. Common Gallinules are still lingering and a small flock of Rusty Blackbirds were a FOS for me. A Blue-headed Vireo put in an appearance which is always notable in winter. Here is my list for today:

Canada Geese – 2
Wood Duck – 18
Gadwall – 1,050
American Wigeon – 2
Mallard – 324
Northern Shoveler - 153
Northern Pintail – 15
Green-winged Teal – 153
Ring-necked Duck – 1,847
Bufflehead – 11
Hooded Merganser - 1

Ruddy Duck - 4
Pied-billed Grebe – 18
Double-crested Cormorant - 2
Great-blue Heron – 9
Black Vulture - 36
Turkey Vulture – 50
Bald Eagle – 2 adults
Northern Harrier – 2
Cooper's Hawk – 1
Red-shouldered Hawk - 3
Red-tailed Hawk – 5 (including 1 Krider's race).
Common Gallinule – 3 (2 adults & 1 juv.)
American Coot – 678
Killdeer – 13
Greater Yellowlegs - 1
Wilson's Snipe – 19
Red-bellied Woodpecker – 1
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker - 1
Northern Flicker – 5
Eastern Phoebe – 4
Blue-headed Vireo - 1
Blue Jay - 3
American Crow – 300
Fish Crow – 8
Carolina Chickadee – 6
Tufted Titmouse - 3
Carolina Wren – 1
House Wren – 1
Sedge Wren – 2
Marsh Wren – 1
Golden-crowned Kinglet - 7
Ruby-crowned Kinglet – 4
American Robin – 1
Northern Mockingbird - 1
Brown Thrasher – 3
American Pipit - 1
Yellow-rumped Warbler – 18
Common Yellowthroat – 1
Eastern Towhee - 2
Savannah Sparrow – 2
Fox Sparrow - 2
Song Sparrow - 2
Swamp Sparrow – 7
White-throated Sparrow – 26
Dark-eyed Junco - 11
Northern Cardinal – 14
Red-winged Blackbird – 40
Rusty Blackbird - 8

Meadowlark sp. - 1
Common Grackle – 850
American Goldfinch – 2

Good birding!

David Arbour
De Queen, AR

Red Slough Bird Survey – November 23, 2021

It started off clear and cold (lower 30's) turning mild (60's) with a little wind on the bird survey today. 62 species were found. We still have at least one Black-bellied Whistling Duck and one Common Gallinule lingering. Also of note was a female Purple Finch and an incredibly large number of Common Grackles flying over in the early morning leaving their roosts. Sparrow and duck numbers are increasing. Here is my list for today:

Black-bellied Whistling Duck – 1 juv.

Canada Geese – 55

Wood Duck – 9

Gadwall – 1,059

American Wigeon – 16

Mallard – 489

Blue-winged Teal – 1

Northern Shoveler - 154

Northern Pintail – 44

Green-winged Teal – 41

Canvasback - 1

Ring-necked Duck – 1,145

Bufflehead – 5

Hooded Merganser - 4

Ruddy Duck - 6

Pied-billed Grebe – 13

Great-blue Heron – 6

Black Vulture - 27

Turkey Vulture – 73

Bald Eagle – 1 imm.

Northern Harrier – 3

Red-tailed Hawk – 5 (including 1 Krider's race).

Virginia Rail - 1

Common Gallinule – 1 adult

American Coot – 600

Killdeer – 19

Greater Yellowlegs - 1

Wilson's Snipe – 6

Red-bellied Woodpecker - 2

Downy Woodpecker - 1

Hairy Woodpecker - 1

Northern Flicker – 3

Pileated Woodpecker - 1

Eastern Phoebe – 6

Blue Jay - 2

American Crow – 198

Fish Crow – 42

Carolina Chickadee – 2

Tufted Titmouse - 1

Carolina Wren – 3

House Wren – 1

Winter Wren - 1

Ruby-crowned Kinglet – 1

American Robin – 1

Brown Thrasher – 1

American Pipit - 67

Yellow-rumped Warbler – 5

Common Yellowthroat – 1

Field Sparrow - 3
Savannah Sparrow – 36
Fox Sparrow - 3
Song Sparrow - 8
Swamp Sparrow – 54
White-throated Sparrow – 12
White-crowned Sparrow - 3
Dark-eyed Junco - 11
Northern Cardinal – 7
Red-winged Blackbird – 910
Eastern Meadowlark - 1
Common Grackle – **14,000** (conservative estimate)
Purple Finch – 1 female
American Goldfinch – 2

Odes:

Variegated Meadowhawk
Wandering Glider

Herps:

American Alligator
Red-eared Slider

Good birding!

David Arbour
De Queen, AR

Red Slough Bird Survey – November 16, 2021

It was overcast, cool, and windy, with fog early on the survey today. 51 species were found. A few Whistling Ducks and Common Gallinules still lingering. Here is my list for today:

***Black-bellied Whistling Duck* – 16**

Greater White-fronted Geese - 2

Canada Geese – 20

Wood Duck – 15

Gadwall – 375

American Wigeon – 25

Mallard – 273

Blue-winged Teal – 3

Northern Shoveler - 69

Northern Pintail – 92

Green-winged Teal – 33

Ring-necked Duck – 1500

Bufflehead – 2

Hooded Merganser - 5

Ruddy Duck - 6

Pied-billed Grebe – 9

Great-blue Heron – 6

Black Vulture - 16

Turkey Vulture – 30

Northern Harrier – 1

Cooper's Hawk - 1

Red-tailed Hawk – 3 (including 1 Harlan's race and 1 Krider's race).

***King Rail* - 1**

***Common Gallinule* – 2**

American Coot – 570

Killdeer – 9

Wilson's Snipe – 42

Belted Kingfisher - 1

Downy Woodpecker - 2

Hairy Woodpecker - 1

Northern Flicker – 3

Eastern Phoebe – 3

American Crow – 30

Fish Crow – 2

Carolina Chickadee – 2

Carolina Wren – 3

Sedge Wren – 3

Marsh Wren – 2

Ruby-crowned Kinglet – 2

Orange-crowned Warbler - 1

Yellow-rumped Warbler – 2

Common Yellowthroat – 1

Eastern Towhee – 1

Savannah Sparrow – 1
Song Sparrow - 3
Swamp Sparrow – 11
White-throated Sparrow - 2
Dark-eyed Junco - 2
Northern Cardinal – 4
Red-winged Blackbird – 182
Common Grackle – 275

Herps:

American Alligator
Red-eared Slider
Spring Peeper – (calling)

Also a River Otter

Good birding!

David Arbour
De Queen, AR

Red Slough Bird Survey – November 9, 2021

It was calm, overcast, and cool turning windy, partly cloudy, and warm on the bird survey today. 58 species were found. Overall, duck numbers were down a bit from last week. Just a few Whistling Ducks and Common Gallinules left but they usually linger in small numbers into early December. Was a bit of a surprise to find 4 Tree Swallows today after not having seen any in a month or more. Except for Swamp Sparrows, sparrow numbers seem really low for this time of year. Here is my list for today:

Black-bellied Whistling Duck – 8

Canada Geese – 6
Wood Duck – 13
Gadwall – 235
American Wigeon – 18
Mallard – 305
Blue-winged Teal – 5
Northern Shoveler - 19
Northern Pintail – 36
Green-winged Teal – 16
Ring-necked Duck – 1320
Ruddy Duck - 1
Pied-billed Grebe – 9
Great-blue Heron – 6
Great Egret – 1
Black Vulture - 5
Turkey Vulture – 23

Bald Eagle – 1 imm.
Northern Harrier - 1
Red-tailed Hawk – 4
American Kestrel - 1
Common Gallinule – 11
American Coot – 605
Killdeer – 2
Wilson's Snipe – 16
Downy Woodpecker - 2
Hairy Woodpecker - 3
Northern Flicker – 5
Eastern Phoebe – 10
American Crow – 38
Fish Crow – 6
Tree Swallow - 4
Carolina Chickadee – 2
Tufted Titmouse - 1
Carolina Wren – 3
House Wren – 3
Winter Wren - 2
Sedge Wren – 4
Marsh Wren – 2
Ruby-crowned Kinglet – 3
Brown Thrasher – 1
Orange-crowned Warbler - 1
Yellow-rumped Warbler – 15
Pine Warbler – 1
Eastern Towhee – 1
Chipping Sparrow - 1
Field Sparrow - 2
Savannah Sparrow – 1
Fox Sparrow - 2
Song Sparrow - 2
Swamp Sparrow – 30
White-throated Sparrow - 3
White-crowned Sparrow – 1
Dark-eyed Junco - 7
Northern Cardinal – 3
Red-winged Blackbird – 46
Common Grackle – 800
American Goldfinch – 9

Herps:

American Alligator
Eastern Cooter
Red-eared Slider

Green Treefrog
Spring Peeper – (calling)

Good birding!

David Arbour
De Queen, AR

Red Slough Bird Survey – November 2, 2021

It was mostly overcast, cool (around 50 degrees), and windy (the wind made it feel cold!) with some light rain (basically miserable) on the bird survey today. 58 species were found. Passerines were very scarce. Ducks were very active. Still have a few of our summer birds lingering. I looked hard for Purple Gallinules today but apparently they are all gone now, which they should be. Common Gallinules have wintered at Red Slough in the past so no surprise they are still around including several adult birds. A number of them have joined up with the many flocks of coots that are working the area feeding. Here is my list for today:

***Black-bellied Whistling Duck* – 17**

Canada Geese – 22

Unidentified Geese - ~30

Wood Duck – 14

Gadwall – 335

American Wigeon – 15

Mallard – 300

Unidentified Dabbler ducks - ~300

Blue-winged Teal – 1

Northern Shoveler - 15

Northern Pintail – 104

Green-winged Teal – 55

Ring-necked Duck – 970

Bufflehead – 2

Ruddy Duck - 4

Pied-billed Grebe – 6

Double-crested Cormorant – 1

Great-blue Heron – 5

Great Egret – 2

White Ibis – 4 imm.

Black Vulture - 28

Turkey Vulture – 135

Northern Harrier - 2

Sharp-shinned Hawk - 1

Red-shouldered Hawk – 2

Red-tailed Hawk – 2

Common Gallinule – 22

American Coot – 521

Killdeer – 7

Wilson's Snipe – 25

Mourning Dove - 2
Belted Kingfisher - 1
Red-bellied Woodpecker – 1
Hairy Woodpecker - 1
Northern Flicker – 1
Eastern Phoebe – 3
Blue Jay - 3
American Crow – 131
Fish Crow – 2
Carolina Chickadee – 3
Carolina Wren – 1
Sedge Wren – 1
Marsh Wren – 1
Golden-crowned Kinglet - 3
Ruby-crowned Kinglet – 2
Brown Thrasher – 1
American Pipit - 3
Yellow-rumped Warbler – 8
Common Yellowthroat – 1
Field Sparrow - 5
Savannah Sparrow – 1
Song Sparrow - 1
Swamp Sparrow – 6
White-throated Sparrow - 5
White-crowned Sparrow – 1
Dark-eyed Junco - 1
Northern Cardinal – 4
Red-winged Blackbird – 151
Common Grackle – 3
American Goldfinch – 1

Herps:

American Alligator
Red-eared Slider

Odonates:

Blue-faced Meadowhawk

Good birding!

David Arbour
De Queen, AR

Red Slough Bird Survey – October 19, 2021

It started off mostly cloudy & cool, with a slight wind, then turned partly cloudy, warm, and windy. I caught the morning flight out of the heronry/roost. Not many birds left to roost there but was surprised to find 61 White Ibis still there and 3 Neotropic Cormorants. Gallinule numbers are continuing to drop. Just a few left. Waterfowl and sparrow numbers and diversity are on the rise. I re-found the Bewick's Wren from last week and saw it this time but was unable to determine it's back color because it was in deep shade. So I still don't know if it was the Eastern subspecies. Also found late Yellow-billed Cuckoo and Blue-gray Gnatcatcher. Here is my list for today:

***Black-bellied Whistling Duck* – 56**

Greater White-fronted Geese - 4

Wood Duck – 86

Gadwall – 100

American Wigeon – 3

Mallard - 7

Blue-winged Teal – 1

Northern Shoveler - 6

Northern Pintail – 12

Green-winged Teal – 1

Ring-necked Duck - 250

Pied-billed Grebe – 9

American White Pelican – 55

***Neotropic Cormorant* - 3**

Double-crested Cormorant – 1

Great-blue Heron – 8

Great Egret – 27

Snowy Egret – 8

Cattle Egret – 13

Black-crowned Night-Heron - 2

***White Ibis* – 61**

Black Vulture - 20

Turkey Vulture – 49

Red-shouldered Hawk – 1

Red-tailed Hawk - 1

***King Rail* – 2**

***Purple Gallinule* – 9 juveniles**

***Common Gallinule* – 7**

American Coot – 60

Killdeer – 5

Greater Yellowlegs – 3

Yellow-billed Cuckoo – 1 (New late date)

Red-bellied Woodpecker – 2

Downy Woodpecker - 2

Hairy Woodpecker – 2

Northern Flicker – 9

Pileated Woodpecker – 1

Eastern Phoebe – 4

White-eyed Vireo – 1

Blue Jay - 4
American Crow – 202
Fish Crow – 6
Northern Rough-winged Swallow - 3
Carolina Chickadee – 5
Tufted Titmouse – 1
Carolina Wren – 6
Bewick's Wren – 1
House Wren - 1
Sedge Wren - 3
Marsh Wren – 2
Ruby-crowned Kinglet – 1
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher – 1
Brown Thrasher – 1
Yellow-rumped Warbler – 2
Clay-colored Sparrow - 1
Savannah Sparrow – 1
Song Sparrow - 1
Lincoln's Sparrow – 3
Swamp Sparrow – 21
White-crowned Sparrow - 1
Northern Cardinal – 4
Red-winged Blackbird – 42
Eastern Meadowlark - 6

Herps:

American Alligator
Red-eared Slider
Western Cottonmouth
Orange-striped Ribbon Snake
Southern Black Racer
Southern Leopard Frog

Odonates:

Familiar Bluet
Common Green Darner
Eastern Pondhawk
Blue Dasher
Striped Saddlebags

Good birding!

