

North American Birds Fall 2019 Report for the Pineywoods Region
By David Wolf

In general fall migrants were scarce for most of this season, likely due to the lack of much storm activity to bring them down. Wintering species were late in arriving and in low numbers as mild weather persisted throughout the continent and presumably allowed many birds to linger further north. The most significant trend this fall was the number of late sightings of Neotropical migrants, especially Eastern Wood-Pewee, Black-throated Green Warbler, Summer Tanager and Indigo Bunting.

LAUGHING GULL - Laughing Gulls continue to be present on Lake Livingston, *Polk/San Jacinto* in surprising numbers for an inland locality, with 160-250 counted from various sites around the lake 15-27 Oct (m.ob.).

LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL - An adult Lesser Black-backed Gull was at the TX 147 causeway on Lake Sam Rayburn, *San Augustine* 21 Sept (David Bell, John Smelser, ph. Gary Hunter), the first record for Lake Rayburn and the earliest for the Pineywoods. 2 Lesser Black-backed Gulls were back at the Lake Livingston spillway, *San Jacinto* 27 Oct (Greg Cook, Steve Glover), where this species has been annual in small numbers for several decades now.

BROWN BOOBY - A immature Brown Booby was seen from the West Dam Overlook on Lower Lake Livingston, *San Jacinto* 27 Oct (Greg Cook, Steve Glover)..

ROYAL TERN - A Royal Tern seen on Lake Trinity near Sebastopol, *Trinity* 22 Oct (Cinda Crosley, Jean Martin) was a very unusual inland sighting.

EASTERN WOOD-PEWEE - A late Eastern Wood-Pewee was in Lufkin, *Angelina* 4 Nov (ph. Gary Hunter).

EASTERN KINGBIRD - A high count of 810 Eastern Kingbirds came to a regular fall flycatcher roost in Nacogdoches, *Nacogdoches* 9 Sept (David Wolf, Cliff Shackelford). This was the season high count.

GREAT KISKADEE - A pair of Great Kiskadees present at the Lake Livingston spillway, *Polk* 16 Nov (ph. David Sarkozi et al.) was perhaps only the 3rd Pineywoods record and the first in fall.

COUCH'S KINGBIRD - One Couch's Kingbird was heard as well as seen at Lake Livingston, *San Jacinto* 15 Oct (Sonny Bratz, Cinda Crosley, Jean Martin). A Couch's/Tropical Kingbird visited Tatum, *Rusk* 29 Nov (Cheryl Neimeier), but was not heard for identification to species..

SWAINSON'S WARBLER - A Swainson's Warbler lingered near Antioch, *Shelby* Oct 3 (ph. Sue Orwig), a late date for this elusive species.

YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER - Late Yellow-throated Warblers were at Sabinetown, *Sabine* 7 Nov (David Bell) and Lufkin, *Angelina* to 30 Oct (Gary Hunter).

BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER - A Black-throated Green Warbler seen in Central Heights, *Nacogdoches* 13 Nov (David Wolf) provided the latest local record, while one at the Trinity River bridge on FM 3278, *San Jacinto* 16 Nov (David Sarkozi et al.) was later still.

BLACK-HEADED GROSBEAK - An immature male Black-headed Grosbeak visited a feeder in Lufkin, *Angelina* 6-22 Sept (ph. Gary Hunter). This is a rare western stray to the Pineywoods, not recorded annually.