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The Bird List, 2024 Foray, Pocahontas County, West Virginia

Cynthia M. Slater

The 2024 Foray was held at Camp Thornwood, West Virginia. This was the 16th BBC Foray at Camp Thornwood in Pocahontas County and was held from June 15 through June 22. The camp was exactly as expected, it was an exceptionally diverse mountainous area, the weather was dry and very HOT. Thornwood is an unincorporated community on the East Fork of the Greenbrier River, 5 miles east-northeast of Durbin. Camp Thornwood is approximately one-half mile south of route 250. Camp Thornwood is a rare surviving CCC camp containing barracks, a recreation building, the Laura Dill dining hall and a new outdoor pavilion. Camp Thornwood is within the Monongahela National Forest, elevation 2,884' and is close to some of the tallest mountains in the state. Foray birders found 102 bird species.

Breeding records for the 2024 Foray are placed in italics in the list below, and abundance terms used in the bird list are as follows:

Very common—Seen in large numbers every day in all appropriate habitats.

Common—Seen in appropriate habitat every day without any special effort.

Uncommon—Seen in appropriate habitat only with a lot of effort.

Rare—Only one or two seen in the entire study region during the study period.

Canada Goose — Uncommon.

Wood Duck — Uncommon.

Mallard — Rare.

Wild Turkey — Rare.

Ruffed Grouse — Uncommon.

Rock Pigeon — Uncommon.

Mourning Dove — Uncommon.

Chimney Swift — Common.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird — Uncommon. Cranberry Glades Boardwalk, Ryan Tomazin.

Killdeer — Rare.

American Woodcock — Rare.

Great Blue Heron — Rare.

Black Vulture — Rare.

Turkey Vulture — Common.

Osprey — Rare. Spruce Knob Lake. Cindy Slater, Tom Fox, Dawn Fox, Prim Fox, & Ryan Tomazin.

Northern Harrier — Rare.

Bald Eagle — Rare.

Red-shouldered Hawk — Rare.

Broad-winged Hawk — Uncommon.

Red-tailed Hawk — Uncommon.

Barred Owl — Common.

Belted Kingfisher — Uncommon.

Red-headed Woodpecker — Rare.

Red-bellied Woodpecker — Rare.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker — Common.

Downy Woodpecker — Uncommon.

Hairy Woodpecker — Uncommon.

Northern Flicker — Uncommon.

Pileated Woodpecker — Uncommon.

American Kestrel — Rare.

Merlin — Rare. Mower Tract chasing a Raven, Dan & Mary Dellatore, Cindy Slater, Sally Egan.

Great Crested Flycatcher — Rare.

Eastern Wood-Pewee — Uncommon.

Acadian Flycatcher — Uncommon.

Alder Flycatcher — Uncommon.

Least Flycatcher — Common.

Eastern Phoebe — Common.

Blue-headed Vireo — Common.

Red-eyed Vireo — Very common.

Blue Jay — Uncommon.

American Crow — Uncommon.

Common Raven — Uncommon.

Black-capped Chickadee — Uncommon.

Tufted Titmouse — Uncommon.

Tree Swallow — Uncommon.

Barn Swallow — Common.

Golden-crowned Kinglet — Common.

Cedar Waxwing — Very Common.

Red-breasted Nuthatch — Common.

White-breasted Nuthatch — Uncommon.

Brown Creeper — Common.

Northern House Wren — Very Common.

Winter Wren — Common. Gaudineer Knob, Dawn Fox, Cindy Slater.

Carolina Wren — Common.

Gray Catbird — Common.

Brown Thrasher — Uncommon.

Northern Mockingbird — Rare.

European Starling — Uncommon.

Eastern Bluebird — Very Common.

Veery — Very Common in camp. Dan & Mary Dellatore, Dawn Fox, and Mimi Kibler.

Swainson's Thrush — Common.

Hermit Thrush — Common. Gaudineer Knob, Dawn Fox, Cindy Slater..

Wood Thrush — Uncommon.

American Robin — Very Common.

House Sparrow — Common.

Purple Finch — Rare.

Red Crossbill — Uncommon.

American Goldfinch — Common.

Chipping Sparrow — Common.

Field Sparrow — Uncommon.

Dark-eyed Junco — Common.

Song Sparrow — Common.

Swamp Sparrow — Rare.

Eastern Towhee — Uncommon.

Yellow-breasted Chat — Rare.

Bobolink — Rare.

Eastern Meadowlark — Uncommon. Wonderful view of *parents feeding young* on the ground, about .5 miles from Rt 250, Mary Murin, Tom & Dawn Fox, Dan & Mary Dellatore, Ashton Berdine, and Cindy Slater.

Red-winged Blackbird — Common.

Brown-headed Cowbird — Rare.

Common Grackle — Uncommon.

Ovenbird — Common.

Louisiana Waterthrush — Rare.

Northern Waterthrush — Rare.

Black-and-white Warbler — Uncommon.

Mourning Warbler — Rare.

Common Yellowthroat — Common.

Hooded Warbler — Rare.

American Redstart — Uncommon.

Northern Parula — Uncommon.

Magnolia Warbler — Common.

Blackburnian Warbler — Common.

Yellow Warbler — Uncommon.

Chestnut-sided Warbler — Common.

Black-throated Blue Warbler — Uncommon.

Yellow-rumped Warbler — Uncommon.

Black-throated Green Warbler — Common in camp. Dan & Mary Dellatore, Dawn Fox, and Mimi Kibler.

Canada Warbler — Uncommon.

Scarlet Tanager — Common in camp. Dan & Mary Dellatore, Dawn Fox, and Mimi Kibler.

Northern Cardinal — Uncommon.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak — Uncommon.

Indigo Bunting — Common.

Thanks to the Foray campers who took the time to tell me their sightings at the night tally of the bird list. Thank you for the mostly anonymous observations written in the bird comment book during Foray along with comments from Dawn Fox, Dan and Mary Dellatore, and Ryan Tomazin. Much appreciated and thanks for a great Foray.

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Singing Male Census, 2024 Foray Pocahontas and Randolph Counties, West Virginia

Martin Tingley

GAUDINEER KNOB—Location: West Virginia; Pocahontas and Randolph Counties; 5 miles N of Durbin; 38° 37'05"N, 79° 50' 44"W, Durbin Quadrangle, USGS, extends S. Continuity: Established 1947 by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; studied by the Brooks Bird Club in 1948, '53, '58, '64, '68, '73, '78, '83, '93, '98, 2003, 2008, 2013, 2018. Size 6.07 ha = 15 acres (110 x 660 yards, measured longitudinally and estimated laterally). Description of plot: See *The Redstart*, 66(1), 4. Coverage: June 16 to June 22, 2024. All trips between 0530 and 0745 hours. Total party hours: 14. Census: Yellow-rumped Warbler, 5 (82,33); Winter Wren, 4; Black-throated Blue ,3; Blue-headed Vireo, 2 ; Dark-eyed Junco, 2 ; Swainson's Thrush, 2 ; Brown Creeper,1; Blackburnian Warbler,1; Magnolia Warbler +, Black-and-white Warbler +; Red Crossbill,+; Black-throated Green Warbler, +; Red-breasted Nuthatch+; Cedar Waxwing+; Northern Parula, +; White-throated Sparrow+; Red-bellied Woodpecker+. Total 19 species; 25 territorial males (485/sq. km., 183/100 acres). Remarks:The 2018 report was printed in the April 2019 issue. A pair of Snowshoe Hares were seen most mornings at the edge of the parking lot. Without making a complete vegetative analysis, a measurement of canopy height was made. The average height of the spruce was 58.3 feet (range 48 to 62 feet). The average height in 1979 was 41 feet and in 1998 was 60 feet. The understory, consisting mostly of young spruce trees, is now well over six feet and very heavy in places, especially at the southern end of the plot. Census participants: Martin Tingley (compiler), Scott Emrick, Darrell Good, Mimi Kibler, Lee Miller, Nathan Miller, Brayn Tolka, Sally Tolka, Theo Tolka, Shepard Tolka, Wilma-Rue Tolka, Cindy Slater.

