

Final

North American Birds Regional Report

North Central Texas Winter 2021

Compiled and Edited by Ross Rasmussen

Regional Highlights: Short-billed Gull, Northern Shrike, Common Redpoll

Potentially Noteworthy Sightings

Tundra Swan – Two pairs of Tundra Swans were reported; a pair 10 miles southwest of Harrold, Wilbarger Co 15 Jan (ph. Bryan Box, Scotty Lofland), and another pair west of Mabelle, Baylor Co 17-18 (ph. Scotty Lofland, ph. Bryan Box).

Common Merganser – Rare was the only regional sighting of a Common Merganser at Lake Pat Cleburne, Johnson Co 11 Jan (Cyrus Allen, Ty Allen).

Western Grebe – A Western Grebe was observed from Meadow Pond Court, Runaway Bay, Lake Bridgeport Wise Co 6-7 Feb (Steve Glover, Greg Cook, Michelle Summers, ph) was the only sighting of this rare species this winter.

Little Gull – Rare regionally but locally uncommon was a first cycle Little Gull seen from Richard Simpson Park, Lake Arlington Tarrant Co 27 Dec – 6 Jan (Ty Allen ph mob.) and another at White Rock Lake, Dallas Co 27 Jan - 28 Feb+ (Chris Runk, Peter Billingham, Matt DuRoss, ph).

Short-billed Gull – Casual for n-central Texas was a Short-billed Gull found at the White Rock Lake Spillway, Dallas Co 12 Dec (Chris Runk, ph).

Iceland Gull – A first cycle Iceland (Thayer's) Gull was spotted on the White Rock Lake Spillway, Dallas Co 19 Jan (Chris Runk, ph) where the species is locally expected in winter. Another first cycle Iceland Gull was identified from the boat ramp adjacent to Lavonia Park, Lake Lavon Collin Co 13 Feb (Greg Cook). This species has been regularly seen in small numbers in the region over the past 10 years.

California Gull – A first cycle California Gull at the White Rock Lake Spillway Dallas Co 9-12 Dec (Chris Runk, ph) was a rare sighting.

Anhinga – Casual in n-central Texas during winter were two Anhinga's at the Simmons Rd wetlands, Dallas Co 1 Jan (Ross Rasmussen).

White-tailed Kite – Rare in winter was a White-tailed Kite over Joshua, Johnson Co 18 Jan (Cyrus Allen).

Harris's Hawk – Rare east of normal was a Harris's Hawk along I-635 at North MacArthur, Irving, Dallas Co 10-14 Feb (Roland Castaneda, Todd Fitzgerald, ph m.ob.).

Rough-legged Hawk – Rare south of normal winter regional range was a dark morph Rough-legged Hawk found flying in the vicinity of Winscott-Plover Rd. (Johnson Co/Tarrant Co 27 Nov- 3 Jan (John Allendorf, Ed Wetzel, m.ob. ph).

Long-eared Owl – Up to 7 Long-eared Owls returned to their 2017 roost site at L. Arrowhead State Park, Clay Co 7 Jan (Scotty Lofland, ph). One to seven were observed at the above location and at Shoshone Park, Scotland, Archer Co 28+ Feb (Alex Nelson, ph).

Ash-throated Flycatcher – East and north of normal winter range was an Ash-throated Flycatcher along FM 1396 near Lake Bois d' Arc Fannin Co 31 Dec-7 Jan (Scotty Lofland, Mike Pease).

Northern Shrike – The Northern Shrike at Village Creek Drying Beds Arlington, Tarrant Co during fall continued through the end of the winter season (Ed Wetzel, Brian Driscoll, Louis Curtis, ph).

Rock Wren – The rare east of normal regional range movement of Rock Wrens noted in fall continued into the winter with a continuing bird at Lake Lewisville Park, Denton Co through 28 Feb+ (Suzanne Schroeder, ph m.ob). In addition, two individuals were found at both North Jellystone Park, Burleson Johnson Co 22 Dec -19 Feb (Scott Tracy, Ty Allen, ph) and at Lake Bardwell Dam Ellis Co 23 Nov-28 Feb+ (Ross Barnes Pickett, Ty Allen, Ted Drozdowski, ph).

Common Redpoll – Accidental in n-central Texas was a Common Redpoll that frequented a feeder at a private residence (no access) in Hood Co, 17 Jan-21 Feb (Mark Bishop, ph).

Nashville Warbler – Accidental in winter was a Nashville Warbler at Lake Tawakoni SP, Hunt Co 26 Dec (Sheryll Barker, Jennifer Cross).

Observers

Cyrus Allen
Ty Allen
John Allendorf
Sheryll Barker
Ross Barnes-Pickett
Peter Billingham
Mark Bishop
Roland Castaneda
Greg Cook
Jennifer Cross
Louis Curtis
Bryan Driscoll
Ted Drozdowski
Matt DuRoss
Todd Fitzgerald
Steve Glover
Scotty Lofland
Luett McMahan

Alex Nelson
Mike Pease
Ross Rasmussen
Chris Runk
Scott Tracy
Suzanne Schroeder
Michelle Summers
Ed Wetzel