David Arbour
De Queen, AR

Visit the Red Slough Photo Gallery: https://www.pbase.com/red_slough_wma

Red Slough Bird Survey – October 12, 2021

Zach Poland (OK) and I surveyed birds today at Red Slough and found 66 species. The first hour of the survey was clear, mild, and calm but then heavy overcast clouds and light winds were the norm for the rest of the day. The birds were active until it clouded up then became difficult to find. Most notable highlights (at least for me) were 2 Red-breasted Nuthatches (in the willows), 7 King Rails, and a Bewick's Wren. All the Bewick's Wrens that I have been able to identify to subspecies in the past have been the Eastern Bewick's Wren with the red back. This subspecies is almost extinct with no birds known to be existing in the eastern U.S. anymore and just a handful hanging on in the Ozarks. The bird we had we only heard and I can only speculate it was probably an Eastern subspecies. I had two Eastern subspecies last winter. Duck variety is on the increase and wader numbers are getting low. It was interesting to see a couple juvenile soras out on the open lake walking around on the lily pads like gallinules. Here is our list for today:

***Black-bellied Whistling Duck* – 180**

Wood Duck – 56

Gadwall – 31

American Wigeon – 4

Blue-winged Teal – 43

Northern Pintail – 20

Green-winged Teal – 18

Ring-necked Duck - 30

Pied-billed Grebe – 9

Double-crested Cormorant – 20

American Bittern - 1

Great-blue Heron – 8

Great Egret – 7

Snowy Egret – 10

Little-blue Heron – 1

Cattle Egret – 200

Black-crowned Night-Heron - 3

***White Ibis* – 12**

***Dark Ibis (Plegadis sp.)* - 4**

Black Vulture - 6

Turkey Vulture – 13

Osprey - 1

Sharp-shinned Hawk - 2

Red-shouldered Hawk – 3

***King Rail* – 7**

Sora - 2

***Purple Gallinule* – 29 (only 3 of these were adults)**

***Common Gallinule* – 27**

American Coot – 195

Killdeer – 11

Solitary Sandpiper – 1
Peep species – 3 (probably Least; seen in flight.)
Wilson's Snipe – 16
Mourning Dove – 3
Belted Kingfisher - 1
Red-bellied Woodpecker – 1
Downy Woodpecker - 2
Hairy Woodpecker – 2
Northern Flicker – 12
Pileated Woodpecker – 1
Eastern Phoebe – 4
White-eyed Vireo – 2
Blue Jay - 4
American Crow – 12
Fish Crow – 1
Tree Swallow - 2
Barn Swallow - 4
Carolina Chickadee – 6
Tufted Titmouse – 2
Red-breasted Nuthatch - 2
Carolina Wren – 5
Bewick's Wren – 1 (heard only)
Sedge Wren - 1
Marsh Wren – 5
Ruby-crowned Kinglet – 4
Gray Catbird – 5
Brown Thrasher – 5
Yellow-rumped Warbler – 1
Pine Warbler - 1
Common Yellowthroat – 4
Lincoln's Sparrow – 1
Swamp Sparrow - 12
Northern Cardinal – 7
Rose-breasted Grosbeak - 2
Indigo Bunting – 1 juv.
Red-winged Blackbird – 34

Herps:

American Alligator
Broad-banded Watersnake
Green Treefrog
Blanchard's Cricket Frog

Odonates:

Common Green Darner

Eastern Pondhawk
Blue Dasher

Good birding!

David Arbour
De Queen, AR

Visit the Red Slough Photo Gallery: https://www.pbase.com/red_slough_wma

Red Slough Bird Survey – October 6, 2021

Randy Soto and I surveyed birds today at Red Slough and found 64 species. It was partly cloudy and warm with a slight breeze. Most notable highlights today were 2 juvenile Roseate Spoonbills that flew into the heronry to roost around late morning and a single juvenile Wood Stork in the unit 16 east ditch with other waders. Our Summer water bird numbers have really dropped since last week. I did not make the first half of the morning flight so I probably missed a few things. A few Passerine migrants were around also. Here is our list for today:

***Black-bellied Whistling Duck* – 113**

Canada Geese - 3

Wood Duck – 125

Gadwall - 1

Pied-billed Grebe – 4

Double-crested Cormorant – 2

American Bittern - 1

Great-blue Heron – 6

Great Egret – 7

Snowy Egret – 11

Little-blue Heron – 1

Cattle Egret – 22

White Ibis – 11

Roseate Spoonbill – 2 juv.

Wood Stork – 1 juv.

Black Vulture - 110

Turkey Vulture – 117

Red-shouldered Hawk – 1

Broad-winged Hawk – 7

American Kestrel - 1

Merlin – 1 adult (chasing a crow around the heronry.)

King Rail – 4

Sora - 1

Purple Gallinule – 26 (only 4 of these were adults)

Common Gallinule – 22

American Coot – 52

Killdeer – 9

Greater Yellowlegs - 1

Pectoral Sandpiper – 1

Wilson's Snipe – 7

Great-horned Owl – 1

Red-headed woodpecker – 1

Red-bellied Woodpecker - 4
Hairy Woodpecker – 2
Northern Flicker – 13
Pileated Woodpecker – 1
Eastern Wood-Pewee - 1
Eastern Phoebe – 6
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher - 1
White-eyed Vireo – 2
Blue Jay - 11
American Crow – 7
Fish Crow - 1
Northern Rough-winged Swallow – 1
Barn Swallow - 1
Carolina Chickadee – 5
Tufted Titmouse - 4
Carolina Wren – 7
Sedge Wren - 1
Marsh Wren – 9
Ruby-crowned Kinglet – 1
American Robin - 1
Gray Catbird – 1
Brown Thrasher – 6
Nashville Warbler – 1
Yellow-rumped Warbler - 1
Common Yellowthroat – 3
Summer Tanager – 1
Savannah Sparrow – 1
Lincoln's Sparrow – 1
Swamp Sparrow - 15
Northern Cardinal – 5
Indigo Bunting – 36 juv.
Red-winged Blackbird – 59

Herps:

American Alligator

Odonates:

Familiar Bluet
Common Green Darner
Eastern Pondhawk
Slaty Skimmer
Blue Dasher
Wandering Glider
Striped Saddlebags
Black Saddlebags

Good birding!

David Arbour
De Queen, AR

Visit the Red Slough Photo Gallery: https://www.pbase.com/red_slough_wma

Red Slough Bird Survey – September 28, 2021

It was partly cloudy, warm, and a little windy today on the bird survey. 51 species were found. The biggest highlight today were the Wood Storks. Early in the morning several birds were seen flying low from east to west over Red Slough. Around 10 a.m. large high flying flocks of Black Vultures starting passing over migrating south. As they caught thermals and started circling I noticed a few hawks mixed in with them. As I started scanning through the group looking for hawks I found a group of 6 Wood Storks mixed in with them along with a few Broad-winged Hawks. After they passed to the south another large group of Black Vultures came over and in this group were 9 Wood Storks and a single Anhinga. As high as these birds were I would guess they were coming from the Little River NWR about 15 miles to the north of us. And later in the day as I was leaving the reservoirs and approaching the north parking lot, I flushed from the barrow area around 30 Wood Storks which were joined by several other birds getting up from nearby areas in unit 27A. The morning flight out of the heronry is getting smaller every week now as birds are leaving to migrate south. There was still one pair of White Ibis coming and going from the heronry apparently still feeding young birds. Also, I witnessed an adult Bald Eagle catch a small egret species in the air on the backside of the heronry. Black-bellied Whistling Ducks are staging on Pintail Lake but not in the numbers I have seen in past years but that may change as we still have a few more weeks before they usually leave. Here is my list for today:

***Black-bellied Whistling Duck* – 138**

Wood Duck – 187

Gadwall - 3

Blue-winged Teal – 5

Pied-billed Grebe – 11

***Neotropic Cormorant* – 11**

***Anhinga* – 2**

Great-blue Heron – 6

Great Egret – 7

Snowy Egret – 23

Little-blue Heron – 275

Cattle Egret – 2500

Green Heron - 1

Black-crowned Night-Heron - 14

***White Ibis* – 26**

***Dark Ibis (Plegadis species)* – 10**

***Wood Stork* - 59**

Black Vulture - 122

Turkey Vulture – 106

Bald Eagle – 1 adult

Northern Harrier – 1

Sharp-shinned Hawk - 1

Red-shouldered Hawk – 3

Broad-winged Hawk – 7

Merlin - 1
Purple Gallinule – 58
Common Gallinule – 60
American Coot – 38
Killdeer – 6
Pectoral Sandpiper – 2
Wilson's Snipe – 8
Yellow-billed Cuckoo – 3
Chimney Swift – 1
Downy Woodpecker - 1
Hairy Woodpecker – 1
Northern Flicker - 3
Eastern Phoebe – 2
White-eyed Vireo – 5
Blue Jay - 1
American Crow – 100
Northern Rough-winged Swallow – 13
Barn Swallow - 2
Carolina Chickadee - 3
Carolina Wren – 5
Marsh Wren – 2
Gray Catbird – 5
Common Yellowthroat – 4
Northern Cardinal – 8
Blue Grosbeak – 1 juv.
Indigo Bunting – 13 juv.
Red-winged Blackbird – 33

Herps:

American Alligator
Mississippi Map Turtle
Red-eared Slider

Odonates:

Common Green Darner
Eastern Pondhawk
Blue Dasher
Wandering Glider
Striped Saddlebags
Black Saddlebags

Good birding!

David Arbour
De Queen, AR

Visit the Red Slough Photo Gallery: https://www.pbase.com/red_slough_wma

Red Slough Bird Survey – September 22, 2021

It was cool, clear, and very windy on the survey today. 58 species were found. Carey & Connie Hardesty (TX) joined me for part of the survey. Best highlights were one Roseate Spoonbill and two Cave Swallows. Also, we had a pretty good hawk movement for about an hour consisting of mostly Broad-winged Hawks, but also Accipiters and 1 Bald eagle. There was also a big migration of Black Vultures too. I caught the morning flight out of the heronry/roost where overall numbers are dropping weekly. There is still a pair of White Ibis feeding fledglings in the heronry. The 2 fledglings left the heronry with the other ibis but turned back as they apparently weren't ready to travel any distance yet. Here is my list for today:

***Black-bellied Whistling Duck* – 102**

Wood Duck – 480

Gadwall - 4

Blue-winged Teal – 46

Northern Shoveler - 11

Northern Pintail – 1

Green-winged Teal - 4

Pied-billed Grebe – 5

***Neotropic Cormorant* – 21**

***Anhinga* – 1**

Great-blue Heron – 10

Great Egret – 45

Snowy Egret – 30

Little-blue Heron – 446

Cattle Egret – 8,000

Black-crowned Night-Heron - 6

***White Ibis* – 203**

***Dark Ibis (Plegadis species)* – 7**

***Roseate Spoonbill* - 1**

Black Vulture - 365

Turkey Vulture – 53

Bald Eagle – 1 imm.

Northern Harrier – 1

Sharp-shinned Hawk - 1

Cooper's Hawk - 4

Red-shouldered Hawk – 4

Broad-winged Hawk – 1460

Red-tailed Hawk – 1

American Kestrel – 1

Merlin - 1

***Purple Gallinule* – 53**

***Common Gallinule* – 50**

American Coot – 23

Killdeer – 1

Mourning Dove – 2
Hairy Woodpecker – 1
Northern Flicker - 9
Pileated Woodpecker - 1
Least Flycatcher – 2
Eastern Phoebe – 2
Eastern Kingbird - 2
White-eyed Vireo – 3
American Crow – 11
Tree Swallow - 7
Northern Rough-winged Swallow – 60
Cave Swallow - 2
Barn Swallow - 7
Carolina Chickadee - 3
Tufted Titmouse – 3
Carolina Wren – 2
Marsh Wren – 1
Gray Catbird – 2
Brown Thrasher - 2
Common Yellowthroat – 3
Northern Cardinal – 3
Rose-breasted Grosbeak – 1 imm. male
Indigo Bunting – 47
Red-winged Blackbird – 20

Herps:

American Alligator

Odonates:

Common Green Darner
Eastern Pondhawk
Slaty Skimmer
Blue Dasher
Common Whitetail
Wandering Glider
Black Saddlebags

Good birding!

David Arbour
De Queen, AR

Visit the Red Slough Photo Gallery: https://www.pbase.com/red_slough_wma

Red Slough Bird Survey – September 14, 2021

Jim Bradford (OK) and I surveyed birds today at Red Slough and found 46 species. It was partly cloudy, foggy (early), and hot with a light wind. The morning flight out of the Heronry, turned Roost (actually there are still a couple Cattle Egret nests with young.), started around 6:30 but it was foggy and I was unable to see and count the birds leaving the backside of the roost. Most notable highlights today were a juvenile Cave Swallow and a late female/juv. Orchard Oriole. Anhingas are almost all gone. Gallinule numbers are dropping fast too. All the summer wader numbers are dropping. Black-bellied Whistling Duck numbers usually are climbing this time of year as they stage here but the large drop in numbers from last week can probably be attributed to Teal season opening this past weekend. A very few migrating Passerines were present. Here is my list for today:

***Black-bellied Whistling Duck* – 67**

Wood Duck – 190

Blue-winged Teal – 17

Northern Pintail - 2

Pied-billed Grebe – 8

***Neotropic Cormorant* – 22**

***Anhinga* – 5**

American Bittern - 2

Great-blue Heron – 5

Great Egret – 13

Snowy Egret – 60

Little-blue Heron – 430

Cattle Egret – 10,000

Green Heron – 4

Black-crowned Night-Heron - 2

***White Ibis* – 97**

***Dark Ibis (Plegadis species)* - 1**

Black Vulture - 10

Turkey Vulture – 22

Cooper's Hawk - 1

Red-shouldered Hawk - 1

***Purple Gallinule* – 36**

***Common Gallinule* – 49**

American Coot – 6

Killdeer – 2

Mourning Dove - 6

Ruby-throated Hummingbird – 1

Red-bellied Woodpecker – 1

Pileated Woodpecker - 1

Least Flycatcher – 3

White-eyed Vireo – 6

American Crow – 3

Tree Swallow - 8

Northern Rough-winged Swallow – 3

Cliff Swallow – 4

***Cave Swallow* - 1**

Barn Swallow - 20

Carolina Chickadee - 1
Tufted Titmouse – 2
Carolina Wren – 3
Prothonotary Warbler – 1 juv.
Common Yellowthroat – 3
Northern Cardinal – 1
Indigo Bunting – 50
Red-winged Blackbird – 1
Orchard Oriole - 1

Herps:

American Alligator
Gulf Leopard Frog

Odonates:

Common Green Darner
Four-spotted Pennant
Eastern Pondhawk
Slaty Skimmer
Great-blue Skimmer
Blue Dasher
Striped Saddlebags
Black Saddlebags

Good birding!

David Arbour
De Queen, AR

Visit the Red Slough Photo Gallery: https://www.pbase.com/red_slough_wma

Red Slough Bird Survey – September 7, 2021

It was clear and cool early but turning hot with a light breeze on the bird survey today. 51 species were found. Black-bellied Whistling Ducks numbers are growing as they stage in the Heronry at Pintail Lake. Anhingas are dispersing with only a few left. A few Passerine migrants were found in the Roughleaf Dogwood patches on the north levee of Bittern Lake. Here is my list for today:

***Black-bellied Whistling Duck* – 150**

Canada Geese - 9
Wood Duck – 205
Blue-winged Teal - 21
Pied-billed Grebe – 5

***Neotropic Cormorant* – 15**

***Anhinga* – 12**

American Bittern - 1
Great-blue Heron – 4

Great Egret – 78
Snowy Egret – 25
Little-blue Heron – 565
Cattle Egret – 12,000
Green Heron – 4
Black-crowned Night-Heron - 1
White Ibis – 181
Dark Ibis (*Plegadis species*) - 10
Black Vulture - 61
Turkey Vulture – 36
Mississippi Kite – 2
Red-shouldered Hawk - 2
Purple Gallinule – 71
Common Gallinule – 63
American Coot – 1
Ruby-throated Hummingbird – 4
Red-headed Woodpecker – 1 juv.
Red-bellied Woodpecker – 1
Downy Woodpecker – 2
Hairy Woodpecker – 2
Pileated Woodpecker - 1
Least Flycatcher – 4
White-eyed Vireo – 8
Warbling Vireo - 1
Red-eyed Vireo – 3
Blue Jay - 1
American Crow – 9
Fish Crow – 2
Tree Swallow - 2
Northern Rough-winged Swallow – 1
Barn Swallow - 1
Carolina Chickadee - 9
Tufted Titmouse – 2
Carolina Wren – 3
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher – 2
Yellow Warbler – 1
Prothonotary Warbler - 1
Common Yellowthroat – 2
Northern Cardinal – 7
Indigo Bunting – 20
Painted Bunting – 3 juv.
Red-winged Blackbird – 30

Herps:

American Alligator
Green Treefrog
Gulf Leopard Frog

Odonates:

Royal River Cruiser
Four-spotted Pennant
Eastern Pondhawk
Slaty Skimmer
Great-blue Skimmer
Blue Dasher
Eastern Amberwing
Wandering Glider
Striped Saddlebags
Black Saddlebags

Good birding!