UPLAND BLACK CHERRY FOREST – Location: West Virginia; Pocahontas County; 6.5 miles NE of Durbin; 38° 36' 16" N, 79° 43' 33" W, Thornwood Quadrangle, USGS, extends S. Continuity: Established 1968 and studied at 5-year intervals, 6 years since last survey in 2018. Size 6.07 ha (15 ac; 110 x 660 yd, measured longitudinally and estimated laterally). Description of plot can be found in the January 1999 *Redstart* (Eddy 1999).

Coverage: June 16 to June 21, 2024. All trips between 0515 and 0732 hours. Total party hours 10.5.

Census: Ovenbird, 4 (66,27); Red-eyed Vireo 3; Black-throated Green Warbler 2.5; Magnolia Warbler 1.5; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker 1; Blue-headed Vireo 1; Dark-eyed Junco 1; Veery 0.5; Hermit Thrush 0.5; American Robin 0.5; Blackburnian Warbler 0.5; Scarlet Tanager 0.5, Downy Woodpecker +; Hairy Woodpecker +; Pileated Woodpecker +; Eastern Wood-Pewee +; Least Flycatcher +; Blue Jay +; Black-capped Chickadee +; Red-breasted Nuthatch +; White-breasted Nuthatch +; Brown Creeper +; American Redstart +; Chestnut-sided Warbler +; Black-throated Blue Warbler +; Rose-breasted Grosbeak +. Total 26 species; 16.5 territorial males (227/km², 110/100ac).

Census participants: Scott Emrick (compiler), Lee Miller, Mary Schilstra, and Cindy Slater.

To see an analysis of population-dynamic review of the study plots run this year. See April 2008 issue. The article is “Bird Population Declines in the Central Appalachian Mountains of West Virginia”. By Greg Eddy.

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The 2024 Foray Breeding Bird Surveys Pocahontas & Randolph counties, West Virginia

Ryan Tomazin

During the 2024 Foray, one team, led by the author, participated in six separate Breeding Bird Survey (BBS) routes centered at Thornwood, Pocahontas County, West Virginia. Each route has 20 stops, starting approximately one-half hour before sunrise; a new route was taken each day, stopping every half-mile to record all birds heard or observed for a 3-minute period.

Table 1 gives the number of each species recorded on the six Breeding Bird Survey routes and the number of stops where each was found.

Table 1
Birds Recorded by Species

Species	Total Individuals	Stops Present
Ruffed Grouse (1F + 7Y)	1	1
Mourning Dove	18	16
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	1	1
Great Blue Heron	1	1
Broad-winged Hawk	2	2
Belted Kingfisher	1	1
Red-bellied Woodpecker	1	1
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	36	21
Downy Woodpecker	6	6
Hairy Woodpecker	5	5
Northern Flicker	4	3
Pileated Woodpecker	7	7
Merlin	2	2
Great Crested Flycatcher	1	1
Eastern Wood-Pewee	12	11
Acadian Flycatcher	1	1
Alder Flycatcher	5	3
Least Flycatcher	15	12
Eastern Phoebe	13	12
Blue-headed Vireo	49	37
Red-eyed Vireo	90	53
Blue Jay	16	10
American Crow	32	22
Common Raven	9	7
Black-capped Chickadee	31	26
Tufted Titmouse	8	8
Barn Swallow	1	1
Golden-crowned Kinglet	21	20
Cedar Waxwing	48	29

Species	Total Individuals	Stops Present
Red-breasted Nuthatch	15	13
White-breasted Nuthatch	10	8
Brown Creeper	9	7
House Wren	8	8
Winter Wren	28	21
Carolina Wren	3	3
Gray Catbird	19	15
Brown Thrasher	7	6
European Starling	2	2
Eastern Bluebird	1	1
Veery	63	41
Swainson's Thrush	38	25
Hermit Thrush	66	52
Wood Thrush	3	3
American Robin	85	47
Red Crossbill	1	1
American Goldfinch	14	12
Chipping Sparrow	28	20
Field Sparrow	26	23
Dark-eyed Junco	75	55
Song Sparrow	18	13
Eastern Towhee	42	30
Yellow-breasted Chat	1	1
Bobolink	1	1
Red-winged Blackbird	3	3
Brown-headed Cowbird	3	3
Ovenbird	39	27
Northern Waterthrush	3	3
Black-and-white Warbler	5	4
Mourning Warbler	2	2
Common Yellowthroat	28	24
American Redstart	11	9
Northern Parula	3	3
Magnolia Warbler	50	38
Blackburnian Warbler	15	14
Yellow Warbler	3	3
Chestnut-sided Warbler	29	22
Black-throated Blue Warbler	22	21
Yellow-rumped Warbler	2	2
Black-throated Green Warbler	95	59
Canada Warbler	4	3
Scarlet Tanager	14	11
Northern Cardinal	1	1

Species	Total Individuals	Stops Present
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	3	3
Indigo Bunting	39	30
Total	74 species, 1,374 individuals	

Table 2 summarizes data from the 2024 Foray and four previous Thornwood Forays.

Table 2
Recent Thornwood Foray BBS Results

Notes: though 120 stops were run vs. 200 in 2018, the average birds per stop only fell from 11.57 (2018) to 11.45 (2024). No routes were run in the southeastern quarter.

Date	No. of Individuals	No. of Species	No. of Stops	Notes
June 15-22, 2024	1,374	74	120	
June 3-10, 2018	2,314	96	200	
June 1-8, 2013	2,007	99	210	rainy
June 15-22, 2008	2,548	97	280	
June 14-21, 2003	1,693	96	198	rainy

Table 3 lists the 15 most abundant species recorded on the 6 BBS routes and compares this with the prevalence of these species on the previous four Forays at this site.

Table 3
Most Abundant Species

Abundance Rank	Species	No. of		Percent of Total						
		2024	2024	'18	'13	'08	'03			
'03	'08	'13	'18	2024	Indiv.	2024	'18	'13	'08	'03
4	Black-th. Green Warbler	4	3	1	95	6.9	4.3	3.9	3.6	5.9
1	Red-eyed Vireo	1	1	2	90	6.6	8.3	10.5	12.6	16.2
3	American Robin	2	2	3	85	6.2	5.8	7.4	7.8	6.6
7	Dark-eyed Junco	11	6	9	75	5.5	2.9	3.7	2.3	4.6
10	Hermit Thrush	10	8	8	66	4.8	3.0	3.5	2.5	3.1
5	Veery	7	3	7	63	4.6	3.0	4.5	2.9	5.1
17	Magnolia Warbler	15	13	12	50	3.6	2.4	2.1	2.0	2.1
26	Blue-headed Vireo	17	22	27	49	3.6	1.3	1.5	2.0	1.3
13	Cedar Waxwing	20	27	11	48	3.5	2.5	1.3	1.8	2.2
15	Eastern Towhee	6	9	15	42	3.1	2.1	3.1	3.1	2.7
19	Ovenbird	17	7	13	39	2.8	2.3	3.6	2.0	1.9
2	Indigo Bunting	3	4	5	39	2.8	3.3	3.9	5.2	6.7
69	Swainson's Thrush	61	52	30	38	2.8	1.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
76	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	43	25	32	38	2.8	1.2	1.2	0.1	0.0
6	American Crow	4	14	4	32	2.3	3.6	2.1	3.6	4.8

Table 4 indicates the 10 most widely-distributed species found on the 120 stops on the 6 BBS routes and compares this with the previous four Pocahontas County Forays where BBS routes were run using the current protocol.

