

of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, examined one that had been caught in the refuge banding trap. The second record came on November 17, 1954, when State Biologist Francis X. Leuth examined one that had been shot by a hunter in the Swan Creek Public Hunting Area. Shortly afterwards, on November 22, Hulse shot another near the same locality. The latest records came in 1958, when Hulse again shot one of the birds in the backwater west of the refuge on December 2, and again on December 9, when he examined two males shot in the same vicinity by Ross Williams, of Decatur.

No greater scaup study skins have been prepared, but wings are preserved at the refuge office. Identifications have been based not only on size, but also on length of wing stripes, head color, and measurements of nails of bills.

Decatur, Alabama
March 2, 1959

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS, ALABAMA, 1958

THOMAS A. IMHOF

December 20, Birmingham (B). Partly cloudy, temp. 40-50, wind W. 8 m.p.h. then N.W. 0-12, 18 observers in 6 parties, 56½ party-hours, 80 species, 11,556 individuals.

December 27, Dauphin Island (D). Heavy overcast, foggy at times, rain to drizzle in early morning and late afternoon, sun shone about 5 minutes around 2 P.M., temp. 40-50, wind N.E. 0-20 m.p.h., 11 observers in 4 parties, 39 party-hours, 120 species, 11,144 individuals.

Species	B	D	Species	B	D
Common Loon	4	34	Turkey	1	---
Horned Grebe	3	62	Clapper Rail	---	44
Pied-billed Grebe	134	15	Virginia Rail	---	4
White Pelican	---	2	Sora	---	12
Brown Pelican	---	14	Am. Coot	675	---
Double-cr. Cormorant	---	1100	Am. Oystercatcher	---	1
Great Blue Heron	1	24	Semipalmated Plover	---	45
Little Blue Heron	---	14	Piping Plover	---	75
Reddish Egret	---	2	Killdeer	341	12
Snowy Egret	---	2	Black-bellied Plover	---	68
Louisiana Heron	---	19	Ruddy Turnstone	---	52
Black-cr. Night Heron	---	1	Common Snipe	94	1
Blue Goose	---	21	Willet	---	10
Mallard	12	---	Greater Yellowlegs	---	19
Black Duck	6	3	Knot	---	1
Gadwall	---	1	Dunlin	---	375
Pintail	---	1	Short-b. Dowitcher	---	85
Am. Widgeon	1	---	Semipalmated Sandpiper	---	20
Wood Duck	2	---	Western Sandpiper	---	150
Redhead	6	---	Sanderling	---	20
Ring-necked Duck	135	125	Herring Gull	---	500
Canvasback	78	---	Ring-billed Gull	1	330
Greater Scaup	---	45	Laughing Gull	---	157
Lesser Scaup	27	241	Forster's Tern	---	73
Am. Goldeneye	---	274	Royal Tern	---	155
Bufflehead	---	1	Caspian Tern	---	212
Oldsquaw	---	1	Unidentified gulls and terns	---	400
Common Scoter	---	1	Mourning Dove	174	27
Common Merganser	---	8	Ground Dove	---	1
Red-breasted Merganser	---	55	Barn Owl	---	2
Unidentified Ducks	200	1000	Screech Owl	1	---
Turkey Vulture	1	3	Chuck-will's-widow	---	1
Black Vulture	---	63	Belted Kingfisher	11	44
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1	---	Yellow-s. Flicker	71	10
Cooper's Hawk	3	---	Pileated Woodpecker	11	---
Red-tailed Hawk	4	1	Red-bellied Woodpecker	23	33
Red-shouldered Hawk	7	4	Red-headed Woodpecker	17	1
Marsh Hawk	---	3	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	16	11
Osprey	---	1	Hairy Woodpecker	7	---
Sparrow Hawk	3	17	Downy Woodpecker	26	3
Bob-white	35	10	Red Cockaded Woodpecker	7	---