David Arbour
De Queen, AR

Red Slough Bird Survey – August 31, 2021

It was mostly clear and hot on the bird survey today. 52 species were found. I caught the morning flight out of the heronry. It started about 6:20 a.m. Most notable birds found were dark ibis and Common Nighthawk. A large number of Black-bellied Whistling Ducks this early was notable too. Also there were 4 fledgling White Ibis being fed in the heronry. Anhinga numbers are dropping as the birds are finishing up nesting and are dispersing. Saw a Neotropic Cormorant feeding 3 fledglings in the heronry also. Did fair for this time of year on Passerines. Amazingly they were active in the middle of the day. Here is my list for today:

***Black-bellied Whistling Duck* - 126**

Wood Duck – 160

Mallard – 2

Blue-winged Teal - 32

Pied-billed Grebe – 10

***Neotropic Cormorant* – 33**

***Anhinga* – 48**

Great-blue Heron – 2

Great Egret – 43

Snowy Egret – 25

Little-blue Heron – 931

Cattle Egret – 15,000

Green Heron – 3

Black-crowned Night-Heron - 1

***White Ibis* – 249**

***Dark Ibis (Plegadis species)* - 3**

Black Vulture - 4

Turkey Vulture – 22

Mississippi Kite – 6

Red-shouldered Hawk - 2

***Purple Gallinule* – 72 (adults and adult-sized juveniles; a couple broods of small young seen.)**

Common Gallinule – 62 (adults and adult-sized juveniles; one newly hatched brood seen.)

American Coot – 2

“Peep” species - 1

Mourning Dove - 1

Yellow-billed Cuckoo – 1

Barred Owl – 1

Common Nighthawk – 1 (very rare at RS!)

Ruby-throated Hummingbird – 1

Red-bellied Woodpecker – 2

Willow Flycatcher – 1

Least Flycatcher – 2

Eastern Kingbird – 1

White-eyed Vireo – 7

Red-eyed Vireo – 1

American Crow – 5

Fish Crow - 1

Northern Rough-winged Swallow – 3

Barn Swallow - 1

Carolina Chickadee - 6

Tufted Titmouse – 7

Carolina Wren – 4

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher – 5

Yellow Warbler – 2

Prothonotary Warbler - 2

Common Yellowthroat – 2

Yellow-breasted Chat – 1 singing

Northern Cardinal – 2

Indigo Bunting – 6

Painted Bunting – 1 juv.

Dickcissel - 4

Red-winged Blackbird – 48

Herps:

American Alligator

Yellow-bellied Watersnake

Western Cottonmouth

Green Treefrog

Gulf Leopard Frog

Odonates:

Regal Darner

Prince Baskettail

Royal River Cruiser

Halloween Pennant

Four-spotted Pennant

Eastern Pondhawk

Slaty Skimmer

Great-blue Skimmer
Common Whitetail
Blue Dasher
Spot-winged Glider
Wandering Glider
Striped Saddlebags
Black Saddlebags

Good birding!

David Arbour
De Queen, AR

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Red Slough Bird Survey – August 24, 2021

It started off clear, warm and calm but turned partly cloudy and hot on the bird survey today. 49 species were found. Instead of catching the morning flight out of the heronry, I worked the woodland edges along the north part of Red Slough road for passerines and did fairly well for this time of year. Missing the morning flight from the heronry resulted in low counts for the waders, Anhingas, and Neotropical Cormorants. I didn't make it to the reservoirs until 10:00 which hurt my counts on gallinules. Highlight was catching a juvenile Wood Stork soaring low over unit 26 around 10:00. Here is my list for today:

***Black-bellied Whistling Duck* - 19**

Wood Duck – 12
Pied-billed Grebe – 3

***Neotropic Cormorant* – 15**

Anhinga – 158
Great-blue Heron – 5
Great Egret – 20
Snowy Egret – 2
Little-blue Heron – 89
Cattle Egret – 1265
Green Heron – 1

***White Ibis* – 6**

***Wood Stork* - 1**

Black Vulture - 54
Turkey Vulture – 30
Mississippi Kite – 2
Red-shouldered Hawk - 2

***Purple Gallinule* – 63 (adults and adult-sized juveniles)**

***Common Gallinule* – 76 (adults and adult-sized juveniles)**

American Coot – 4
Mourning Dove - 3
Yellow-billed Cuckoo – 12
Barred Owl – 1

Chimney Swift - 1
Ruby-throated Hummingbird – 3
Red-bellied Woodpecker – 5
Downy Woodpecker - 1
Eastern Wood-Pewee – 1
Acadian Flycatcher – 3
Great-crested Flycatcher - 2
White-eyed Vireo – 8
Yellow-throated Vireo – 1
Red-eyed Vireo – 8 (one feeding a fledgling.)
Blue Jay - 3
American Crow – 11
Swallow species - 2
Carolina Chickadee - 4
Tufted Titmouse – 6
Carolina Wren – 7
Northern Parula – 1
Kentucky Warbler - 2
Common Yellowthroat – 1
Yellow-breasted Chat – 1
Summer Tanager - 2
Northern Cardinal – 5
Blue Grosbeak - 1
Indigo Bunting – 10
Red-winged Blackbird – 1

Herps:

American Alligator
Green Treefrog
Green Frog

Odonates:

Regal Darner
Prince Baskettail
Royal River Cruiser
Halloween Pennant
Four-spotted Pennant
Eastern Pondhawk
Slaty Skimmer
Widow Skimmer
Great-blue Skimmer
Blue Dasher
Eastern Amberwing
Spot-winged Glider
Wandering Glider
Striped Saddlebags
Black Saddlebags

Good birding!

David Arbour
De Queen, AR

Visit the Red Slough Photo Gallery: https://www.pbase.com/red_slough_wma

Red Slough Bird Survey – August 10, 2021

It was partly cloudy, windy and hot on the bird survey today. 52 species were found. A few migrants were passing through. Notable highlights included a Cave Swallow, American Bittern, and a Wood Stork. Here is my list for today:

***Black-bellied Whistling Duck* - 13**

Wood Duck – 59

Mallard - 4

Pied-billed Grebe – 3

***Neotropic Cormorant* – 27**

Anhinga – 186 (lots of fledglings.)

***American Bittern* - 1**

Great-blue Heron – 11

Great Egret – 35

Snowy Egret – 3

Little-blue Heron – 208

Cattle Egret – ~25,000

Green Heron – 7

Black-crowned Night-Heron – 4

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron – 7

White Ibis – 260 (we've had a large influx of juvenile birds from somewhere.)

***Wood Stork* - 1**

Black Vulture - 67

Turkey Vulture – 72

Mississippi Kite – 7

Purple Gallinule – 70 (adults and adult-sized juveniles)

Common Gallinule – 58 (adults and adult-sized juveniles)

American Coot – 1

Peep species – 3 (distant flyby.)

Tern species - 1

Mourning Dove - 1

Yellow-billed Cuckoo – 3

Ruby-throated Hummingbird – 1

Red-bellied Woodpecker – 1

Eastern Wood-Pewee - 1

Empidonax species – 1

Eastern Kingbird – 5

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher - 1

White-eyed Vireo – 2

Blue Jay - 1
American Crow – 3
Fish Crow - 1
Purple Martin – 1
Tree Swallow - 2
Cliff Swallow – 14
Cave Swallow - 1
Barn Swallow – 5
Tufted Titmouse – 2
Carolina Wren – 11
European Starling – 1
Louisiana Waterthrush - 1
Common Yellowthroat – 2
Northern Cardinal – 7
Indigo Bunting – 6
Dickcissel - 2
Red-winged Blackbird – 415
Common Grackle – 3,030 (Large flocks flying east from their roosts.)

Herps:

American Alligator
Blanchard's Cricket Frog
Green Treefrog

Odonates:

Cyrano Darner
Common Green Darner
Prince Baskettail
Royal River Cruiser
Halloween Pennant
Four-spotted Pennant
Eastern Pondhawk
Slaty Skimmer
Great-blue Skimmer
Blue Dasher
Spot-winged Glider
Wandering Glider
Striped Saddlebags
Black Saddlebags
“red” Saddlebags species

Good birding!

David Arbour
De Queen, AR

Visit the Red Slough Photo Gallery: https://www.pbase.com/red_slough_wma

Red Slough Bird Survey – July 29, 2021

It was partly cloudy and hot with a faint breeze on the survey today. 46 species were found. I caught the morning flight out of the heronry this morning. Flight out started at 6:01. Most notable sighting today was of an American Bittern flying around the heronry on Pintail Lake and finally landing on lotus pads on the lake next to the heronry. Was odd seeing one standing on Lotus pads like a gallinule. Was surprised the Lotus pads could hold up its weight. I did spend a lot more time this week looking for Passerines but without much success. I noticed a number of Common Gallinules with newly hatched young which means they are on their second broods. Common Gallinules almost always have two broods but Purple Gallinules only occasionally will do this. The young from the first brood of these two species will help raise the second brood. Here is my list for today:

***Black-bellied Whistling Duck* - 8**

Wood Duck – 19

Pied-billed Grebe – 3

***Neotropic Cormorant* – 15**

Anhinga – 175

***American Bittern* - 1**

Great-blue Heron – 8

Great Egret – 31

Snowy Egret – 37

Little-blue Heron – 220

Cattle Egret – ~20,000

Green Heron – 13

Black-crowned Night-Heron – 5

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron – 1

***White Ibis* – 292**

Black Vulture - 12

Turkey Vulture – 5

***Purple Gallinule* – 50**

***Common Gallinule* – 48**

American Coot – 2

Mourning Dove - 3

Yellow-billed Cuckoo – 5

Ruby-throated Hummingbird – 3

Belted Kingfisher – 1

Red-bellied Woodpecker – 1

Downy Woodpecker – 1

Eastern Wood-Pewee - 1

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher – 1

White-eyed Vireo – 6

American Crow – 3

Fish Crow – 1

Purple Martin – 2

Tree Swallow – 1

Cliff Swallow - 4

Barn Swallow – 3
Carolina Chickadee - 2
Tufted Titmouse – 2
Carolina Wren – 4
Common Yellowthroat – 6
Eastern Towhee - 1
Northern Cardinal – 9
Indigo Bunting – 15
Painted Bunting – 1
Dickcissel - 6
Red-winged Blackbird – 25
Common Grackle - 325

Herps:

American Alligator
Softshell Turtle species
Blanchard's Cricket Frog

Odonates:

Prince Baskettail
Royal River Cruiser
Halloween Pennant
Four-spotted Pennant
Eastern Pondhawk
Slaty Skimmer
Blue Dasher

Striped Saddlebags

Good birding!

David Arbour
De Queen, AR

Visit the Red Slough Photo Gallery: https://www.pbase.com/red_slough_wma

Red Slough Bird Survey – July 22, 2021

It was clear turning partly cloudy, hot, with a very slight wind on the bird survey today. 42 species were found. Once again I got caught up trying to count all the water birds and waders on the reservoirs and in the heronry and ended up neglecting the Passerines. By the time I finished with the reservoirs and heronry it was so hot the Passerines were scarce and silent. An out of the ordinary highlight today were 3 Wood Storks; two soaring high over unit 16 with Anhingas and vultures and one sitting in a dead snag on unit 15. Lots of waders are finishing up with their nesting now and dispersing. Great Egret numbers have really dropped. White Ibis numbers have dropped too but most of them are not nesting. I only found 4 White Ibis nest this year and I can no longer relocate them. But there is a large area in the center of the heronry that is difficult to view so there may still be some nesting. There were certainly

White Ibis flying in and out of the heronry all morning as if they were feeding young. Here is my list for today:

***Black-bellied Whistling Duck* - 5**

Wood Duck – 19

Pied-billed Grebe – 5

Neotropic Cormorant – 29 (adults & fledged juveniles; 14 nests: 12 nests with nestlings and two nests with adult birds sitting.).

Anhinga – 172 (adults & fledged juveniles; lots of active nests with nestlings and some with adults sitting.)

Great-blue Heron – 4

Great Egret – 23

Snowy Egret – 66

Little-blue Heron – 230

Cattle Egret – ~20,000

Green Heron – 9

Black-crowned Night-Heron – 3 (including one fledgling.)

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron – 3 imm.

White Ibis – 312

Wood Stork – 3

Black Vulture - 49

Turkey Vulture – 11

Mississippi Kite – 2

Red-shouldered Hawk - 1

Purple Gallinule – 83 (63 adults & 20 near adult-sized juveniles. Numerous broods of smaller young.)

Common Gallinule – 59 (54 adults & 5 near adult-sized juveniles; also lots of broods of smaller young.)

American Coot – 2

Mourning Dove - 1

Yellow-billed Cuckoo – 4

Ruby-throated Hummingbird - 1

Eastern Kingbird – 1

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher – 4 (Pair with 2 fledglings.)

White-eyed Vireo – 1

American Crow – 6

Fish Crow – 2

Barn Swallow - 4

Tufted Titmouse – 3

Carolina Wren – 3

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher - 2

Common Yellowthroat – 8

Yellow-breasted Chat – 1

Northern Cardinal – 4

Indigo Bunting – 12

Painted Bunting – 3

Dickcissel - 5

Red-winged Blackbird – 46

Common Grackle - 130

Herps:

Blanchard's Cricket Frog

Odonates:

Swamp Darner
Cyrano Darner
Prince Baskettail
Halloween Pennant
Four-spotted Pennant
Eastern Pondhawk
Slaty Skimmer
Widow Skimmer
Blue Dasher

Good birding!

David Arbour
De Queen, AR

Visit the Red Slough Photo Gallery: https://www.pbase.com/red_slough_wma

Red Slough Bird Survey – July 13, 2021

RJ Baltierra (WA) and I surveyed birds today at Red Slough and found 53 species. The weather was mostly clear starting off calm and mild but turning hot and windy by afternoon. We got there early and caught the morning flight from the heronry. Unfortunately I am only able to count birds leaving the heronry on the east and south sides of the heronry and I am not able to count the ones leaving on the north and west sides. But I am covering the sides with the largest number of birds exiting. Great Egret numbers were noticeably down as well as White Ibis numbers. We surveyed the backside of the heronry as well. Lots of young in the nests of all species in the heronry. Many young starting to fledge. In spite of the large numbers of White Ibis using the Pintail Lake heronry for a roost, I have only seen 4 White Ibis nests in my scans of the heronry. There is another heronry that has started up (about a month ago) in unit 27B in groupings of large buttonbushes. Several hundred birds present with young already in the nests. This area was a Green Heron rookery but Little-blue Herons, Snowy Egrets, and Cattle Egrets have taken the site over for themselves. Due to the time involved in counting the large numbers of heronry birds and the large numbers of gallinules on the reservoirs, the Passerines were mostly neglected again. Next week I will try and put more emphasis on counting Passerines, especially woodland species, but it is so tempting to spend most of the time at the reservoirs looking through the sheer numbers of birds there and hoping for storks, spoonbills, and maybe another Limpkin. Here is our list for today:

***Black-bellied Whistling Duck* - 10**

Wood Duck – 18

Mallard – 1 (eclipse male)

Pied-billed Grebe – 8

Neotropic Cormorant – 27 (adults & fledglings).