Table 4
Species Distribution Rank

'03	Stops Rank				Species	Present	Percent of Total					
	'08	'13	'18	2024			2024	'18	'13	'08	'03	
4	8	3	2	1	Black-th. Green Warbler	59	49.2	35.0	29.0	25.0	32.8	
6	7	10	7	2	Dark-eyed Junco	55	45.8	23.5	25.7	16.8	23.2	
1	1	1	1	3	Red-eyed Vireo	53	44.2	57.0	58.1	61.4	67.1	
17	9	11	7	4	Hermit Thrush	52	43.3	22.0	25.7	16.4	18.1	
4	8	3	2	5	American Robin	47	39.2	39.5	34.3	35.7	22.2	
9	5	8	3	6	Veery	41	34.2	22.5	29.5	19.3	23.7	
16	17	11	12	7	Magnolia Warbler	38	31.7	19.0	15.7	12.9	12.6	
22	14	20	18	8	Blue-headed Vireo	37	30.8	14.5	11.9	14.6	9.6	
11	5	9	13	9	Eastern Towhee	30	25.0	19.0	24.3	23.6	15.7	
2	2	2	3	10	Indigo Bunting	30	25.0	31.0	29.5	38.2	33.3	

Between the 1988 and 2008 Forays, there was a 32% decline in the number of birds observed on the BBS routes. The following list gives the average number of birds at each stop on the last four Thornwood Forays.

1988	13.4
1993	10.5
1998	9.4
2008	9.1

Since then, average numbers have increased again:

2013	9.6			
2018	1	1	.	6
2024	11.5			

Another note concerns the abundance of high-elevation species, particularly in the BBS data. Two routes were run during this Foray, one through the Mower Tract and one past Cheat Lodge and up FR 235. While species diversity was rather low (36 species on the Mower Tract route; 28 on FR 235), the numbers of highland thrushes and warblers were quite high (noted in Table 4 at right). This speaks to the health of these upland areas for species of concern nationally.

Table 5 compares certain target species on these two routes in 2024 with the remaining routes, and with Foray totals from past years, using species-per-route percentages (total individuals in parenthesis).

Interesting to note that Swainson's Thrushes in 2024 nearly matched the BBS totals from the previous four Forays combined. The fluctuation in warbler numbers showed much lower numbers within the highest-elevation species, but look to confirm more that 2018 was a very good year for singing males.

Table 5
Upland BBS Thrush and Warbler Diversity of Noted Species

	2024 2 Routes	2024 6 Other Routes	'18 All	'13 All	'08 All	'03 All
Hermit Thrush	16.0 (32)	5.7 (34)	6.9 (69)	5.9 (71)	4.5 (63)	4.1 (41)
Swainson's Thrush	15.5 (31)	1.2 (7)	2.9 (29)	0.4 (5)	0.2 (3)	0.2 (2)
Veery	9.0 (18)	7.5 (45)	7.0 (70)	7.5 (90)	5.4 (75)	6.7 (67)
Black-th. Green Warbler	19.0 (38)	9.5 (57)	9.8 (98)	6.6 (79)	6.6 (93)	7.8 (78)
Magnolia Warbler	10.5 (21)	4.8 (29)	5.5 (55)	3.6 (43)	3.7 (52)	3.5 (35)
Black-th. Blue Warbler	6.5 (13)	1.5 (9)	3.5 (35)	1.5 (18)	1.5 (21)	0.3 (3)
Blackburnian Warbler	3.5 (7)	1.3 (8)	.5 (50)	2.3 (28)	0.9 (12)	0.8 (8)
Canada Warbler	1.5 (3)	0.2 (1)	2.0 (20)	0.2 (2)	0.0 (0)	0.3 (3)
Northern Waterthrush	1.5 (3)	0.0 (0)	2.0 (4)	0.0 (0)	0.0 (0)	0.0 (0)

We thank the following people who participated in one or more of the survey routes:

Dan Dellatore, Darrell Good, Tina Long, Sally McElrath, and Ryan Tomazin. It must be noted that 22 people participated in 2018. This marks the continued steep decline in BBS route participation at Foray.

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Reptiles and Amphibians of the 2024 Foray Pocahontas County, West Virginia

Martin Tingley

Leading up to the year's Foray Pocahontas County was in drought. The numbers of all amphibians were under the 2018 Foray numbers.

CLASS AMPHIBIA

Order Caudata – Salamanders

Seal Salamander (*Desmognathus monticola*)
Northern Dusky Salamander (*Desmognathus fuscus*)
Eastern Red-backed Salamander (*Plethodon cinereus*)
Northern Slimy Salamander (*Plethodon glutinosus*)
Cheat Mountain Salamander (*Plethodon nettingi*)
Wehrle's Salamander (*Plethodon wehrlei*)
Four-toed salamanders (*Hemidactylium scutatum*)

Order Anura – Toads and Frogs

Eastern American Toad (*Anaxyrus a. americanus*)
Green Frog (*Lithobates clamitans*)
Wood Frog (*Lithobates sylvaticus*)

CLASS REPTILIA

Order Testudines – Turtles

Common Snapping Turtle (*Chelydra s. serpentina*)

Suborder Serpentes – Snakes

Northern Water Snake (*Nerodia s. sipedon*)
Northern Ring-necked Snake (*Diadophis punctatus edwardsii*)
Red-bellied Snake (*Storeria occipitomaculata*)
Eastern Garter Snake (*Thamnophis s. sirtalis*)

References

Green, N. B., & Pauley, T. K. (1987). Amphibians and reptiles in West Virginia. Pittsburgh, PA: University of Pittsburgh Press.

204 Barnard Ave
Elkins, WV 26421

**Lepidoptera of the 2024 Foray
Pocahontas and Randolph counties, West Virginia**

Ryan Tomazin

BUTTERFLIES

SKIPPER FAMILY – HesperIIDae

Silver-spotted Skipper (*Epargyreus clarus*)
European Skipper (*Thymelicus lineola*)
Peck's Skipper (*Polites coras*)
Long Dash (*Limochores mystic*)

SWALLOWTAIL FAMILY – PapilionIDae

Pipevine Swallowtail (*Battus philenor*)
Appalachian Tiger Swallowtail (*Pterourus appalachiensis*)
Eastern Tiger Swallowtail (*Pterourus glaucus*)

WHITES AND SULPHURS FAMILY – PierIDae

Cabbage White (*Pieris rapae*)
Clouded Sulphur (*Colias philodice*)
Orange Sulphur (*Colias eurytheme*)

GOSSAMER WING FAMILY – LycaenIDae

Eastern Tailed-Blue (*Cupido comyntas*)
Summer Azure (*Celastrina neglecta*)

BRUSHFOOT FAMILY – NymphalIDae

Aphrodite Fritillary (*Argynnis aphrodite*)
Atlantis Fritillary (*Argynnis atlantis*)
Red-spotted Purple (*Limenitis arthemis astyanax*)
Question Mark (*Polygonia interrogationis*)
Eastern Comma (*Polygonia comma*)
Gray Comma (*Polygonia progne*)
American Lady (*Vanessa virginiensis*)
Red Admiral (*Vanessa atalanta*)
Common Ringlet (*Coenonympha californica*)

I was able to identify 238 species of moths in the 2024 Foray circle, setting up moth light stations at Camp Thornwood, Lake Buffalo, the base of Gaudineer Knob, the top of Burner Mountain, and on FSR 57. Additional moths were found on the Mower Tract and on field trips. The Pocahontas/Randolph County highlands have the perfect habitat to support a wide number of species in large numbers, with ample oak forests and varied understory. This range is definitely under-studied and would benefit from more coverage.