Species	B	D	Species	B	D
Eastern Phoebe	1	4	Solitary Vireo	---	5
Tree Swallow	---	1320	Black-and-white Warbler	---	2
Rough-winged Swallow	---	20	Orange-cr. Warbler	---	17
Blue Jay	135	244	Parula Warbler	---	2
Common Crow	146	307	Myrtle Warbler	80	339
Fish Crow	---	75	Pine Warbler	58	86
Carolina Chickadee	122	20	Palm Warbler	---	4
Tufted Titmouse	99	24	Yeliowthroat	4	8
White-breasted Nuthatch	19	2	House Sparrow	212	60
Red-breasted Nuthatch	3	---	Eastern Meadowlark	398	272
Brown-headed Nuthatch	21	24	Redwinged Blackbird	1012	650
Brown Creeper	1	3	Rusty Blackbird	445	25
House Wren	---	3	Common Grackle	251	200
Winter Wren	9	1	Brown-headed Cowbird	570	20
Bewick's Wren	1	2	Cardinal	345	32
Carolina Wren	86	26	Purple Finch	248	---
Long-billed Marsh Wren	---	28	Pine Siskin	1	---
Short-billed Marsh Wren	---	43	Am. Goldfinch	231	106
Mockingbird	107	56	Rufous-s. Towhee	216	105
Brown Thrasher	47	11	Savannah Sparrow	72	3
Robin	75	390	Sharp-tailed Sparrow	---	34
Hermit Thrush	8	3	Seaside Sparrow	---	33
Eastern Bluebird	94	98	Slate-colored Junco	529	---
Golden-cr. Kinglet	10	4	Chipping Sparrow	89	8
Ruby-cr. Kinglet	41	18	Field Sparrow	248	4
Water Pipit	77	1	White-throated Sparrow	613	72
Cedar Waxwing	574	39	Fox Sparrow	41	---
Loggerhead Shrike	20	32	Swamp Sparrow	25	69
Starling	1784	55	Song Sparrow	204	13

Observers: Ruth Brunson, B; Frederick T. Carney, B; Fairly Chandler, D; Blanche H. Chapman, B, D; Ruth Copeland, B; F. Bozeman Daniel, B; Blanche E. Dean, D; Mildred Ferris, B; M. Wilson Gaillard, D; Emmie Lou Grimley, B, D; Dan C. Holliman, B, D; Thomas A. Imhof, compiler B, D; Amy Mason, B; James H. Mason, B; James Mason, B; Clustie McTyeire, D; Rachel Merrill, B; Morton H. Perry, B; Robert Perry, B; Dorothy Roberts, B; Robert W. Skinner, D; Idalene F. Snead, B, D; Thomas S. Snead, D; Harriett H. Wright, B.

Comment: Wood Duck is new to the Birmingham count, the 118th species recorded in 23 years. At Dauphin the following species are recorded for the first time in winter in Alabama: Reddish Egret, Chuckwill's-widow, Knot, and Parula Warbler; and the following have been recorded in Alabama in winter on the coast less than 8 times: Common Scoter, Common Merganser, Osprey, Rough-winged Swallow, and Black-and-white Warbler. These two counts constitute the 85th and 86th Alabama Christmas Counts that have been published in Bird-Lore and its successors.

NOTES OF INTEREST

NASAL MITES IN ALABAMA MOURNING DOVES

This is a report of parasites of the Mourning Dove as reported by Dr. B. L. Owen, of the USDA, Florence, South Carolina, in collaboration with the writer as reported in the Texas Journal of Science, Vol. X:4, 1958.

It is to be recognized that birds have many kinds of parasites. The particular kind of parasite reported here is a type of mite that lives in the nasal cavity. This mite is especially found in the Mourning Dove and has been named, *Neonyssus zenaidurae* Crossley.

The doves in this study were collected by the writer from sportsmen. Ten were collected near Comer in Barbour County, Alabama, and 34 from near Bay Minette and Foley, Baldwin County, Alabama, through the help of Mr. Charles Kelley of the Alabama Department of Conservation. All of these were collected in October, 1957.

Dr. Owen examined the doves for mites by opening the nasal cavity with a scalpel and then, by use of a microscope, locating the mites and removing them with dissecting needles. He recorded 40 per cent of the doves from near Comer infested with a mean of 1.5 mites per dove and that 29.4 per cent of the doves from Baldwin County, were infested with a mean of 2.6 mites per dove. These are the first mites taken from the doves in Alabama.

Julian L. Dusi