Anhinga – 178 (adults & fledglings)

Least Bittern – 2 (one sitting on nest with downy young.).

Great-blue Heron – 6

Great Egret – 90

Snowy Egret – 94

Little-blue Heron – 325

Cattle Egret – ~20,000

Green Heron – 24

Black-crowned Night-Heron – 10 (including two fledglings.)

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron – 1 imm.

White Ibis – 875

Turkey Vulture – 29

Mississippi Kite – 1

Purple Gallinule – 77 adults (numerous broods of young.)

Common Gallinule – 58 (57 adults & 1 near adult sized immature; also lots of broods of young.)

American Coot – 6

Mourning Dove - 2

Yellow-billed Cuckoo – 4

Ruby-throated Hummingbird - 1

Red-bellied Woodpecker – 2

Acadian Flycatcher - 1

Eastern Kingbird – 2

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher - 1

White-eyed Vireo – 4

Red-eyed Vireo - 2

American Crow – 1

Fish Crow – 2

Purple Martin - 1

Tree Swallow – 9

Cliff Swallow - 6

Barn Swallow - 3

Carolina Chickadee – 5

Tufted Titmouse – 1

Carolina Wren – 6

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher - 1

European Starling – 1

Prothonotary Warbler – 2

Common Yellowthroat – 10

Yellow-breasted Chat – 6

Summer Tanager – 3

Eastern Towhee – 1 singing

Northern Cardinal – 6

Indigo Bunting – 14

Painted Bunting – 2

Red-winged Blackbird – 145

Common Grackle - 52

Brown-headed Cowbird – 5

Orchard Oriole - 2

Herps:

American Alligator
Red-eared Slider
Softshell Turtle species
Green Treefrog
Blanchard's Cricket Frog
Green Frog
Gulf Coast Leopard Frog

Odonates:

Fragile Forktail
Blue-tipped Dancer
Spreadwing species
Ebony Jewelwing
***Duckweed Firetail* - 11**
Powdered Dancer
Swamp Darner
Prince Baskettail
Royal River Cruiser
Jade Clubtail
Common Sanddragon
Dragon Hunter
Halloween Pennant
Four-spotted Pennant
Eastern Pondhawk
Slaty Skimmer
Great-blue Skimmer
Blue Dasher
Spot-winged Glider
Black Saddlebags

Good birding!

David Arbour
De Queen, AR

Visit the Red Slough Photo Gallery: https://www.pbase.com/red_slough_wma

Red Slough Bird Survey – July 7, 2021

Cynthia Woodsong (NC) and I surveyed birds today at Red Slough and found 52 species. The weather was partly cloudy, calm, and mild, turning hot and a little windy in the afternoon. I caught the morning

flight from the heronry which started at 5:45 a.m. and lasted an hour. Incredible numbers of birds left the heronry in 4 or 5 different directions and I was only able to monitor a couple of the flight paths so a lot of birds didn't get counted. Cynthia joined me after the morning flight. It took most of the survey time to count all the heronry birds. Lots of young have fledged now and there was a constant flight in and out of the heronry by adult birds feeding young. Broods of gallinules everywhere I looked. Here is our list for today:

***Black-bellied Whistling Duck* - 11**

Wood Duck – 33

Hooded Merganser - 1

Pied-billed Grebe – 7

***Neotropic Cormorant* – 20**

***Anhinga* – 222**

***Least Bittern* – 1** (sitting on nest).

Great-blue Heron – 3

Great Egret – 492

Snowy Egret – 56

Little-blue Heron – 226

Cattle Egret – ~20,000

Green Heron – 28

Black-crowned Night-Heron – 10 (one pair feeding fledgling.)

***White Ibis* – 1196**

***Wood Stork* - 1**

Black Vulture - 14

Turkey Vulture – 5

Mississippi Kite – 18

***Purple Gallinule* – 66** (numerous broods of young.)

***Common Gallinule* – 58** (also lots of broods of young.)

American Coot – 6

Yellow-billed Cuckoo – 5

Barred Owl – 2

Ruby-throated Hummingbird - 3

Red-bellied Woodpecker – 6

Hairy Woodpecker - 1

Eastern Kingbird – 3

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher - 1

White-eyed Vireo – 12

American Crow – 8

Fish Crow – 6

Tree Swallow – 11

Cliff Swallow - 6

Barn Swallow - 5

Carolina Chickadee – 1

Tufted Titmouse – 3

Carolina Wren – 8

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher - 1

European Starling – 2

Yellow-throated Warbler - 1

Prothonotary Warbler – 3
Common Yellowthroat – 5
Yellow-breasted Chat – 8
Summer Tanager - 1
Northern Cardinal – 10
Indigo Bunting – 17
Painted Bunting – 4
Dickcissel - 7
Red-winged Blackbird – 24
Common Grackle - 70
Brown-headed Cowbird – 1

Herps:

American Alligator
Red-eared Slider
Broad-banded Watersnake
Prairie Kingsnake
Green Treefrog
Blanchard's Cricket Frog
Bullfrog

Odonates:

Swamp Darner
Regal Darner
Prince Baskettail
Halloween Pennant
Eastern Pondhawk
Slaty Skimmer
Great-blue Skimmer
Golden-winged Skimmer
Blue Dasher
Black Saddlebags

Good birding!

David Arbour
De Queen, AR

Red Slough Bird Survey – June 29, 2021

Erich Massad (OK) and I surveyed birds today at Red Slough and found 57 species. It started off partly cloudy (early) with a light wind, then turning overcast with fairly dense fog, but clearing off to partly cloudy by mid-day. We only caught the last half of the morning flight out of the heronry and we never made it to the backside of the reservoirs to survey the backside of the heronry so wader numbers are lower than usual, especially for Great Egrets (they leave the heronry very early) and Little-blue Herons

(they are mainly nesting on the backside of the heronry.). The dense fog didn't help the survey either. Of note today was an alternate plumaged Black Tern. We will get Black Terns on rare occasions in summer but never had one in alternate plumage before. Lots of broods of both gallinule species everywhere we looked. I found a Least Bittern sitting on a nest in a clump of cattails. She was standing in the nest in typical bittern pose with her head and neck pointing straight up. I could see eggs in the nest. I also found a Purple Gallinule nest several feet above the water in a buttonbush that contained both newly hatched young and eggs. Here is our list for yesterday:

***Black-bellied Whistling Duck* - 8**

Wood Duck – 5

Ring-necked Duck – 3 (2 males & a female)

Pied-billed Grebe – 2

***Neotropic Cormorant* – 15 (numerous nests)**

***Anhinga* – 108** (a lot were on nests, a few young were fledging.)

***Least Bittern* – 2** (one sitting on nest).

Great-blue Heron – 8 (Seeing mostly juveniles lately.)

Great Egret – 30

Snowy Egret – 60

Little-blue Heron – 37

Cattle Egret – ~15,000

Green Heron – 13 (several nests with young & eggs.)

Black-crowned Night-Heron – 4

***White Ibis* – 738** (one on nest seen today; most nest are on backside of heronry where we didn't go today.)

Black Vulture - 11

Turkey Vulture – 17

Mississippi Kite – 8

***Purple Gallinule* – 77** (numerous broods of young.)

***Common Gallinule* – 40** (also lots of broods of young.)

American Coot – 4

Killdeer – 1

Black Tern – 1 (alternate plumaged bird.)

Yellow-billed Cuckoo – 3

Red-bellied Woodpecker – 1

Pileated Woodpecker - 1

Acadian Flycatcher – 1

Eastern Kingbird – 2

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher - 1

White-eyed Vireo – 9

Bell's Vireo – 1

Yellow-throated Vireo - 1

Red-eyed Vireo – 4

Blue Jay - 2

American Crow – 2

Fish Crow – 2

Purple Martin - 2

Tree Swallow – 16

Cliff Swallow - 60

Barn Swallow - 10
Carolina Chickadee – 1
Tufted Titmouse – 1
Carolina Wren – 2
European Starling – 5
Yellow-throated Warbler - 1
Prothonotary Warbler – 5
Common Yellowthroat – 5
Yellow-breasted Chat – 4
Summer Tanager - 1
Northern Cardinal – 5
Indigo Bunting – 14
Painted Bunting – 7
Dickcissel - 9
Red-winged Blackbird – 6
Common Grackle - 35
Brown-headed Cowbird – 6
Orchard Oriole - 2

Herps:

American Alligator
Red-eared Slider
Broad-banded Watersnake
Green Treefrog
Green Frog
Bullfrog

Odonates:

Swamp Darner
Regal Darner
Prince Baskettail
Halloween Pennant
Eastern Pondhawk
Great-blue Skimmer
Blue Dasher

Good birding!

David Arbour
De Queen, AR

Red Slough Bird Survey – June 23, 2021

It was overcast and mild turning partly cloudy, warm, with a light wind on the bird survey today. 56 species were found. Caught the morning flight out of the heronry early this morning and was able to

survey the backside of the heronry as well. Lots of nests with young now. Even some Anhingas fledging. Gallinule chicks are everywhere. The White Ibis have started nesting now. Here is my list for today:

Black-bellied Whistling Duck - 10

Wood Duck – 12

Pied-billed Grebe – 9 (also 3 broods.)

Neotropic Cormorant – 17 (13 nests; at least one nest with young.)

Anhinga – 158 (a lot were on nests, a few young were fledging.)

Least Bittern – 2 males

Great-blue Heron – 14

Great Egret – 171

Snowy Egret – 145

Little-blue Heron – 438

Cattle Egret – ~15,000

Green Heron – 31

Black-crowned Night-Heron – 9

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron - 2

White Ibis – 934 (3 nests)

Black Vulture - 11

Turkey Vulture – 20

Mississippi Kite – 17

King Rail – 1 (giving alarm calls)

Purple Gallinule – 85 (also 5 broods of young.)

Common Gallinule – 53 (also lots of broods of young.)

American Coot – 8

Mourning Dove – 1

Yellow-billed Cuckoo – 6

Ruby-throated Hummingbird - 2

Red-bellied Woodpecker – 2

Downy Woodpecker - 2

Hairy Woodpecker - 1

Acadian Flycatcher – 1

Eastern Phoebe - 1

Eastern Kingbird – 3

White-eyed Vireo – 7

Red-eyed Vireo – 5

American Crow – 5

Fish Crow – 7

Tree Swallow – 21

Cliff Swallow - 8

Barn Swallow - 6

Carolina Chickadee – 3

Tufted Titmouse – 3

Carolina Wren – 7

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher – 4

European Starling – 13

Yellow-throated Warbler - 2

Prothonotary Warbler – 8 (one with fledgling in tow.)
Kentucky Warbler - 1
Common Yellowthroat – 4
Yellow-breasted Chat – 5
Summer Tanager - 1
Northern Cardinal – 8
Indigo Bunting – 10
Painted Bunting – 2
Red-winged Blackbird – 18
Common Grackle - 338
Brown-headed Cowbird – 3
Orchard Oriole - 3

Herps:

American Alligator
Red-eared Slider
Watersnake species
Blanchard's Cricket Frog
Green Treefrog
Gulf Coast Leopard Frog
Green Frog
Bullfrog

Odonates:

Fragile Forktail
Powdered Dancer
Ebony Jewelwing
Common Green Darner
Swamp Darner
Regal Darner
Cyrano Darner
Jade Clubtail
Common Sanddragon
Royal River Cruiser
Prince Baskettail
Mocha Emerald
Halloween Pennant
Eastern Pondhawk
Slaty Skimmer
Great-blue Skimmer
Common Whitetail
Blue Dasher
Spot-winged Glider
Black Saddlebags

Good birding!

David Arbour
De Queen, AR

Red Slough Bird Survey – June 8, 2021

It started off mild, overcast, foggy, and windy, with a heavy rain storm, turning partly cloudy and warm in the afternoon on the bird survey today. 60 species were found. The levees were saturated and the area was flooding so I was limited in where I could go. I caught the morning flight out of the heronry but was unable to visit the backside of Pintail Lake to survey that part of the heronry so Anhinga and Little-blue Heron numbers are lower. Here is my list for today:

***Black-bellied Whistling Duck* - 7**

Wood Duck – 8

Ring-necked Duck – 2 males

Pied-billed Grebe – 6 (1 on a nest and 2 with young.)

Neotropic Cormorant – 20 (10 nests; one nest with young.)

Anhinga – 154 (a lot were on nests, some nests with young.)

Great-blue Heron – 4

Great Egret – 401

Snowy Egret – 127

Little-blue Heron – 184

Cattle Egret – ~15,000

Green Heron – 12

Black-crowned Night-Heron – 5 (one gathering nesting material.)

White Ibis – 189

Black Vulture - 50

Turkey Vulture – 12

Mississippi Kite – 1

Red-shouldered Hawk - 1

King Rail – 2 (one adult sized juvenile)

Purple Gallinule – 114

Common Gallinule – 50

American Coot – 10

Killdeer – 2

Least Tern - 2

Mourning Dove – 1

Yellow-billed Cuckoo - 4

Red-bellied Woodpecker – 1

Hairy Woodpecker - 1

Acadian Flycatcher – 1

Great-crested Flycatcher - 1

Eastern Kingbird – 2

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher - 2

White-eyed Vireo – 8

Red-eyed Vireo – 1

Blue Jay - 2

American Crow – 3
Fish Crow – 2
Purple Martin - 2
Tree Swallow – 20
Cliff Swallow - 2
Barn Swallow - 9
Carolina Chickadee – 1
Tufted Titmouse – 2
Carolina Wren – 6
Pine Warbler - 2
Prothonotary Warbler – 4
Kentucky Warbler - 1
Common Yellowthroat – 8
Swainson's Warbler - 1
Yellow-breasted Chat – 3
Summer Tanager - 5
Northern Cardinal – 13
Indigo Bunting – 15
Painted Bunting – 2
Dickcissel – 5
Red-winged Blackbird – 14
Eastern Meadowlark - 1
Common Grackle - 42
Brown-headed Cowbird – 4
Orchard Oriole - 3

Herps:

Northern Cottonmouth
Eastern Narrow-mouthed Toad
Green Treefrog
Gulf Coast Leopard Frog
Bronze Frog
Bullfrog

Odonates:

Fragile Forktail
Common Green Darner
Cyrano Darner
Prince Baskettail
Eastern Pondhawk
Blue Dasher
Black Saddlebags

Good birding!