To photograph moths at night, I employ a unique ‘mothing backpack’, in which I can transport a small lithium battery pack, a large white bedsheet, a broad-range U-V bulb, parabola and socket, and means to attach the sheet between two trees. On most nights of average temperature, I can get 5-6 hours out of the battery pack before recharging, though it’s not often that I go that long. I photograph moths with a very old Canon model, the PowerShot SX130, using a small LED flashlight to help with metering. 50-70 thousand photos later, you build quite a catalog. All photos are edited, identified and named, and the best examples from each night are uploaded to iNaturalist for scientific use.



MOTHS (Numbers before names are Hodges numbers)

0023-1 Gazoryctra sciophanes	3689 Greenish Apple Moth
0263-5 Barred White Clothes Moth	3722 Cherry Leafroller Moth
0308 Banded Scardiella	3725 Basswood Leafroller Moth
0334 Brown-blotched Amydria Moth	3740 Tufted Apple Bud Moth
0374 Walsingham's Grass Tubeworm Moth	3756-1 Aethes floccosana
0405 Case-bearing Clothes Moth	3776 Hoffman's Cochylid Moth
0637 Cherry Leafroller Moth	4653 Red-crossed Button Slug Moth
0663 Finite-channeled Leafminer Moth	4654 Abbreviated Button Slug Moth
0911 Bog Bibarrambla Moth	4654 Early Button Slug Moth
0957 Dotted Leaftier Moth	4659 Jeweled Tailed Slug Moth
1042 Reticulated Decantha Moth	4661 Elegant Tailed Slug Moth
1068 Three-spotted Concealer	4665 Yellow-shouldered Slug Moth
1388 Large Clover Casebearer Moth	4667 Yellow-collared Slug Moth
1685 Burdock Seedhead Moth	4669 Shagreened Slug Moth
2040 Caryocolum cassella	4681 Crowned Slug Moth
2233 Anacamptis conclusella	4697 Spiny Oak-slug Moth
2283 Spotted Dichomeris Moth	4716 Double-striped Scoparia Moth
2288 Many-spotted Dichomeris Moth	4717 Dark Brown Scoparia Moth
2295 Cream-edged Dichomeris Moth	4718 Sooty Scoparia Moth
2467 Cherry Shoot Borer Moth	4719 Many-spotted Scoparia Moth
2479 Speckled Argyresthia Moth	4739 McDunnough's Eudonia
2747 Impudent Hulda Moth	4779 Canadian Petrophila
2749 Sculptured Moth	4901 Large-spotted Evergestis Moth
2769 Poplar Leafroller Moth	4945 Pale-winged Crocidophora Moth
2772 Labyrinth Moth	5079 Celery Leaftier Moth
2804 Witch-hazel Olethreutes	5156 Lucerne Moth
2827 Hydrangea Leaftier Moth	5182 Hollow-spotted Blepharomastix Moth
2837 Astronomer Moth	5226 Splendid Palpita Moth
2848 Divided Olethreutes Moth	5241 Basswood Leafroller Moth
2916 Beautiful Eucosma Moth	5275 Bold-feathered Grass Moth
3208 Doubleday's Notocelia Moth	5277-1 Herpetogramma aquilonalis
3354 Little Cloud Ancyliis Moth	5361 Small White Grass-Veneer
3367 Oak Leaffolder Moth	5362 Double-banded Grass-Veneer
3370 Sycamore Leaffolder Moth	5379 Mottled Grass-Veneer
3375 Two-toned Ancyliis Moth	5419 Gold-striped Grass-Veneer
3593 Woodgrain Leafroller Moth	5422 Minor Grass-Veneer
3594 Three-lined Leafroller Moth	5435 Changeable Grass-Veneer
3623 Yellow-winged Oak Leafroller Moth	5489 Peppered Haimbachia Moth
3624 White-spotted Leafroller Moth	5526 Red-shawled Moth
3648 Fruit-tree Leafroller Moth	5556 Dimorphic Tosale Moth
3663 Pine Tortrix	5571 Drab Condylolomia Moth
3666 Boldly-marked Archips Moth	5606 Maple Webworm Moth
3682 White Triangle Tortrix	5630 Terrenella Bee Moth
3686 Black-patched Clepsis Moth	5797 Black-spotted Leafroller Moth
3688 Garden Tortrix	5995 American Plum Borer Moth

5999 Broad-banded Eulogia Moth
 6011 Brower's Vitula Moth
 6076 Spotted Thyris Moth
 6107 Yarrow Plume Moth
 6237 Tufted Thyatirine Moth
 6251 Arched Hooktip Moth
 6261 Common Spring Moth
 6273 Lesser Maple Spanworm Moth
 6330 Birch Angle
 6347 White Pine Angle
 6348 Hemlock Angle
 6386 Faint-spotted Angle
 6443 Texas Gray
 6588 Bent-line Gray
 6597 Small Engrailed
 6598 Porcelain Gray
 6620 Canadian Melanolophia Moth
 6640 Peppered Moth
 6654 One-spotted Variant
 6656 Pine Measuringworm Moth
 6677 False Yellow-dusted Cream
 6677 Yellow-dusted Cream Moth
 6725 Muzaria Euchlaena Moth
 6755 Morrison's Pero Moth
 6763 Oak Beauty
 6788 Vestal Moth
 6796 Pale Beauty
 6812 Pale Homochlodes Moth
 6815 False Yellow-dusted Cream
 6825 Pale Metarranthis Moth
 6835 Scallop Moth
 6840 Lemon Plagodis Moth
 6841 Purple Plagodis Moth
 6844 Hollow-spotted Plagodis Moth
 6863 Gray Spruce Looper Moth
 6884 Straw Besma Moth
 6885 Oak Besma Moth
 6894 Curved-lined Looper Moth
 6894 Fluid Arches
 6964 White Slant-Line
 6965 Snowy Geometer Moth
 7010 Horned Spanworm Moth
 7048 White-fringed Emerald
 7132 Common Tan Wave
 7159 Large Lace-border Moth
 7159 Orange-barred Carpet Moth
 7199 Currant Eulithis Moth
 7399 Sharp-angled Carpet
 7416 Bent-lined Carpet
 7422 Unadorned Carpet Moth
 7425 Welsh Wave Moth
 7430 White-striped Black
 7440 Beggar Moth
 7445 Brown Bark Carpet Moth
 7474 Common Eupithecia Moth
 7625 Green Pug
 7645 Three-patched Bigwing
 7647 Three-spotted Fillip
 7701 Eastern Tent Caterpillar Moth
 7715 Rosy Maple Moth
 7757 Polyphemus Moth
 7758 Luna Moth
 7787 Waved Sphinx
 7809 Laurel Sphinx
 7824 Blinded Sphinx
 7825 Small-eyed Sphinx
 7827 Walnut Sphinx
 7915 White-dotted Prominent
 7917 Georgian Prominent
 7921 Chocolate Prominent
 7930 Linden Prominent
 7931 Common Gluphisia Moth
 7958 Gray-patched Prominent
 7995 Wavy-lined Heterocampa Moth
 8005 Morning-glory Prominent
 8012 Red-washed Prominent
 8111 Leconte's Haploa Moth
 8129 Isabella Tiger Moth
 8211 Hickory Tussock Moth
 8322 American Idia Moth
 8323 Common Idia Moth
 8330 Smoky Idia Moth
 8338 Dark-banded Owlet
 8340 Lettered Fan-Foot
 8343-1 Flagged Fan-Foot
 8351 Early Fan-Foot
 8355 Morbid Owlet
 8364 Black-banded Owlet
 8384-1 Yellow-spotted Renia Moth
 8386 Speckled Renia Moth
 8397 Dark-spotted Palthis Moth
 8404 Spotted Grass Moth

8422 Baltimore Snout	9664 White-blotched Balsa Moth
8444 Mottled Snout	9678 Variegated Midget
8446 Deceptive Snout	9681-1 Pale-winged Midget
8448 Sordid Snout	9720 Common Pinkband
8452 Large Snout	9888 Nameless Pinion
8465 Green Cloverworm Moth	10202 Brown-hooded Owlet
8489 Peppered Haimbachia Moth	10288 Disparaged Arches Moth
8689 Lunate Zale Moth	10291 Fluid Arches
8697 Colorful Zale Moth	10397 Bristly Cutworm Moth
8719 Locust Underwing	10587 Cynical Quaker
8727 Maple Looper Moth	10919 Smaller Pinkish Dart
8983 Confused Meganola Moth	11003-1 Large Yellow Underwing
9037 Dotted Graylet	11008 Two-spotted Dart
9047 Large Mossy Glyph	Anania genus
9049 Black-dotted Glyph	Ancyliis spiraeifoliana complex
9053 Pink-barred Pseudeustrotia Moth	Antaeotricha genus
9065 Green Leuconycta Moth	Black-letter Darts complex Xestia c-nigrum
9177 Black Zigzag Moth	Caryocolum genus
9184 Saddled Yellowhorn	Crocus Geometer Moths genus Xanthotype
9185 Close-banded Yellowhorn	Halysidota genus
9200 American Dagger	Haploa genus
9207 Unmarked Dagger	Hellinsia genus
9229 Cherry Dagger	Neotelphusa genus
9236 Ochre Dagger	Paraplatyptilia genus
9241 Fragile Dagger	Phyllonorycter blancardella group complex
9244 Hesitant Dagger	Probole genus
9246 Clear Dagger	Pygmy Eye-capped Moths family
9249 Eclipsed Oak Dagger	Nepticulidae
9272 Sad Dagger	Scallop Shell Moths complex Hydria
9333 Wood-colored Apamea Moth	undulata
9362-2 Small Clouded Brindle	Sciota genus
9410 Neoligia crytora	Stigmella genus
9545 American Angle Shades	White-headed Prominent and Allies
9546 Olive Angle Shades	section Symmerista albifrons
9650 Slowpoke Moth	

See Moth photos in full color on brooksbirdclub.org

References

iNaturalist community. Observations of lepidoptera from Pocahontas and Randolph counties, WV, USA, observed on/between June 15-22, 2024.

Glassberg, Jeffery. 1999. Butterflies Through Binoculars – The East. Oxford University Press, New York.

12025 County Road 11, Apt. 212
Burnsville, MN 55337



Sharp-angled Carpet



Gazoryctra sciophanes (rare)



Scallop Moth



Dimorphic Tosale Moth



Waved Sphinx



Yarrow Plume Moth



Maple Looper Moth



Herpetogramma aquilonalis



Purple Plagodis Moth



Horned Spanworm Moth



Dark-spotted Palthis Moth



Unmarked Dagger



Black Zigzag Moth



Laurel Sphinx



Olive Angle Shades



Wavy-lined Heterocampa



Pale Beauty



Spiny Oak-slug Moth



Yellow-shouldered Slug Moth



Orange-barred Carpet Moth



Reticulated Decantha Moth



White-spotted Leafroller Moth



Mottled Euchlaena Moth



Currant Eulithis Moth



Birch Angle



Walnut Sphinx



Morrison's Pero Moth



White-dotted Prominent



Leconte's Haploa Moth



Fragile Dagger

**Herbaceous Plants of the 2024 Foray
Pocahontas and Randolph Counties, West Virginia**

Lee Miller, Keith Schilstra and Mary Schilstra

ARACEAE

Arisaema triphyllum
Arisaema quinatum
Symplocarpus foetidus

DIOSCOREACEAE

Dioscorea villosa

LILIACEAE

Allium tricoccum
Clintonia borealis
Lilium canadense
Maianthemum canadense
Maianthemum racemosum
Medeola virginiana
Polygonatum biflorum
Trillium grandiflorum
Trillium erectum
Trillium undulatum
Veratrum viride

IRIDACEAE

Sisyrinchium angustifolium

ORCHIDACEAE

Goodyera pubescens
Calopogon pulchellus
Platanthera grandiflora
Platanthera orbiculata
Platanthera clavellata
Pogonia ophioglossoides

URTICACEAE

Urtica dioica

ARISTOLOCHIACEAE

Aristolochia macrophylla
Asarum canadense
Hexastylis virginica

PHYTOLACCACEAE

Phytolacca americana

CARYOPHYLLACEAE

Silene vulgaris

ARUM FAMILY

Common Jack-in-the-pulpit
Five-leaved Jack-in-the-pulpit
Skunk Cabbage

YAM FAMILY

Wild Yam

LILY FAMILY

Ramp
Yellow Clintonia
Canada Lily
Canada Mayflower
False Solomon's Seal
Indian Cucumber Root
Solomon's Seal
Large-flowered Trillium
Red Trillium
Painted Trillium
False Hellebore

IRIS FAMILY

Blue-eyed Grass

ORCHID FAMILY

Downy Rattlesnake Plantain
Grasspink Orchid
Large Purple Fringed Orchid
Large Round-leaved Orchid
Small Green Wood Orchid
Rose Pogonia

NETTLE FAMILY

Stinging Nettle

BIRTHWORT FAMILY

Dutchman's Pipe
Wild Ginger
Coltsfoot

POKEWEED FAMILY

Pokeweed

PINK FAMILY

Bladder Campion

Saponaria officinalis

Stellaria media

RANUNCULACEAE

Aconitum reclinatum

Aquilegia Canadensis

Hepatica americana

Hepatica acutiloba

Anemone virginiana

Anemone quinquefolia

Coptis groenlandica

Caltha palustris

Ranunculus repens

Actaea pachypoda

Cimicifuga racemosa

Thadictum dioicum

Thadictum pubescens

Thadictum thalictroides

BERBERIDACEAE

Podophyllum peltatum

Caulophyllum thalictroides

PAPAVERACEAE

Sanguinaria canadensis

BRASSICACEAE

Alliaria petiolata

Cardamine concatenata

Hesperis matronalis

SARRACENIACEAE

Sarracenia purpurea

DROSERACEAE

Drosera rotundifolia

CRASSULACEAE

Sedum acre

SAXIFRAGACEAE

Saxifraga micranthidifolia

Saxifrage pensylvanica

Heuchera villosa

Mitella diphylla

Tiarella cordifolia

ROSACEAE

Geum canadense

Potentilla simplex

Fragaria virginiana

Rubus odoratus

Bouncing Bet

Common Chickweed

CROWFOOT FAMILY

Monkshood

Columbine

Round-lobed Hepatica

Sharp-lobed Hepatica

Thimbleweed

Wood Anemone

Goldthread

Marsh Marigold

Creeping buttercup

White Baneberry

Black Cohosh

Early Meadow Rue

Tall Meadow Rue

Rue Anemone

BARBERRY FAMILY

May Apple

Blue Cohosh

POPPY FAMILY

Bloodroot

MUSTARD FAMILY

Garlic Mustard

Cut-leaved Toothwort

Dame's Rocket

PITCHER PLANT FAMILY

Pitcher Plant

SUNDEW FAMILY

Round-leaved Sundew

ORPINE FAMILY

Stonecrop

SAXIFRAGE FAMILY

Lettuce Saxifrage

Swamp Saxifrage

Alumroot

Miterwort

Foamflower

ROSE FAMILY

White Avens

Common Cinquefoil

Wild Strawberry

Purple-flowering Raspberry

FABACEAE

Hepatica acutloba
Melilotus officinalis
Melilotus alba
Trifolium pratense
Trifolium repens