David Arbour
De Queen, AR

Red Slough Bird Survey – June 3, 2021

It was overcast, cool, and windy on the survey today turning partly cloudy, warm, and windier in the afternoon. 67 species were found. Instead of catching the morning flight out of the heronry at first light, I decided to work the woodlands along the north portion of Red Slough road for passerines first. I didn't make it to the reservoirs and heronry until around 10 a.m. so some of my wader and water bird numbers are much lower than they have been on surveys last month. Also, the strong wind caused the gallinules to stay mostly in the thicker cover plus many are now sitting out of sight on nests. I was able to get a new high count on Anhingas by going to the back side of the heronry where I discovered a lot of nesting Anhingas that I can't see from the front side. This also resulted in good numbers of Little-blue Herons. Some Anhingas had young in the nest as well as Little-blue Herons. I also saw probably a dozen immature (Calico) Little-blue Herons sitting on nests. I didn't realize they started breeding before reaching adult plumage. Once I saw an immature plumaged Neotropic Cormorant sitting on a nest a few years ago. Here is my list for today:

***Black-bellied Whistling Duck* - 1**

Wood Duck – 9

Ring-necked Duck – 2 males

Pied-billed Grebe – 5 (1 on a nest and 1 with young on its back.)

Neotropic Cormorant – 12 (3 on nests.)

Anhinga – 311 (new high count, a lot were on nests.)

Great-blue Heron – 3

Great Egret – 70 (numerous nests.)

Snowy Egret – 42 (a few on nests.)

Little-blue Heron – 310 (a lot were on nests.)

Cattle Egret – ~5,000 (Lots on nests.)

Green Heron – 18 (several nests)

Black-crowned Night-Heron - 7

White Ibis – 177

Black Vulture - 92

Turkey Vulture – 13

Mississippi Kite – 119

Red-shouldered Hawk - 1

King Rail – 1

Purple Gallinule – 82 (2 sitting on nests)

Common Gallinule – 51 (5 broods of young seen.)

American Coot – 9

Killdeer – 1

Least Tern - 2

Yellow-billed Cuckoo – 3

Rock Pigeon - 1

Mourning Dove – 1

Yellow-billed Cuckoo - 9

Red-bellied Woodpecker – 5

Downy Woodpecker - 2

Pileated Woodpecker – 2
Eastern Wood-Pewee - 1
Acadian Flycatcher – 3
Eastern Kingbird – 5
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher - 2
White-eyed Vireo – 11
Bell's Vireo – 2
Yellow-throated Vireo - 1
Red-eyed Vireo – 7
Blue Jay - 4
American Crow – 8
Fish Crow – 7
Purple Martin - 1
Tree Swallow – 19
Cliff Swallow - 4
Barn Swallow - 14
Carolina Chickadee – 5
Tufted Titmouse – 9
Carolina Wren – 11
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher – 6
Northern Parula – 2
Yellow-throated Warbler – 1
Pine Warbler - 1
Prothonotary Warbler – 5
Kentucky Warbler - 2
Common Yellowthroat – 9
Hooded Warbler – 1
Swainson's Warbler - 1
Yellow-breasted Chat – 10
Eastern Towhee - 1
Northern Cardinal – 11
Indigo Bunting – 20
Painted Bunting – 4
Dickcissel – 7
Red-winged Blackbird – 18
Common Grackle - 44
Brown-headed Cowbird – 7
Orchard Oriole - 3

Herps:

American Alligator
Softshell turtle sp.
Diamondback Watersnake
Eastern Narrow-mouthed Toad
Blanchard's Cricket Frog
Green Treefrog

Bronze Frog

Odonates:

Lilypad Forktail
Eastern Pondhawk
Great-blue Skimmer
Blue Dasher
Black Saddlebags

Good birding!

David Arbour
De Queen, AR

Red Slough Bird Survey – May 24, 2021

It was mostly overcast and mild, with a slight wind on the bird survey today. 66 species were found. Most notable highlights today were new high counts for Anhingas, Purple Gallinules, and Common Gallinules. Saw the first brood of Common Gallinules today and found a Purple Gallinule sitting on a nest in a button bush and found a Green Heron heronry in a buttonbush thicket in unit 27b. Also saw Cattle Egrets gator mobbing this morning as they left the heronry. Here is my list for today:

***Black-bellied Whistling Duck* - 7**

Canada Geese - 2
Wood Duck – 21
Gadwall - 1
Blue-winged Teal – 2
Ring-necked Duck - 1
Hooded Merganser – 3
Pied-billed Grebe – 6

***Neotropic Cormorant* – 11**

***Anhinga* – 215**

***Least Bittern* – 5**

Great-blue Heron – 3
Great Egret – 260
Snowy Egret – 21
Little-blue Heron – 105
Cattle Egret – ~15,000
Green Heron – 16
Black-crowned Night-Heron - 8

***White Ibis* – 2170**

***Dark Ibis (Plegadis species)* - 6**

Black Vulture - 14
Turkey Vulture – 15
Mississippi Kite - 13
***King Rail* – 1**

***Purple Gallinule* – 149**

***Common Gallinule* – 94**

American Coot – 22
Yellow-billed Cuckoo – 3
Great-horned Owl - 1
Red-bellied Woodpecker – 4
Downy Woodpecker - 1
Hairy Woodpecker – 2
Pileated Woodpecker – 1
Acadian Flycatcher – 1
Willow Flycatcher - 2
Great-crested Flycatcher - 2
Eastern Kingbird – 3
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher - 2
White-eyed Vireo – 11
Bell's Vireo – 1
Red-eyed Vireo – 2
Blue Jay - 3
American Crow – 4
Fish Crow – 7
Tree Swallow – 24
Barn Swallow - 3
Carolina Chickadee – 2
Tufted Titmouse – 4
Carolina Wren – 5
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher – 1
Cedar Waxwing – 8
Prothonotary Warbler – 5
Common Yellowthroat – 12
Hooded Warbler - 1
Yellow-breasted Chat – 10
Summer Tanager – 4
Eastern Towhee - 3
Northern Cardinal – 6
Blue Grosbeak - 1
Indigo Bunting – 26
Painted Bunting – 4
Dickcissel – 6
Red-winged Blackbird – 32
Eastern Meadowlark - 1
Common Grackle - 59
Brown-headed Cowbird – 8

Herps:

American Alligator
Red-eared Slider

Orange-striped Ribbonsnake
Broad-headed Skink
Eastern Narrow-mouthed Toad
Blanchard's Cricket Frog
Green Treefrog
Bullfrog

Odonates:

Lilypad Forktail
Common Green Darner
Regal Darner
Stillwater Clubtail
Halloween Pennant
Eastern Pondhawk
Great-blue Skimmer
Common Whitetail
Blue Dasher
Black Saddlebags

Good birding!

David Arbour
De Queen, AR

Red Slough Bird Survey – May 18, 2021

RJ Baltierra (WA) and I surveyed birds today at Red Slough and found 82 species. The weather was mostly overcast and mild with a light wind. The sun came out for the last couple hours of the survey then a bad storm rolled in and ran us off. We had numerous highlights today, but the most notable were getting a new high count of Purple Gallinules and getting an extremely high count on White Ibis (probably my highest count ever for the species.). The White Ibis left the heronry in 3 large flocks of which the largest had over 2,000 birds in it and was a sight to see. The heronry is in full swing with birds sitting on nests and building nests. We started the survey a little before 6 a.m. and caught the morning flight from the heronry/roost which is why our wader numbers are so high. Here is our list for today:

***Black-bellied Whistling Duck* - 8**

Canada Geese - 5
Wood Duck – 17
Blue-winged Teal – 3
Ring-necked Duck - 1
Hooded Merganser – 5
Wild Turkey - 1
Pied-billed Grebe – 2

***Neotropic Cormorant* – 15 (one sitting on nest.)**

Double-crested Cormorant – 6

***Anhinga* – 120 (Lots sitting on nests.)**

***Least Bittern* – 4**

Great-blue Heron – 2
Great Egret – 281 (Many sitting on nests.)
Snowy Egret – 46
Little-blue Heron – 170 (Many sitting on nests.)
Cattle Egret – ~15,000 (Lots sitting on nests.)
Green Heron – 12
Black-crowned Night-Heron - 6
White Ibis – ~4,500
Dark Ibis (*Plegadis species*) - 8
Black Vulture - 95
Turkey Vulture – 12
Mississippi Kite - 12
Red Shouldered Hawk – 1
King Rail – 1
Purple Gallinule – 114
Common Gallinule – 72
American Coot – 48
Spotted Sandpiper – 4
Lesser Yellowlegs – 1
Stilt Sandpiper - 16
Least Tern – 2
Black Tern – 67
Mourning Dove - 1
Yellow-billed Cuckoo - 5
Red-bellied Woodpecker – 1
Downy Woodpecker - 1
Hairy Woodpecker – 3
Pileated Woodpecker – 1
Eastern Wood-Pewee - 2
Acadian Flycatcher – 2
Great-crested Flycatcher - 5
Eastern Kingbird – 11
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher - 1
White-eyed Vireo – 10
Bell's Vireo – 1
Yellow-throated Vireo – 2
Warbling Vireo - 1
Red-eyed Vireo – 3
American Crow – 2
Fish Crow – 5
Tree Swallow – 18
Bank Swallow - 2
Cliff Swallow - 1
Barn Swallow - 7
Carolina Chickadee – 2
Tufted Titmouse – 4
Carolina Wren – 6
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher – 5

Cedar Waxwing – 128
Northern Parula - 1
Yellow Warbler – 2
Yellow-throated Warbler – 1
Pine Warbler – 2
Prairie Warbler - 1
Prothonotary Warbler – 6
Swainson's Warbler - 1
Kentucky Warbler - 2
Common Yellowthroat – 8
Hooded Warbler - 2
Yellow-breasted Chat – 7
Summer Tanager – 4
Eastern Towhee - 1
Northern Cardinal – 10
Indigo Bunting – 14
Painted Bunting – 4
Dickcissel – 6
Red-winged Blackbird – 18
Common Grackle - 25
Brown-headed Cowbird – 11
Orchard Oriole – 3

Herps:

American Alligator
Plain-bellied Watersnake
Western Ratsnake
Eastern Narrow-mouthed Toad
Blanchard's Cricket Frog
Green Treefrog
Bullfrog

Odonates:

Fragile Forktail
Vesper Bluet
Elegant Spreadwing
Common Green Darner
Swamp Darner
Eastern Pondhawk
Slaty Skimmer
Spangled Skimmer
Painted Skimmer
Common Whitetail
Blue Dasher
Eastern Amberwing

Good birding!

David Arbour
De Queen, AR

Red Slough Bird Survey – May 11, 2021

Ken Graves (AR) and I surveyed birds today at Red Slough and found 69 species. It was heavy overcast, windy, and cool (50's) with occasional light rain. Was not a good day for Passerines. Most notable highlights were a record high count of Purple Gallinules (112!), 768 White Ibis, and an adult Tricolored Heron. Very few migrants seen. We missed the first part of the morning flight out of the heronry/roost so our wader numbers are not that high for Great Egrets as they are the first to start leaving the roost. Here is our list for today:

***Black-bellied Whistling Duck* - 9**

Canada Geese - 2

Wood Duck – 26

Blue-winged Teal - 18

Hooded Merganser – 3

Pied-billed Grebe – 9

***Neotropic Cormorant* – 13**

Double-crested Cormorant – 2

***Anhinga* – 102**

American Bittern – 1

Great-blue Heron – 5

Great Egret – 75

Snowy Egret – 81

Little-blue Heron – 75

***Tricolored Heron* - 1**

Cattle Egret – ~12,000

Green Heron – 12

Black-crowned Night-Heron - 2

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron - 2

***White Ibis* – 768**

Black Vulture - 8

Turkey Vulture – 6

Cooper's Hawk - 1

Red Shouldered Hawk – 1

***King Rail* – 3**

***Purple Gallinule* – 112**

***Common Gallinule* – 70**

American Coot – 53

Spotted Sandpiper – 1

Lesser Yellowlegs – 6

Pectoral Sandpiper – 16

Forster's Tern – 1

Black Tern – 125

Yellow-billed Cuckoo - 2
Red-bellied Woodpecker – 2
Hairy Woodpecker – 1
Pileated Woodpecker - 3
Alder Flycatcher – 1
Willow Flycatcher – 1
Great-crested Flycatcher - 1
Eastern Kingbird – 7
White-eyed Vireo – 7
Bell's Vireo – 1
Red-eyed Vireo – 1
American Crow – 3
Fish Crow – 6
Tree Swallow – 12
Bank Swallow - 7
Cliff Swallow - 165
Barn Swallow - 17
Carolina Chickadee – 1
Tufted Titmouse – 2
Carolina Wren – 7
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher – 3
Wood Thrush - 1
Cedar Waxwing – 10
Nashville Warbler - 1
Yellow Warbler – 4
Prothonotary Warbler – 8
Common Yellowthroat – 8
Yellow-breasted Chat - 6
Northern Cardinal – 5
Indigo Bunting – 14
Painted Bunting – 6
Dickcissel – 5
Red-winged Blackbird – 13
Common Grackle - 32
Brown-headed Cowbird – 9
Orchard Oriole – 1

Herps:

American Alligator
Blanchard's Cricket Frog

Odonates:

Blue Dasher

Good birding!

David Arbour
De Queen, AR

Red Slough Bird Survey – May 4, 2021

Mark Peterson, Brian Marra, Hal Yochum, Betsy Hacker, Grace Huffman, and I surveyed birds today at Red Slough and found 108 species. The weather was mostly overcast, cool, and very windy. There was a bit of a migrant fallout from last night's storms. We surveyed for migrant Passerines for the first couple hours of the survey before it got windy. We were unable to relocate the Roseate Spoonbills from yesterday but I think they may show up again. Lots of notable species found today. We did not catch the morning flight out of the heronry so wader numbers are lower than last week. We had a couple ladies from Amarillo join us about half way through the survey for about an hour. Here is our list for today:

***Black-bellied Whistling Duck* - 13**

Canada Geese - 2

Wood Duck – 5

Blue-winged Teal - 23

Northern Shoveler – 2

Hooded Merganser – 1

Pied-billed Grebe – 4

***Neotropic Cormorant* – 7**

Double-crested Cormorant – 1

***Anhinga* – 118**

American Bittern – 2

Great-blue Heron – 5

Great Egret – 33

Snowy Egret – 18

Little-blue Heron – 105

Cattle Egret – 4000

Green Heron – 4

Black-crowned Night-Heron - 1

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron - 1

***White Ibis* – 163**

Black Vulture - 45

Turkey Vulture – 17

Mississippi Kite – 3

Bald Eagle – 1 adult

Northern Harrier – 1

Red Shouldered Hawk – 1

***King Rail* – 1**

***Purple Gallinule* – 65**

***Common Gallinule* – 36**

American Coot – 59

Spotted Sandpiper – 2

Lesser Yellowlegs – 4

Baird's Sandpiper – 1

Pectoral Sandpiper – 5
Wilson's Phalarope – 19
Franklin's Gull - 4
Forster's Tern – 1
Black Tern – 18
Rock Pigeon - 1
Yellow-billed Cuckoo - 1
Red-bellied Woodpecker – 3
Acadian Flycatcher – 1
Alder Flycatcher – 1
Willow Flycatcher – 1
Least Flycatcher - 1
Eastern Phoebe – 1
Great-crested Flycatcher - 2
Eastern Kingbird – 22
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher - 2
White-eyed Vireo – 10
Bell's Vireo – 2
Yellow-throated Vireo – 2
Blue-headed Vireo – 1
Warbling Vireo - 1
Red-eyed Vireo – 2
Blue Jay - 1
American Crow – 5
Fish Crow – 9
Horned Lark - 1
Purple Martin - 2
Tree Swallow – 11
Northern Rough-winged Swallow – 1
Cliff Swallow - 8
Barn Swallow - 5
Carolina Chickadee – 6
Tufted Titmouse – 5
Carolina Wren – 7
Sedge Wren - 1
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher – 6
Eastern Bluebird – 1
Gray Catbird – 5
Northern Mockingbird – 1
European Starling – 3
Cedar Waxwing - 4
Tennessee Warbler – 2
Northern Parula - 1
Yellow Warbler – 7
Chestnut-sided Warbler – 1 male
Yellow-throated Warbler - 1
Pine Warbler – 1
Bay-breasted Warbler – 1 male

Black-and-White Warbler – 1
American Redstart - 1
Prothonotary Warbler – 10
Swainson's Warbler - 1
Northern Waterthrush - 2
Kentucky Warbler - 2
Common Yellowthroat – 8
Hooded Warbler - 2
Yellow-breasted Chat - 4
Summer Tanager – 5
Eastern Towhee – 3
Lincoln's Sparrow – 1
White-throated Sparrow - 3
Northern Cardinal – 11
Rose-breasted Grosbeak – 1
Blue Grosbeak – 1
Lazuli Bunting - 1
Indigo Bunting – 45
Painted Bunting – 8
Dickcissel – 16
Bobolink - 2
Red-winged Blackbird – 17
Yellow-headed Blackbird - 1
Common Grackle - 33
Brown-headed Cowbird – 41
Orchard Oriole – 15
Baltimore Oriole - 9

Herps:

American Alligator
Mississippi Mud Turtle
Southern Painted Turtle
Eastern Narrow-mouthed Toad
Green Treefrog
Bullfrog

Odonates:

Fragile Forkail
Swamp Spreadwing
Blue Dasher
Eastern Pondhawk
Blue Corporal
Spot-winged Glider

Good birding!