OXALIDACEAE

Oxalis montana

GERANIACEAE

Geranium maculatum

BALSAMINACEAE

Impatiens pallida
Impatiens capensis

HYPERICACEAE

Hypericum perforatum

VIOLACEAE

Viola canadensis
Viola hastate
Viola sororia
Viola blanda
Viola rotundifolia

ARALIACEAE

Aralia nudicaulis

APIACEAE

Cryptotaenia canadensis
Daucus carota
Heracleum maximum
Osmorhiza longistylis
Pastinaca sativa

CORNACEAE

Cornus canadensis

ERICACEAE

Pyrola rotundifolia
Epigaea repens
Gaultheria procumbens

MENYANTHACEAE

Menyanthes trifoliata

APOCYNACEAE

Apocynum cannabinum

ASCLEPIADACEAE

Asclepias exaltata
Asclepias syriaca

PEA FAMILY

Hog Peanut
 Yellow Sweet Clover
 White Sweet Clover
 Red Clover
 White Clover

WOOD SORREL FAMILY

Common Wood Sorrel

GERANIUM FAMILY

Wild Geranium

TOUCH-ME-NOT FAMILY

Pale Touch-me-not
 Spotted Touch-me-not

ST. JOHN'S-WORT FAMILY

Common St. John's-Wort

VIOLET FAMILY

Canada Violet
 Halberd-lobed Violet
 Common Blue Violet
 Sweet White Violet
 Round-leaved Violet

GINSENG FAMILY

Wild Sarsaparilla

CARROT FAMILY

Honewort
 Queen Anne's Lace
 Cow Parsnip
 Smooth Sweet Cicely
 Parsnip

DOGWOOD FAMILY

Bunchberry

HEALTH FAMILY

Round-leaved Pyrola
 Trailing Arbutus
 Wintergreen, Teaberry

BUCKBEAN FAMILY

Buckbean

DOGBANE FAMILY

Indian Hemp

MILKWEED FAMILY

Poke Milkweed
 Common Milkweed

POLEMONIACEAE

Phlox stolonifera

Phlox amplifolia

HYDROPHYLLACEA

Hydrophyllum virginianum

BORAGINACEAE

Echium vulgare

Myosotis scorpioides

LAMIACEAE

Monarda didyma

Blephilia hirsute

Glechoma headeracea

Prunella vulgaris

SCROPHULARIACEAE

Pedicularis canadensis

OROBANCHACEAE

Epifagus virginiana

PLANTAGINACEAE

Plantago rugelii

RUBIACEAE

Galium aparine

Galium asprellum

Houstonia spp.

DIPSACACEAE

Dipsacus fullonum

CAMPANULACEAE

Lobelia spicata

ASTERACEAE

Achillea millefolium

Ageratina altissima

Ambrosia artemisiifolia

Antennaria neglecta

Arctium minus

Centaurea biebersteinii

Cichorium intybus

Cirsium arvense

Erigeron strigosus

Lactuca canadensis

Leucanthemum vulgare

Marshallia grandiflora

Rudbeckia laciniata

Taraxacum officinale

Tussilago farfara

PHLOX FAMILY

Creeping Phlox

Wild Sweet William

WATERLEAF FAMILY

Virginia Waterleaf

BORAGE FAMILY

Viper's Bugloss

Forget-me-not

MINT FAMILY

Oswego Tea

Hairy Wood Mint

Ground Ivy

Heal-All

FIGWORT FAMILY

Wood Betony

BROOMRAPE FAMILY

Beechdrops

PLANTAIN FAMILY

Common Plantain

MADDER FAMILY

Common Bedstraw

Rough Bedstraw

Bluets

TEASEL FAMILY

Common Teasel

BELLFLOWER FAMILY

Pale Spike Lobelia

SUNFLOWER FAMILY

Common Yarrow

White Snakeroot

Common Ragweed

Field Pussytoes

Common Burdock

Spotted Knapweed

Chicory

Canada Thistle

Daisy Fleabane

Wild Lettuce

Ox-Eye Daisy

Barbara's Buttons

Black-eyed Susan

Common Dandelion

Coltsfoot

Helenium tuberosus
Helenium helianthoides

Jerusalem Artichoke
Ox-eye

334 Eastbury NE
North Canton, OH 44720

Woody Plants of the 2022 Foray Pocahontas and Randolph Counties, West Virginia

Mimi Kibler

Red Maple	<i>Acer rubrum</i>
Sugar Maple	<i>Acer saccharum</i>
Alder	<i>Alder</i> spp.
Serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier arborea</i>
Japanese Barberry	<i>Berberis thunbergii</i> *
Yellow Birch	<i>Betula allegheniensis</i>
Sweet Birch	<i>Betula nigra</i>
Ironwood/Musclewood	<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i>
Shagwood Hickory	<i>Carya ovata</i>
Dwarf Cornus/Creeping Dogwood	<i>Cornus canadensis</i>
American Beech	<i>Fraxinus sylvatica</i>
White Ash	<i>Fraxinus americana</i>
Mountain Holly	<i>Ilex nemopanthus mucronatus</i>
Black Walnut	<i>Juglans nigra</i>
Mountain-laurel	<i>Kalmia latifolia</i>
Bush Honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera</i> spp.*
Cucumber Tree	<i>Magnolia acuminata</i>
Frasier Magnolia	<i>Magnolia fraseri</i>
Norway Spruce	<i>Picea abies</i>
Red Spruce	<i>Picea rubra</i>
Red Pine	<i>Pinus resinosa</i>
White Pine	<i>Pinus strobus</i>
Sycamore	<i>Platanus nigra</i>
Bigtooth Aspen	<i>Populus grandidentata</i>
Black Cherry	<i>Prunus serotina</i>
White Oak	<i>Quercus alba</i>
Red Oak	<i>Quercus rubra</i>
Great Rhododendron	<i>Rhododendron maximum</i>
Minniebush	<i>Rhododendron pilosum</i>
Multiflora Rose	<i>Rosa multiflora</i> *
Canada Blackberry	<i>Rubus</i> spp.
Red Elderberry	<i>Sambucus pubens</i>

Black Elderberry
Steeplebush/ Hardhack
Mountain-Ash
Poison Ivy
Eastern Hemlock
Slippery Elm
Mountain Cranberry
Wild Raisin
Hobblebush Viburnum

Sambucus canadensis
Spirea spp.
Sorbus americana
Toxicodendron radicans
Tsuga canadensis
Ulmus rubra
Vaccinium vitis-ideae var. *minus*
Viburnum cassinoides
Viburnum lantanoides
* *Non-native invasive*

Thanks to Rodney Bartgis for several IDs.

198 Sunnyside Lane
Parsons, WV 26287

2024 THORNWOOD FORAY PARTICIPANTS

Patty Arrington, Ashton Berdine, Vincent Bryant, Paula Carr, Don Creamer, Sara Creamer, Dan Dellatorre, Mary Dellatorre, Sally Egan, Janice Emrick, Scott Emrick, Andie Fox[^], Dawn Fox, Prim Fox[^], Tom Fox, Chris Gatens, Darrell Good, Brian Hogan, Wilma Jarrell, Mimi Kibler, Tina Long, Beth Mankins, Carol McCullough, Sallie McElrath, Kimberlee Miller, Lee Miller, Nathan Miller[^], Mary Murin*, PJ Murray, Nathan Reese, Jane Robbins, Kelly Schetselaar, Ken Schilstra, Mary Schilstra, Cindy Slater*, Martin Tingley, Brian Tolka, Sally Tolka, Shepard Tolka[^], Theo Tolka[^], Wilma-Rue Tolka[^], Ryan Tomazin.

Speakers, Field Trip Leaders, and Guests included Rodney Bartgis, Ashton Berdine, Colin Carpenter, Hannah Clip, John Moredock, Cynthia Mullens, Dr. Thomas Pauley, Keith Schilstra, Martin Tingley, Ryan Tomazin, Dr. Mark Watson, Jim Triplett, and Beth Triplett.

Camp Cooks Nancy Dottson, Pricilla Flanagan, and Sandy Shaffer.

*Director

[^]Child



Photo by Ryan Tomazin

Field Notes
Summer Season
June 1 – August 31, 2024

Casey Rucker

A drought that affected much of West Virginia began in June, and statewide precipitation was 64 percent of normal for the entire summer season, according to the Northeast Regional Climate Center at Cornell University. All three months were warmer and much drier than usual.

These notes were gathered from the West Virginia Birds Listserv, sponsored by the National Audubon Society, and from field notes submitted to the editor by email and regular mail. The full content of the submitted notes by the contributors to the WV Listserv may be viewed by visiting the archives at the following website: <http://list.audubon.org/archives/wv-bird.html>. Please see the accompanying articles in this issue regarding the Foray held during June in Pocahontas County.

Summer reports picked up a bit in species richness from last year. Richard Gregg discovered a third-state-record **Tricolored Heron** on August 15 at Marmet Locks and Dam, Kanawha County. There were 146 species reported in 22 West Virginia counties this season; it should be noted that many breeding birds are not reported in summer.

Geese and Ducks – **Canada Geese** were reported from only four counties, **Wood Ducks** from Mason (TB), Preston (LeJ), Putnam (RG), and Summers (JP) Counties. Michael Griffith and Janet Keating saw two flocks of **Blue-winged Teal** on August 31, approximating 25 at Green Bottom Wildlife Management Area, Cabell County, and 20 at Robert C. Byrd Locks and Dam, Mason County. **Mallards** were reported from Kanawha (RG), Preston (LeJ), Raleigh (RG), and Summers (JP) Counties. **Hooded Mergansers** appeared in Preston (LeJ) and Wetzel (WJ) Counties, and **Common Mergansers** in Summers (JP) and Wetzel (WJ) Counties.

Turkeys – Bruni Haydl reported the only **Wild Turkey** of the season, in Charles Town, Jefferson County, on July 3.

Pigeons and Doves – **Rock Pigeons** and **Mourning Doves** continue to reside throughout the state, as reported sporadically.

Cuckoos – Reports of **cuckoos** continued to be sparse. Hullet Good found a **Yellow-billed Cuckoo** on July 27 and a **Black-billed Cuckoo** on August 8, both at his home in Milliken, Kanawha County. On June 1, LeJay Graffious, Morgantown Master Naturalists, and Mountaineer Audubon members were serenaded by a **Black-billed Cuckoo** at Cranesville Swamp Nature Preserve, Preston County, and David Patick found another **Black-billed Cuckoo** at Green Bottom Wildlife Management Area, Cabell County. Paul McKay found a **Black-billed Cuckoo** on his farm in Ohio County on June 19.

Goatsuckers and Swifts – Reports of **Common Nighthawks** were up, coming from ten counties. **Chimney Swifts** were reported in only four counties.

Hummingbirds – Birders in five counties reported sightings of **Ruby-throated Hummingbirds**.

Avocets – On August 12, Richard Gregg found nine **American Avocets** at Marmet Locks and Dam, Kanawha County.

Plovers – Killdeer appeared in reports from six counties; on August 31, Michael Griffith and Janet Keating discovered two **American Golden-Plovers** at Ashton wetlands, Mason County.

Sandpipers – Sandpiper diversity was up a bit this summer in West Virginia, with nine species reported. Terry Bronson found **Stilt, Least, Spotted, and Solitary sandpipers** at McClintic Wildlife Management Area on August 16. On August 30, Michael Griffith found the following **sandpipers** in Mason County: **Sanderling, Baird’s Sandpiper, Least Sandpiper, Pectoral Sandpiper, Semipalmated Sandpiper, and Spotted Sandpiper**. Alex Tsiatsos found a **Long-billed Dowitcher** at Stauffer’s Marsh, Berkeley County, on July 2. The only other shorebirds reported were **Stilt Sandpipers** in Barbour and Taylor Counties (CMu) and **Spotted Sandpipers** in Kanawha (HG) and Mercer (JP) Counties.

Gulls – Herring Gulls were reported from Mason (DP) and Summers (JP) Counties.

Cormorants – Double-crested Cormorants were reported in Kanawha (RG), Summers (JP), and Wetzel (WJ) Counties.

Pelicans – American White Pelicans were reported in Mason (MG) and Putnam (JTr) Counties.

Hérons and Egrets – The **Tricolored Heron** seen by Richard Gregg on August 15 is described near the beginning of these notes. **Little Blue Herons, Great Egrets, Green Herons, and Great Blue Herons** were all reported from at least five counties, respectively. There were three reports of **Little Blue Heron**, from Berkeley (AT), Cabell (MG, JK, DP), and Mason (MG, JK, DP) Counties. On July 21, Mindy and Allen Waldron saw a juvenile **Black-crowned Night Heron** near Sandstone Falls, Raleigh County.

Vultures – Birders in three counties reported **Black Vultures**, while five counties boasted **Turkey Vulture** reports.

Hawks and Eagles – Michael Schramm discovered a **Swallow-tailed Kite** near the Ohio River Islands Visitor Center, Wood County, on August 2, as reported by Terry Bronson who found the bird nearby on the following day. A **Mississippi Kite** was observed near the nest site in Putnam County, on August 14 by Richard Gregg and James Triplett, and two days later by Terry Bronson. **Osprey** reports were up a bit, coming from five counties. James Phillips spotted a male **Northern Harrier** at Bluestone State Park, Summers County, on August 15. **Sharp-shinned** and **Cooper’s hawks** inspired reports in only one and two counties, respectively. Birders in representative parts of the state reported **Bald Eagles, Red-shouldered Hawks, Broad-winged Hawks, and Red-tailed Hawks**.

Owls – Eastern Screech-Owls were noted in Summers (JP) and Wetzel (WJ) Counties; **Barred Owls** from Kanawha (JTr) and Tucker (CR) Counties.

Kingfishers – James Phillips gave us our only summertime reports of **Belted Kingfisher**, all from Summers County.

Woodpeckers – **Red-headed Woodpeckers, Red-bellied Woodpeckers, Downy Woodpeckers, Hairy Woodpeckers, Northern Flickers, and Pileated Woodpeckers** all appeared in their usual haunts.

Falcons – James Phillips saw **American Kestrels** in Mercer and Summers Counties this summer. Reports of **Peregrine Falcons** came from Kanawha (HG) and Putnam (RG) Counties.

Flycatchers – **Great Crested Flycatchers, Eastern Kingbirds, Eastern Wood-Pewees, Acadian Flycatchers, and Eastern Phoebes** appeared in representative reports

throughout the state. On June 1, LeJay Graffious, Morgantown Master Naturalists, and Mountaineer Audubon members found **Alder**, **Willow**, and **Least flycatchers** in Preston County.

Vireos – Despite scanty reports, **White-eyed**, **Yellow-throated**, **Blue-headed**, **Warbling**, and **Red-eyed vireos** appeared in nesting grounds throughout the state.

Crows, **Jays**, and **Ravens** – **Blue Jays**, **American Crows**, and **Common Ravens** were reported from their usual haunts.

Chickadees and **Titmice** – **Carolina** and **Black-capped chickadees** occasioned reports in their respective territories in West Virginia. **Tufted Titmice** received little attention in state reports.

Swallows – On July 18, James Phillips spotted a single **Bank Swallow** at Bellepoint Park, Summers County. **Tree Swallows**, **Purple Martins**, **Barn Swallows**, and **Cliff Swallows** were the subject of relatively few reports this summer.

Kinglets– On June 1, LeJay Graffious, Morgantown Master Naturalists, and Mountaineer Audubon members found **Golden-crowned Kinglets** in Preston County.