David Arbour
De Queen, AR

Red Slough Bird Survey – April 27, 2021

It was overcast, mild, with a slight wind on the survey today. 76 species were found. Lots of Anhingas, Great Egrets, Little-blue Herons, and Snowy Egrets sitting on nests now in the heronry. Most notable find today was an adult Tricolored Heron. Here is my list for today:

***Black-bellied Whistling Duck* - 17**

Canada Geese - 2

Wood Duck – 34

Blue-winged Teal - 76

Northern Shoveler – 4

Hooded Merganser – 3

Pied-billed Grebe – 14

***Neotropic Cormorant* – 4**

Double-crested Cormorant – 15

***Anhinga* – 105**

American Bittern – 1

***Least Bittern* - 2**

Great-blue Heron – 4

Great Egret – 391

Snowy Egret – 46

Little-blue Heron – 217

***Tricolored Heron* - 1**

Cattle Egret – 6000

Green Heron – 15

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron - 5

***White Ibis* – 508**

White-faced Ibis - 1

Black Vulture - 24

Turkey Vulture – 11

Mississippi Kite – 1

Sharp-shinned Hawk - 1

***King Rail* – 2**

Sora - 2

***Purple Gallinule* – 30**

***Common Gallinule* – 85**

American Coot – 123

Spotted Sandpiper – 2

Solitary Sandpiper – 1

Forster's Tern - 3

Red-bellied Woodpecker – 6

Hairy Woodpecker - 1

Eastern Phoebe – 1

Eastern Kingbird - 8

White-eyed Vireo – 10

Red-eyed Vireo – 1
Blue Jay - 1
American Crow – 5
Fish Crow – 2
Tree Swallow – 20
Barn Swallow - 2
Carolina Chickadee – 6
Tufted Titmouse – 6
Carolina Wren – 10
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher – 6
Tennessee Warbler – 1
Nashville Warbler – 1
Yellow Warbler - 1
Yellow-rumped Warbler – 4
Yellow-throated Warbler - 2
Pine Warbler – 3
Black-and-White Warbler - 3
Prothonotary Warbler – 7
Ovenbird - 1
Kentucky Warbler - 1
Common Yellowthroat – 12
Yellow-breasted Chat - 3
Summer Tanager – 5
Eastern Towhee – 1
Lincoln's Sparrow – 1
Swamp Sparrow - 2
White-throated Sparrow - 2
Northern Cardinal – 7
Rose-breasted Grosbeak - 1
Indigo Bunting – 24
Painted Bunting – 1
Dickcissel - 6
Red-winged Blackbird – 26
Common Grackle - 75
Brown-headed Cowbird – 10
Orchard Oriole – 1
American Goldfinch - 18

Herps:

American Alligator
Broad-banded Watersnake
Eastern River Cooter
Eastern Gray Treefrog
Green Treefrog
Blanchard's Cricket Frog
Southern Leopard Frog

Bullfrog

Odonates:

Fragile Forkail
Elegant Spreadwing
Slaty Skimmer
Blue Dasher
Eastern Pondhawk
Blue Corporal

Good birding!

David Arbour
De Queen, AR

Red Slough Bird Survey – April 20, 2021

It was clear, cool, and windy on the bird survey today. 80 species were found. I ran into Aaron Shipe (Colorado) and his family and they joined me for the rest of my survey. Had a small migrating flock of Broad-winged Hawks flying over and 10 species of warblers. Also a FOS Indigo Bunting. Large numbers of White Ibis are hanging out in the heronry and I noted several Great Egrets now sitting on nests. Here is my list for today:

***Black-bellied Whistling Duck* - 8**

Canada Geese - 1
Wood Duck – 13
Mallard - 3
Blue-winged Teal - 100
Northern Shoveler – 14
Ring-necked Duck - 2
Hooded Merganser – 4
Pied-billed Grebe – 7

***Neotropic Cormorant* – 3**

Double-crested Cormorant – 13

***Anhinga* – 43**

American Bittern – 3
Great-blue Heron – 11
Great Egret – 74
Snowy Egret – 16
Little-blue Heron – 78
Cattle Egret – 327

Green Heron – 7

***White Ibis* – 170**

Black Vulture - 9
Turkey Vulture – 4
Bald Eagle – 1 imm.
Cooper's Hawk - 1

Red-shouldered Hawk – 2
Broad-winged Hawk - 9
Red-tailed Hawk - 2
King Rail – 2
Sora - 2
Purple Gallinule – 23
Common Gallinule – 35
American Coot – 217
Lesser Yellowlegs – 16
Pectoral Sandpiper – 1
Rock Pigeon - 1
Chimney Swift – 1
Ruby-throated Hummingbird - 1
Red-bellied Woodpecker – 3
Pileated Woodpecker – 1
Eastern Phoebe – 1
Eastern Kingbird - 2
White-eyed Vireo – 9
Yellow-throated Vireo – 1
Red-eyed Vireo – 3
Blue Jay - 2
American Crow – 2
Fish Crow – 4
Tree Swallow – 20
Northern Rough-winged Swallow - 1
Cliff Swallow - 22
Barn Swallow - 7
Carolina Chickadee – 4
Tufted Titmouse – 4
Carolina Wren – 4
Sedge Wren - 1
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher – 6
Tennessee Warbler – 1
Orange-crowned Warbler - 1
Northern Parula - 1
Yellow-rumped Warbler – 22
Yellow-throated Warbler - 2
Pine Warbler – 1
Prothonotary Warbler – 9
Northern Waterthrush – 3
Kentucky Warbler - 1
Swainson's Warbler - 1
Common Yellowthroat – 3
Hooded Warbler – 1
Summer Tanager – 2
Eastern Towhee – 2
Lark Sparrow – 2
Savannah Sparrow – 5

Lincoln's Sparrow - 5
White-throated Sparrow - 9
Northern Cardinal – 4
Indigo Bunting - 1
Red-winged Blackbird – 11
Common Grackle - 27
Brown-headed Cowbird – 10
Orchard Oriole - 3

Herps:

American Alligator
Red-eared Slider
Diamondback Watersnake
Plain-bellied Watersnake
Broad-banded Watersnake
Graham's Crayfish Snake
Southern Black Racer
Blanchard's Cricket Frog
Bullfrog

Odonates:

Fragile Forktail
Orange Bluet
Common Green Darner
Swamp Darner
Blue Dasher
Eastern Pondhawk
Blue Corporal
Black Saddlebags

Good birding!

David Arbour
De Queen, AR

Red Slough Bird Survey – April 13, 2021

RJ Baltierra and I surveyed birds today at Red Slough and found 78 species. It was mostly cloudy in the morning turning mostly clear in the afternoon, warm, with a light wind. The Limpkin found yesterday was not relocated. Most notable highlights today included two early Least Bitterns, 3 dark Ibis', and a Swainson's Warbler. Gallinule (both species) and Anhinga numbers have greatly increased since last week. The heronry is filling up fast with herons and egrets. Here is our list for today:

Black-bellied Whistling Duck - 3
Canada Geese - 6

Wood Duck - 21
Gadwall – 4
Blue-winged Teal - 153
Northern Shoveler – 12
Hooded Merganser – 7
Wild Turkey – 1 (hen)
Pied-billed Grebe – 10
Neotropic Cormorant – 8
Double-crested Cormorant – 46
Anhinga – 50
American Bittern – 7
Least Bittern – 2 males
Great-blue Heron – 15
Great Egret – 156
Snowy Egret – 71
Little-blue Heron – 96
Cattle Egret – 865
Green Heron – 14
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron – 2
White Ibis – 21
Dark Ibis sp. - 3
Black Vulture - 9
Turkey Vulture – 21
Sharp-shinned Hawk - 1
Red-shouldered Hawk – 3
Red-tailed Hawk - 1
King Rail – 9
Purple Gallinule – 13
Common Gallinule – 44
American Coot – 135
Killdeer - 1
Greater Yellowlegs – 3
Wilson's Snipe – 1
Barred Owl – 2
Chimney Swift – 6
Belted Kingfisher - 2
Red-bellied Woodpecker – 2
Hairy Woodpecker – 1
Pileated Woodpecker – 2
Eastern Phoebe – 1
Eastern Kingbird - 1
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher - 1
White-eyed Vireo – 10
Yellow-throated Vireo – 1
Red-eyed Vireo – 2
Blue-headed Vireo - 1
Blue Jay - 3
American Crow – 7

Fish Crow – 6
Tree Swallow – 38
Cliff Swallow - 5
Barn Swallow - 17
Carolina Chickadee – 4
Tufted Titmouse – 4
Carolina Wren – 7
Marsh Wren - 1
Ruby-crowned Kinglet – 2
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher - 4
Northern Parula - 2
Yellow-rumped Warbler – 14
Yellow-throated Warbler - 5
Pine Warbler – 2
Prothonotary Warbler – 6
Swainson's Warbler - 1
Common Yellowthroat – 12
Hooded Warbler – 1
Summer Tanager – 1
Eastern Towhee – 3
Swamp Sparrow - 1
White-throated Sparrow - 1
Northern Cardinal – 7
Red-winged Blackbird – 60
Common Grackle - 33
Brown-headed Cowbird – 8
Orchard Oriole - 1
American Goldfinch - 4

Herps:

American Alligator
Prairie Kingsnake
Western Cottonmouth
Eastern Gray Treefrog
Blanchard's Cricket Frog
Southern Leopard Frog
Bullfrog

Odonates:

Common Green Darner
Cyrano Darner
Baskettail sp.
Blue Dasher
Eastern Pondhawk
Blue Corporal

Good birding!

David Arbour
De Queen, AR

Red Slough Bird Survey – April 6, 2021

It was mostly overcast, 66 – 82 degrees, with slight to moderate wind on the bird survey today. 70 species were found. What a change one week has made! Numerous FOS birds are back. Anhinga and Common Gallinule numbers have sky-rocketed and male Anhingas are displaying all over the heronry. Several hundred birds (herons, egrets, cormorants, etc.) are using the heronry as a roost right now. Nesting will begin soon for the herons, egrets, and anhingas. The best highlights of the day were a pair of Purple Gallinules (new early date.) and a single Black-bellied Whistling Duck. Here is my list for today:

***Black-bellied Whistling Duck* - 1**

Canada Geese - 3

Wood Duck - 19

Gadwall – 2

Blue-winged Teal - 162

Northern Shoveler – 35

Ring-necked Duck – 4

Lesser Scaup - 2

Hooded Merganser - 5

Ruddy Duck - 5

Pied-billed Grebe – 75

***Neotropic Cormorant* – 10**

Double-crested Cormorant – 30

***Anhinga* – 70**

American Bittern - 1

Great-blue Heron – 3

Great Egret – 200

Snowy Egret – 9

Little-blue Heron – 86

Cattle Egret – 67

Green Heron – 1

Black-crowned Night-Heron – 1

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron - 3

Black Vulture - 14

Turkey Vulture – 30

Red-shouldered Hawk – 2

Red-tailed Hawk - 1

***King Rail* – 6**

Sora – 1

***Purple Gallinule* – 2 (a pair; new early date.)**

***Common Gallinule* – 40**

American Coot – 575

American Golden-Plover – 1
Killdeer - 1
Greater Yellowlegs – 3
Pectoral Sandpiper - 11
Red-bellied Woodpecker – 3
Downy Woodpecker - 1
Hairy Woodpecker – 1
Northern Flicker - 1
Pileated Woodpecker – 2
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher - 1
White-eyed Vireo – 13
Yellow-throated Vireo - 4
Blue Jay - 1
American Crow – 7
Fish Crow – 8
Purple Martin - 2
Tree Swallow – 45
Barn Swallow - 12
Carolina Chickadee – 6
Tufted Titmouse – 9
Carolina Wren – 13
Ruby-crowned Kinglet – 3
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher - 7
Northern Parula - 1
Yellow-rumped Warbler – 35
Yellow-throated Warbler - 1
Pine Warbler – 2
Hooded Warbler – 3
Prothonotary Warbler - 3
Common Yellowthroat – 9
Savannah Sparrow - 3
White-throated Sparrow - 1
Northern Cardinal – 4
Red-winged Blackbird – 305
Common Grackle - 8
Brown-headed Cowbird – 9
Pine Siskin - 5
American Goldfinch - 1

Herps:

American Alligator
Red-eared Slider
Western Cottonmouth
Green Treefrog
Blanchard's Cricket Frog
Southern Leopard Frog

Bullfrog

Odonates:

Fragile Forktail
Common Green Darner
Baskettail sp.
Blue Dasher
Eastern Pondhawk
Blue Corporal
Black Saddlebags

Red Slough Bird Survey – March 30, 2021

It was overcast, cool, and a bit windy on the bird survey today. 66 species were found. I found 9 warbler species today. Also, had a good count on King Rails today. Common Gallinule numbers are increasing. A flock of 13 Pine Siskins was notable for us. Here is my list for today:

Canada Geese - 4
Wood Duck - 28
Gadwall – 4
Blue-winged Teal - 259
Northern Shoveler – 15
Ring-necked Duck – 5
Hooded Merganser - 3
Ruddy Duck - 21
Pied-billed Grebe – 65
Neotropic Cormorant – 9 (two sitting on nests, one displaying on a nest.)
Double-crested Cormorant – 50
Anhinga – 26 (one displaying.)
Great-blue Heron – 4
Great Egret – 10
Snowy Egret – 2
Little-blue Heron - 56
Black Vulture - 4
Turkey Vulture – 15
Northern Harrier – 1
Cooper's Hawk - 1
Red-shouldered Hawk - 3
King Rail – 12
Common Gallinule - 18
American Coot – 600
Greater Yellowlegs – 9
Belted Kingfisher - 1
Red-bellied Woodpecker – 6
Downy Woodpecker - 5
Hairy Woodpecker – 1
Northern Flicker - 5
Pileated Woodpecker – 2
Eastern Phoebe – 1

White-eyed Vireo – 13
Yellow-throated Vireo - 3
Blue Jay - 4
American Crow – 16
Fish Crow – 7
Purple Martin - 3
Tree Swallow – 52
Cliff Swallow - 125
Barn Swallow - 17
Carolina Chickadee – 6
Tufted Titmouse – 11
Carolina Wren – 14
Marsh Wren - 1
Ruby-crowned Kinglet – 6
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher - 11
Orange-crowned Warbler – 1
Nashville Warbler - 2
Northern Parula - 3
Yellow-rumped Warbler – 8
Yellow-throated Warbler - 4
Pine Warbler – 4
Louisiana Waterthrush – 1
Hooded Warbler - 1
Common Yellowthroat – 4
Song Sparrow - 1
Swamp Sparrow – 2
White-throated Sparrow - 1
Northern Cardinal – 11
Red-winged Blackbird – 84
Eastern Meadowlark – 1
Common Grackle - 3
Brown-headed Cowbird – 11
Pine Siskin - 13
American Goldfinch - 2

Herps:

American Alligator
Diamondback Watersnake
Green Treefrog
Blanchard's Cricket Frog
Bullfrog

Odonates:

Fragile Forktail
Common Green Darner

Blue Corporal

Red Slough Bird Survey – March 24, 2021

It was a clear, cool>warm, spring day with a light wind on my bird survey today. 66 species were found. Lots of returning migrants have arrived including some warblers and vireos. Interesting sightings today included an early Snowy Egret, and late Purple Finches and Rusty Blackbirds. Also 7 species of warblers were found. Neotropic Cormorants have started the first active nest in the heronry. Anhinga numbers are increasing. Duck numbers are declining. Change is happening fast now. Spring has sprung. Here is my list for today:

Canada Geese - 4

Wood Duck - 16

Gadwall – 6

American Wigeon - 1

Blue-winged Teal - 79

Northern Shoveler – 26

Green-winged Teal - 1

Ring-necked Duck – 16

Ruddy Duck - 2

Pied-billed Grebe – 56

Neotropic Cormorant – 5 (One sitting on a nest.)

Double-crested Cormorant – 14

Anhinga - 12

Great-blue Heron – 11

Great Egret – 59

Snowy Egret – 1 (new early date for RS)

Little-blue Heron - 15

Black Vulture - 5

Turkey Vulture – 16

Osprey - 1

Bald Eagle – 1 subadult

Northern Harrier – 3

Red-shouldered Hawk - 2

Red-tailed Hawk – 1

King Rail – 1

Common Gallinule - 2

American Coot – 730

Killdeer – 9

Greater Yellowlegs - 5

Red-bellied Woodpecker – 5

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker - 1

Downy Woodpecker - 5

Hairy Woodpecker - 1

Pileated Woodpecker – 2

Eastern Phoebe – 2

White-eyed Vireo – 4

Yellow-throated Vireo - 1

Blue Jay - 3

American Crow – 10

Fish Crow – 1
Purple Martin - 1
Tree Swallow – 25
Barn Swallow - 4
Carolina Chickadee – 6
Tufted Titmouse – 13
Carolina Wren – 7
Ruby-crowned Kinglet – 6
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher - 3
American Robin – 59
Brown Thrasher – 1
Orange-crowned Warbler – 1
Northern Parula - 2
Yellow-rumped Warbler – 10
Yellow-throated Warbler - 4
Pine Warbler – 4
Black-and-White Warbler – 3
Louisiana Waterthrush – 1
Savannah Sparrow – 1
Swamp Sparrow – 2
White-throated Sparrow - 2
Northern Cardinal – 15
Red-winged Blackbird – 5
Rusty Blackbird – 4 (new late date for RS)
Brown-headed Cowbird – 2
Purple Finch – 2 (a pair; new late date for RS.)
American Goldfinch - 7

Herps:

American Alligator
Softshell Turtle sp.
Red-eared Slider
Southern Painted Turtle
Western Cottonmouth
Orange-striped Ribbon Snake
Broad-banded Watersnake
Eastern Gray Treefrog - calling
Spring Peepers – calling
Cajun Chorus Frogs – calling
Blanchard's Cricket Frog - calling
Southern Leopard Frogs – calling
Bullfrog

Odonates:

Common Green Darner

Baskettail species
Fragile Forktail

Red Slough Bird Survey – March 18, 2021

It was overcast, cold, and very windy on the bird survey today. The sun popped out in mid afternoon and it warmed up a bit but the wind just got worse. 46 species were found. Passerines were very scarce. No sparrows found at all. Anhinga numbers are increasing. Here is my list for today:

Canada Geese - 3
Wood Duck - 20
Gadwall – 8
Mallard – 2
Blue-winged Teal - 62
Northern Shoveler – 12
Northern Pintail - 6
Ring-necked Duck – 90
Hooded Merganser - 4
Ruddy Duck - 62
Pied-billed Grebe – 22
Neotropic Cormorant – 2
Double-crested Cormorant – 77
Anhinga - 8
Great-blue Heron – 5
Great Egret - 41
Black Vulture - 4
Turkey Vulture – 20
Northern Harrier – 3
Red-shouldered Hawk - 3
Red-tailed Hawk – 10
King Rail – 1
American Coot – 250
Wilson's Snipe - 1
Red-bellied Woodpecker – 2
Downy Woodpecker - 1
Hairy Woodpecker - 2
Northern Flicker – 21
Pileated Woodpecker – 1
Blue Jay - 9
American Crow – 11
Fish Crow – 3
Tree Swallow – 60
Cliff Swallow – 4
Barn Swallow - 14
Carolina Chickadee – 5
Tufted Titmouse – 3
Brown Creeper - 1
Carolina Wren – 4
Golden-crowned Kinglet - 1

Ruby-crowned Kinglet – 5
American Robin - 44
Yellow-rumped Warbler – 19
Pine Warbler - 2
Northern Cardinal – 8
Red-winged Blackbird – 90
American Goldfinch - 1

Herps:

Spring Peepers – calling
Cajun Chorus Frogs - calling
Southern Leopard Frogs – calling

Odonates:

Common Green Darner
Damselfly species

Red Slough Bird Survey – March 11, 2021

It was mild (70's), overcast, and a bit windy on the bird survey today. 58 species were found. Spring has sprung down here. New leaves are popping out on some of the trees, frogs are calling, and returning migrants are on the rise. Most notable highlights today were an adult female Anhinga, a breeding plumaged Common Gallinule, and lots of King Rails. Also of note was an early Cattle Egret. I even saw a Monarch Butterfly heading north. Here is my list for today:

Canada Geese - 4
Wood Duck - 26
Gadwall – 30
Mallard – 33
Blue-winged Teal - 47
Northern Shoveler – 20
Green-winged Teal – 3
Ring-necked Duck – 111
Lesser Scaup - 9
Bufflehead – 5
Hooded Merganser - 1
Ruddy Duck - 62
Pied-billed Grebe – 58
Neotropic Cormorant – 2
Double-crested Cormorant – 10
Anhinga - 1
Great-blue Heron – 5
Cattle Egret – 1 (new early date for RS.)
Black Vulture - 1
Turkey Vulture – 31
Northern Harrier – 2

Cooper's Hawk - 1
Red-shouldered Hawk - 3
Red-tailed Hawk – 9
King Rail – 11
Common Gallinule - 1
American Coot – 580
American Golden-Plover – 40
Killdeer - 1
Red-bellied Woodpecker – 3
Hairy Woodpecker - 4
Northern Flicker – 6
Pileated Woodpecker – 3
Blue Jay - 8
American Crow – 8
Fish Crow – 14
Purple Martin - 2
Tree Swallow – 69
Cliff Swallow – 1
Barn Swallow - 6
Carolina Chickadee – 7
Tufted Titmouse – 7
Brown Creeper - 1
Carolina Wren – 9
Golden-crowned Kinglet - 2
Ruby-crowned Kinglet – 4
American Robin - 16
Yellow-rumped Warbler – 14
Pine Warbler - 3
Common Yellowthroat – 1
Eastern Towhee - 2
Song Sparrow – 2
Swamp Sparrow - 1
Northern Cardinal – 2
Red-winged Blackbird – 170
Eastern Meadowlark – 1
House Finch – 1 (very rare at RS)
American Goldfinch - 1

Herps:

American Alligators
Softshell Turtle sp.
Mississippi Mud Turtle
Red-eared Sliders
Western Mudsnake
Eastern Gray Treefrog - calling
Spring Peepers – calling

Cajun Chorus Frogs - calling
Blanchard's Cricket Frogs
Southern Leopard Frogs – calling
Bullfrogs – calling

Good birding!

David Arbour
De Queen, AR

Red Slough Bird Survey – March 2, 2021

It was a beautiful, clear, warm, spring day at Red Slough today. Bird numbers and diversity are increasing. Several species we have been missing since the big freeze are starting to return. We still are mostly devoid of sparrows. Highlights include Tree Swallows, a courting pair of Neotropic Cormorants, and King Rails. Here is my list for today:

Greater White-fronted Geese – 62
Snow Geese – 8
Ross' Geese - 4
Canada Geese - 5
Wood Duck - 6
Gadwall – 86
American Wigeon - 3
Mallard – 17
Blue-winged Teal - 12
Northern Shoveler – 15
Northern Pintail - 12
Green-winged Teal – 5
Ring-necked Duck – 160
Bufflehead – 11
Common Goldeneye – 1
Hooded Merganser - 1
Ruddy Duck - 71
Pied-billed Grebe – 29
Neotropic Cormorant – 2 (a pair courting)
Double-crested Cormorant - 67
Great-blue Heron – 5
Black Vulture - 4
Turkey Vulture – 45
Northern Harrier – 4
Red-shouldered Hawk - 5
Red-tailed Hawk – 7
King Rail - 2
American Coot – 475
Wilson's Snipe – 1
Mourning Dove – 2
Barred Owl – 2

Red-bellied Woodpecker – 3
Downy Woodpecker – 1
Hairy Woodpecker - 2
Northern Flicker – 9
Pileated Woodpecker – 3
Eastern Phoebe - 3
Blue Jay - 7
American Crow – 17
Fish Crow – 2
Tree Swallow - 13
Carolina Chickadee – 12
Tufted Titmouse – 4
Brown Creeper - 4
Carolina Wren – 6
Golden-crowned Kinglet - 2
Ruby-crowned Kinglet – 9
Eastern Bluebird - 1
American Robin - 21
Northern Mockingbird – 1
Brown Thrasher – 2
Cedar Waxwing - 3
Orange-crowned Warbler – 1
Yellow-rumped Warbler – 33
Common Yellowthroat - 1
Song Sparrow – 2
White-throated Sparrow - 3
Northern Cardinal – 9
Red-winged Blackbird – 223
Common Grackle - 2
American Goldfinch - 1

Herps:

American Alligators
Red-eared Sliders
Prairie Kingsnake
Blanchard's Cricket Frog
Spring Peepers – calling
Cajun Chorus Frogs – calling
Southern Leopard Frogs - calling

Good birding!

David Arbour
De Queen, AR

It was a beautiful spring day with clear skies and temps in the upper 70's on my bird survey yesterday. Winds picked up a bit in the afternoon. 49 species were found. Bird numbers and diversity are still very low; especially with the Passerines. Only 4 sparrows of one species found today which is extremely odd. All the snow was melted off but there was still some ice on some of the reservoirs. Highlights included a mostly breeding plumaged Neotropic Cormorant (they started nesting in early March last year.) and 6 King Rails. Also the continuing (though not seen on every survey) female Common Goldeneye was notable for us. Here is my list for yesterday:

Canada Geese - 4
Wood Duck - 7
Gadwall - 147
American Wigeon - 9
Mallard - 195
Northern Shoveler - 8
Northern Pintail - 64
Green-winged Teal - 35
Ring-necked Duck - 205
Bufflehead - 7
Common Goldeneye - 1
Ruddy Duck - 22
Pied-billed Grebe - 6
Neotropic Cormorant - 1
Double-crested Cormorant - 4
Great-blue Heron - 6
Black Vulture - 14
Turkey Vulture - 31
Bald Eagle - 1 (sub-adult)
Northern Harrier - 5
Accipiter sp. - 1
Red-shouldered Hawk - 2
Red-tailed Hawk - 10
King Rail - 6
American Coot - 305
Killdeer - 1
Eastern Screech-Owl - 1
Belted Kingfisher - 1
Red-bellied Woodpecker - 4
Downy Woodpecker - 2
Hairy Woodpecker - 1
Northern Flicker - 7
Pileated Woodpecker - 1
Blue Jay - 7
American Crow - 9
Fish Crow - 4
Carolina Chickadee - 11
Tufted Titmouse - 2
Carolina Wren - 5
Golden-crowned Kinglet - 1
Ruby-crowned Kinglet - 5
American Robin - 9
Northern Mockingbird - 1

Orange-crowned Warbler – 3
Yellow-rumped Warbler - 6
Song Sparrow – 4
Northern Cardinal – 2
Red-winged Blackbird – 20
American Goldfinch - 1

Herps:

American Alligator
Spring Peepers – calling
Cajun Chorus Frogs – calling
Southern Leopard Frogs - calling

Good birding!

David Arbour
De Queen, AR

Red Slough Bird Survey – February 19, 2021

It was clear and cold (30's & 40's) with a light wind and several inches of snow on the ground on the bird survey yesterday (Friday). 51 species were found. All the lakes and wetland units were covered in 2-3 inches of ice except for a large hole of open water in Lotus Lake and one in Bittern Lake that were being kept open by hundreds of waterfowl, coots, and grebes. Passerines were really scarce and hard to come by. I hope most of the missing birds had been smart enough to migrate further south rather than freezing to death. There were numerous dead coots laying around and a few grebe carcasses frozen in the ice. And I also found one Brown Thrasher laying on the ground dead. I witnessed a Northern Harrier land on a dead coot out on the ice and scavenge on it. I saw a Virginia Rail out walking on the snow on one of the levees, then it ran into the marshy ice covered ditch when I approached. Notable finds today included a King Rail and a Rusty Blackbird (very scarce this year.). I also checked on some gators that were in a state of brumation and in an "icing response" position with their noses sticking up through the ice. Here is my list from yesterday:

Wood Duck - 9
Gadwall – 150
Mallard – 312
Northern Shoveler – 25
Northern Pintail - 23
Green-winged Teal – 3
Ring-necked Duck – 113
Bufflehead – 5
Hooded Merganser – 9
Ruddy Duck - 24
Pied-billed Grebe – 14
Great-blue Heron – 4
Black Vulture - 10
Turkey Vulture – 25

Bald Eagle – 2 (1 adult & 1 imm.)