Waxwings – Reports of **Cedar Waxwings** came from six counties this summer.

Nuthatches – On June 1, LeJay Graffious, Morgantown Master Naturalists, and Mountaineer Audubon members found **Red-breasted Nuthatches** in Preston County. **White-breasted Nuthatches** continued to reside in the state.

Creepers –The only **Brown Creepers** of this summer were reported from Preston County by LeJay Graffious, Morgantown Master Naturalists, and Mountaineer Audubon members on June 1.

Gnatcatchers – Reports of **Blue-gray Gnatcatchers** in their breeding grounds came from accustomed locations.

Wrens – **Carolina** and **Northern House wrens** appeared in reports from many parts of the state. A **Sedge Wren** once again serenaded listeners in Canaan Valley, Tucker County, as reported in June by Laura Ceperley.

Catbirds, **Thrashers**, and **Mockingbirds** – **Gray Catbirds**, **Brown Thrashers**, and **Northern Mockingbirds** prompted relatively sparse reports from breeding grounds throughout the state.

Starlings – **European Starlings** continued to occupy widespread habitats throughout our state.

Thrushes – Four breeding species of **thrush** appeared in West Virginia reports this summer. **Eastern Bluebirds**, **Wood Thrushes**, and **American Robins** were again seen throughout the state. **Veeries** were reported from Preston County (LeJ).

Old World Sparrows – The **House Sparrow** continues throughout the state, although reports came from only four counties.

Finches and **Allies** – **House Finches** were reported from Kanawha (JTr, RG) and Preston (LeJ) Counties. James Phillips saw **Red Crossbills** in Pocahontas and Summers Counties, and passed on a report from Mercer County; James and Judy Phillips saw the only reported **Pine Siskin** of the season, at their feeders on August 30. **American Goldfinches** occasioned reports from only four counties.

Sparrows, **Juncos**, and **Towhees** – Reports of **Grasshopper Sparrow** came from Barbour (DMi) and Preston (LeJ) Counties, and there were single-county reports of **Field Sparrow** (Preston, LeJ), **Dark-eyed Junco** (Pocahontas, JP), **Savannah Sparrow** (Preston, LeJ), and **Swamp Sparrow** (Preston, LeJ). **Chipping Sparrows**,

Song Sparrows, and **Eastern Towhees** were all reported relatively widely in West Virginia this summer.

Chats – Paul McKay hosted several **Yellow-breasted Chats** at his farm in Ohio County this summer, as he reported on July 8.

Blackbirds and **Allies** – **Bobolinks**, **Eastern Meadowlarks**, **Orchard** and **Baltimore orioles**, **Red-winged Blackbirds**, **Brown-headed Cowbirds**, and **Common Grackles** were reported in many areas of the state this summer.

Warblers – **Warbler** reports were flat compared to last year’s season, with 21 species of breeding **warbler** observed in West Virginia. **Warbler** species are listed below with the counties and contributors. Our summer **warblers** included **Ovenbird** – Mercer (JP) and Preston (LeJ), **Worm-eating** – Mercer and Summers (JP), **Louisiana Waterthrush** – Mercer (JP) and Kanawha (JTr), **Black-and-white** – Preston (LeJ) and Summers (JP), **Tennessee** – Wetzel (WJ), **Common Yellowthroat**– Preston (LeJ), **Hooded** – Preston (LeJ) and Summers (JP), **American Redstart**–Kanawha (JTr), Preston (LeJ), and Summers (JP), **Cape May** – Mercer (JJP) and Wetzel (WJ), **Cerulean** – Kanawha (JTr), **Northern Parula** – Kanawha (JTr), **Bay-breasted** – Wetzel (WJ), **Blackburnian** – Pocahontas (JJP), **Yellow**–Preston (LeJ), **Chestnut-sided**–Preston (LeJ), **Black-throated Blue** – Preston (LeJ), **Pine** – Mercer (JJP), **Yellow-rumped** – Preston (LeJ), **Yellow-throated** – Kanawha (JTr), **Black-throated Green** – Preston (LeJ) and Summers (JP) , and **Canada Warbler** – Preston (LeJ).

Tanagers, **Cardinals**, **Grosbeaks**, and **Buntings** –**Summer Tanager** reports came from Kanawha (HG) and Summers (JP) Counties this summer. **Scarlet Tanagers**, **Northern Cardinals**, **Rose-breasted Grosbeaks**, **Blue Grosbeaks**, and **Indigo Buntings** prompted reports from birders in many parts of the state.

Contributors to the Summer Field Notes: Alex Tsiatsos (AT), Terry Bronson (TB), Hullet Good (HG), LeJay Graffious (LeJ), Richard Gregg (RG), Michael Griffith (MG), Wilma Jarrell (WJ), Janet Keating (JK), Donna Mitchell (DMi), Cynthia Mullens (CMu), David Patick (DP), James Phillips (JP), James and Judy Phillips (JJP), Casey Rucker (CR), and James Triplett (JTr).

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REDSTART EDITORIAL POLICY

Original papers in the field of natural history are published in *The Redstart*. Papers are judged on the basis of their contributions to original data, ideas, or interpretations. Scientific accuracy and clarity are most important, and to this end, an advisory board, selected by the editorial staff, will review submitted papers as needed. Papers should be submitted in Word, by e-mail if possible, to autoblock@frontiernet.net or on a CD and sent to the editor; otherwise, papers should be typewritten, double-spaced on one side of the paper only, and sent to the editor at P.O. Box 2, Seneca Rocks, WV 26884.

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The Brooks Bird Club, Inc. is a nonprofit organization whose objective is to encourage the study and conservation of birds and other phases of natural history. Membership includes subscriptions to *The Redstart* and *Mail Bag* and entitles one to all the privileges offered by the Club. Classes of membership are Student, \$20; Individual, \$35; Family, \$40; Sustaining, \$60; Life, \$550; Family Life, \$700. Checks should be written payable to The Brooks Bird Club and mailed to P.O. Box 4077, Wheeling, WV 26003.

2025 Calendar of Events The Brooks Bird Club, Inc.

Date	Activity	Place
January	BBC Membership Month	
February	Write article for The Mail Bag and The Redstart	
Feb. 20-21	Funk/Killbuck Marsh Field Trip (Contact: Dick Esker)	
March 7-9	Early Spring Meeting (Contact: Dick Esker).....	North Bend State Park
May 8-11	Wildflower Pilgrimage	Blackwater Falls State Park
May 10	International Migratory Bird Day (local chapters)	
June 15-20	Foray – Camp Pinnacle	Wardensville, WV (Contact: Cindy Slater or Mary Murin)
July 3-6	Bonus Birding Weekend, Blackwater Falls SP (Contact: Cindy Slater)	
Aug.-Oct.	Bird Banding	Dolly Sods
Oct. 10-12	BBC Annual Fall Meeting.....	Tygart Lake State Park (Contact: Cindy Slater)
Nov. TBD	Eastern Shore (Contact: Cindy Slater)	
Dec. 14-Jan. 5	Christmas Bird Counts.....	Statewide

BBC FORAYS

2025 Camp Pinnacle, Hardy County

SEASONAL FIELD NOTES DUE

Winter: March 15 Spring: June 15 Summer: September 15 Fall: December 15
MAIL TO: Casey Rucker, P.O. Box 2, Seneca Rocks, WV 26884, autoblock@frontiernet.net

ARTICLES FOR THE MAIL BAG DUE

February 15 May 15 August 15 November 15
MAIL TO: Ryan Tomazin, 348 Station St., Apt. 7, Bridgeville, PA 15017, wwwarblers@hotmail.com

<http://brooksbirdclub.org>

The dates for the 2025 BBC programs may be changed if necessary. Changes will be announced on the web page or in The Mail Bag.

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