Northern Harrier – 5

Cooper's Hawk - 1

Red-shouldered Hawk - 2

Red-tailed Hawk – 4

King Rail - 1

Virginia Rail – 1 (walking around on the snow.)

American Coot – 365

Killdeer – 5

Wilson's Snipe – 1

Mourning Dove - 1

Red-bellied Woodpecker – 1

Downy Woodpecker – 2

Hairy Woodpecker - 1

Northern Flicker – 7

Pileated Woodpecker - 2

Blue Jay - 2

American Crow – 10

Fish Crow – 1

Carolina Chickadee – 5

Tufted Titmouse – 3

Brown Creeper - 1

Carolina Wren – 4

Ruby-crowned Kinglet - 3

American Robin - 7

Northern Mockingbird – 1

Brown Thrasher – 4

Eastern Towhee - 1

Fox Sparrow - 1

Song Sparrow – 6

Swamp Sparrow – 1

White-throated Sparrow – 8

Dark-eyed Junco - 3

Northern Cardinal – 9

Red-winged Blackbird – 10

Meadowlark species - 3

Rusty Blackbird – 1

Herps:

American Alligator

Good birding!

David Arbour
De Queen, AR

Red Slough Bird Survey – February 9, 2021

It was cool (30's & low 40's), heavy overcast and dense fog, and a light wind on the bird survey today. The fog lasted all day and was especially dense on the reservoirs making viewing ducks very difficult so most ducks went uncounted. I spent the day surveying Passerines mostly. Notable sightings today include 2 early Tree swallows, an Eastern Bewick's Wren, Blue-headed Vireo, and an early Neotropic Cormorant. Also had a good count on King Rails but not as high as last weeks. Here is my list for today:

Canada Geese - 2

Wood Duck - 2

Gadwall – 30

Mallard – 16

Northern Shoveler - 16

Green-winged Teal – 32

Ring-necked Duck – 265

Bufflehead – 2

Hooded Merganser – 1

Ruddy Duck - 8

Pied-billed Grebe – 5

Neotropic Cormorant - 1

Double-crested Cormorant - 11

Great-blue Heron – 2

Turkey Vulture – 7

Red-shouldered Hawk - 1

Red-tailed Hawk – 5

Merlin - 1

King Rail - 12

Virginia Rail - 1

American Coot – 240

Killdeer – 3

Ring-billed Gull - 1

Eurasian Collared-Dove – 1

Eastern Screech-Owl - 1

Belted Kingfisher - 2

Red-bellied Woodpecker – 4

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker - 1

Downy Woodpecker – 6

Northern Flicker – 16

Pileated Woodpecker - 1

Eastern Phoebe – 4

Blue-headed Vireo - 1

Blue Jay - 11

American Crow – 11

Fish Crow – 3

Tree Swallow - 2

Carolina Chickadee – 13

Tufted Titmouse – 7

Brown Creeper - 1

Carolina Wren – 7

Bewick's Wren – 1 (Eastern)

Winter Wren - 1
Sedge Wren – 4
Marsh Wren – 6
Golden-crowned Kinglet - 2
Ruby-crowned Kinglet - 11
Eastern Bluebird – 4
Hermit Thrush - 7
American Robin - 14
Northern Mockingbird – 3
Brown Thrasher – 6
Orange-crowned Warbler - 2
Yellow-rumped Warbler – 16
Pine Warbler – 13
Common Yellowthroat – 1
Eastern Towhee - 12
Fox Sparrow - 9
Song Sparrow – 12
Swamp Sparrow – 4
White-throated Sparrow – 18
Dark-eyed Junco - 12
Northern Cardinal – 35
Red-winged Blackbird – 61
Meadowlark species - 6
Purple Finch - 2

Good birding!

David Arbour
De Queen, AR

Red Slough Bird Survey – February 2, 2021

It was mostly cloudy, cool, with a little wind on the bird survey today. 58 species were found. Pine warblers were singing and grebes were calling (yodeling?). Spring is getting close. Highlight today was getting a record high count on King Rails. Here is my list for today:

Wood Duck - 3
Gadwall – 330
American Wigeon - 1
Mallard – 389
Northern Shoveler - 84
Northern Pintail – 36
Green-winged Teal – 74
Ring-necked Duck – 1315
Bufflehead – 7
Hooded Merganser – 11
Ruddy Duck - 33
Pied-billed Grebe – 18
Double-crested Cormorant - 27
Great-blue Heron – 3

Great Egret – 3
Black Vulture - 8
Turkey Vulture – 27
Northern Harrier – 6
Cooper’s Hawk - 1
Red-shouldered Hawk - 6
Red-tailed Hawk – 9
King Rail - 19
Virginia Rail - 1
American Coot – 637
Killdeer – 26
Mourning Dove – 2
Rock Pigeon - 3
Red-bellied Woodpecker – 4
Downy Woodpecker – 3
Northern Flicker – 9
Pileated Woodpecker - 1
Eastern Phoebe – 5
Blue Jay - 12
American Crow – 29
Fish Crow – 3
Carolina Chickadee – 5
Tufted Titmouse – 1
Carolina Wren – 3
Sedge Wren – 3
Marsh Wren – 1
Ruby-crowned Kinglet - 6
Eastern Bluebird – 4
American Robin - 4
Northern Mockingbird – 2
Brown Thrasher - 1
Yellow-rumped Warbler – 9
Pine Warbler – 2
Common Yellowthroat - 1
Savannah Sparrow - 1
Fox Sparrow - 12
Song Sparrow – 17
Swamp Sparrow – 3
White-throated Sparrow – 9
White-crowned Sparrow - 11
Dark-eyed Junco - 1
Northern Cardinal – 34
Red-winged Blackbird – 433
Meadowlark species - 11

Good birding!

David Arbour

De Queen, AR

Red Slough Bird Survey – January 26, 2021

It was mostly clear and warm (60's) with a slight wind on the survey today. 64 species were found. Highlights were 7 King Rails and a female Common Goldeneye (rare at Red Slough). Frogs were singing and gators were basking in the sun. Spring is just around the corner. Here is my list for today:

Canada Geese – 7
Wood Duck - 3
Gadwall – 603
American Wigeon - 9
Mallard – 60
Northern Shoveler - 49
Northern Pintail – 44
Green-winged Teal – 217
Ring-necked Duck – 2050
Bufflehead – 7
Common Goldeneye - 1
Hooded Merganser – 3
Ruddy Duck - 54
Pied-billed Grebe – 10
Double-crested Cormorant - 12
Great-blue Heron – 7
Great Egret – 1
Black Vulture - 16
Turkey Vulture – 65
Bald Eagle – 1 imm.
Northern Harrier – 3
Cooper's Hawk - 1
Red-shouldered Hawk - 2
Red-tailed Hawk – 6
***King Rail* - 7**
Virginia Rail - 1
American Coot – 610
Killdeer – 4
Mourning Dove – 1
Rock Pigeon - 1
Belted Kingfisher - 1
Red-bellied Woodpecker – 3
Downy Woodpecker – 3
Hairy Woodpecker - 1
Northern Flicker – 10
Pileated Woodpecker - 1
Eastern Phoebe – 5
Blue Jay - 4
American Crow – 7
Fish Crow – 1
Carolina Chickadee – 12

Tufted Titmouse – 4
Carolina Wren – 5
House Wren - 1
Winter Wren - 1
Marsh Wren – 2
Ruby-crowned Kinglet - 3
Eastern Bluebird – 4
Northern Mockingbird – 1
Cedar Waxwing - 15
Yellow-rumped Warbler – 4
Pine Warbler – 3
Common Yellowthroat - 2
Eastern Towhee – 2
Savannah Sparrow - 7
Fox Sparrow - 2
Song Sparrow – 14
Swamp Sparrow – 3
White-throated Sparrow – 1
Dark-eyed Junco - 1
Northern Cardinal – 15
Red-winged Blackbird – 19
Meadowlark species - 2
American Goldfinch - 1

Herps:

American Alligator
Red-eared Slider
Cajun Chorus Frog
Southern Leopard Frog

Good birding!

David Arbour
De Queen, AR

Red Slough Bird Survey – January 19, 2021

It was overcast and mild with a slight wind on the bird survey today. 66 species were found. Highlights were a Blue-headed Vireo, 5 King Rails, and a couple Purple Finches. Spring must be getting near as I heard a Spring Peeper calling. Here is my list for today:

Canada Geese – 7
Wood Duck - 3
Gadwall – 546
American Wigeon - 3
Mallard – 747
Northern Shoveler - 37

Northern Pintail – 79
Green-winged Teal – 93
Canvasback – 2
Ring-necked Duck – 1455
Bufflehead – 6
Hooded Merganser – 2
Ruddy Duck - 25
Pied-billed Grebe – 7
Double-crested Cormorant - 103
Great-blue Heron – 4
Great Egret – 1
Turkey Vulture – 15
Bald Eagle – 1 imm.
Northern Harrier – 3
Cooper's Hawk - 1
Red-shouldered Hawk - 5
Red-tailed Hawk – 3
King Rail - 5
Virginia Rail - 4
American Coot – 768
Barred Owl - 1
Belted Kingfisher - 1
Red-bellied Woodpecker – 1
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker - 1
Downy Woodpecker – 7
Hairy Woodpecker - 2
Northern Flicker – 9
Pileated Woodpecker - 4
Eastern Phoebe – 7
Blue-headed Vireo - 1
Blue Jay - 3
American Crow – 15
Fish Crow – 4
Carolina Chickadee – 7
Tufted Titmouse – 3
Carolina Wren – 9
Winter Wren - 1
Sedge Wren – 7
Marsh Wren – 16
Golden-crowned Kinglet - 1
Ruby-crowned Kinglet - 7
Eastern Bluebird – 1
Hermit Thrush – 2
Northern Mockingbird – 2
Brown Thrasher – 2
Orange-crowned Warbler - 2
Yellow-rumped Warbler – 8
Pine Warbler – 4

Common Yellowthroat - 3
Eastern Towhee – 1
Fox Sparrow - 3
Song Sparrow – 11
Swamp Sparrow – 11
White-throated Sparrow – 2
White-crowned Sparrow – 1
Dark-eyed Junco - 1
Northern Cardinal – 29
Red-winged Blackbird – 1
Purple Finch – 2
American Goldfinch - 1

Herps:

Spring Peeper – calling

Good birding!

David Arbour
De Queen, AR

Red Slough Bird Survey – January 14, 2021

It was partly cloudy on the bird survey today. The first hour was calm and cold and when I picked up most of my Passerines for the day. After that the winds picked up and became very strong by afternoon but at least it warmed up fairly nicely. 63 species were found. Between heat waves and the strong winds it was quite the challenge to count ducks through a scope on the reservoirs. Highlights today were a Mottled Duck and a Gray Catbird. Here is my list for today:

Canada Geese – 4
Wood Duck - 1
Gadwall – 442
American Wigeon - 1
Mallard – 297
Mottled Duck - 1
Northern Shoveler - 156
Northern Pintail – 29
Green-winged Teal – 68
Canvasback – 6
Redhead - 7
Ring-necked Duck – 1120
Bufflehead – 4
Hooded Merganser – 1
Ruddy Duck - 42
Pied-billed Grebe – 12
Double-crested Cormorant - 57
Great-blue Heron – 10

Great Egret – 3
Black Vulture - 7
Turkey Vulture – 55
Bald Eagle – 1 adult
Northern Harrier – 6
Red-shouldered Hawk - 2
Red-tailed Hawk – 5
Virginia Rail - 1
American Coot – 730
Killdeer – 20
Wilson’s Snipe – 12
Mourning Dove - 3
Belted Kingfisher - 1
Red-bellied Woodpecker – 4
Downy Woodpecker – 1
Hairy Woodpecker - 1
Northern Flicker – 6
Eastern Phoebe – 5
Blue Jay - 5
American Crow – 8
Fish Crow – 3
Carolina Chickadee – 4
Tufted Titmouse – 5
Brown Creeper - 1
Carolina Wren – 6
Sedge Wren – 3
Marsh Wren – 6
Golden-crowned Kinglet - 2
Ruby-crowned Kinglet - 3
Eastern Bluebird – 9
Hermit Thrush – 2
Gray Catbird - 1
Northern Mockingbird – 2
Brown Thrasher - 2
Yellow-rumped Warbler – 3
Pine Warbler - 1
Eastern Towhee – 3
Fox Sparrow - 1
Song Sparrow – 23
Swamp Sparrow – 4
White-throated Sparrow – 2
White-crowned Sparrow – 4
Northern Cardinal – 11
Red-winged Blackbird – 3
Meadowlark sp. – 2

Good birding!

David Arbour
De Queen, AR

Red Slough Bird Survey – January 5, 2021

It was mostly clear skies on the bird survey today. Started off cold and calm with heavy frost, turning mild and windy in the afternoon. 74 species were found. Highlights include 3 Blue-headed Vireos (two at one location chasing each other), 2 King Rails, and a Common Goldeneye which are rare at Red Slough with only about half a dozen records over the past 20 years. I also found the Leucistic sapsucker again. Here is my list for today:

Canada Geese – 8
Gadwall – 655
American Wigeon - 10
Mallard – 45
Northern Shoveler - 430
Northern Pintail – 64
Green-winged Teal – 248
Canvasback – 5
Redhead - 14
Ring-necked Duck – 2100
Bufflehead – 4
Common Goldeneye – 1 (Rare at RS)
Hooded Merganser – 2
Ruddy Duck - 61
Pied-billed Grebe – 8
American White Pelican - 2
Double-crested Cormorant - 41
Great-blue Heron – 5
Great Egret – 4
Black Vulture - 8
Turkey Vulture – 47
Northern Harrier – 2
Cooper's Hawk - 1
Red-shouldered Hawk - 1
Red-tailed Hawk – 8
American Kestrel - 1
King Rail - 2
American Coot – 606
Killdeer – 29
Rock Pigeon – 5
Eastern Screech-Owl - 1
Belted Kingfisher - 3
Red-bellied Woodpecker – 4
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker – 3 (1 Leucistic individual)
Downy Woodpecker – 5
Hairy Woodpecker - 2
Northern Flicker – 10

Pileated Woodpecker - 2
Eastern Phoebe – 11
Blue-headed Vireo - 3
Blue Jay - 7
American Crow – 10
Fish Crow – 5
Carolina Chickadee – 14
Tufted Titmouse – 9
Brown Creeper - 1
Carolina Wren – 7
House Wren - 2
Winter Wren - 1
Sedge Wren – 4
Marsh Wren – 2
Golden-crowned Kinglet - 3
Ruby-crowned Kinglet - 10
Eastern Bluebird – 5
Hermit Thrush – 3
American Robin - 6
Northern Mockingbird - 1
Yellow-rumped Warbler – 14
Pine Warbler - 8
Common Yellowthroat - 1
Eastern Towhee – 2
Savannah Sparrow - 6
Fox Sparrow - 4
Song Sparrow – 25
Swamp Sparrow – 6
White-throated Sparrow – 8
White-crowned Sparrow – 10
Dark-eyed Junco - 4
Northern Cardinal – 24
Red-winged Blackbird – 43
Eastern Meadowlark – 6
Rusty Blackbird – 5
Common Grackle – 1
American Goldfinch - 5

Herps:

American Alligator
Red-eared Slider
Southern Leopard Frog – calling!

Good birding!

David Arbour

De Queen, AR