

Upper Texas Coast Sub-regional Report, Summer 2019

Covering: Austin, Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Jefferson, Liberty, Montgomery, Orange and Waller

Compiled by Ron Weeks
110 Indian Warrior Lake Jackson, TX 77566
(979) 299-0066

The Weather: Rainfall totals for the period were 9.67 inches (24.56 cm) or 0.05 inches (0.13 cm) below normal and the average daily high was 93.0F (33.9C) or 0.4F (0.2C) above normal.

The Birds:

Black Scoter – A beached Black Scoter photographed on East Beach in Galveston, *Galveston* 6 Jun was a holdover from this past winter's irruption of the species to the coast (ph. Kelly Smith). This is just the 2nd summer record of the species for the U.T.C.

Red Phalarope – An extremely cooperative female Red Phalarope at Jersey Village, *Harris* 1-3 Jun was just the 4th for the U.T.C. and the first for the summer season (Nicholas DeMaio, mob).

Pomarine Jaeger – The unusually lethargic Pomarine Jaeger on East Beach, *Galveston* from late May lingered there until 18 Jun (m.ob.) when it was apparently picked up by concerned local rehabbers.

Brown Booby – An immature Brown Booby favored Texas City Dike, *Galveston* (ph. m.ob.) while an adult was seen with some frequency in West Bay from various spots on Galveston Island, *Galveston* (ph. m.ob.); both birds remained throughout the season.

Bank Swallow – A Bank Swallow photographed at Cattail Marsh in Beaumont, *Jefferson* 7-10 Jun were the latest in modern times (ph. Harlan Stewart).

Brown-headed Nuthatch – A Brown-headed Nuthatch at the West Tract of the Turtle Bayou Nature Preserve, *Chambers* 27 Jul suggests the species is still an occasional breeder in the county (Margaret Kirby Taylor, Shelli Ellerbe).

Wood Thrush – Three Wood Thrushes including two singing birds at the Creekwood Nature Area in Kingwood, *Harris* 31 Jul imply they still occasionally breed in that county (Marissa Buschow).

Mourning Warbler – An extremely early Mourning Warbler on west Galveston Island, *Galveston* 31 Jul was the first summer record for the U.T.C. (ph. Jim Stevenson).

American Goldfinch – An American Goldfinch lingered at a residence in Houston, *Harris* until 2 Jun represents one of few June records for the U.T.C. (Mike Bradham).

Black-throated Sparrow – A Black-throated Sparrow at the Nature Conservancy's Texas City Prairie Preserve, *Galveston* 5 Jul (ph. Aaron Tjelmeland, ph. J&C Miles, ph. Scott Buckel) was just the 4th record for the U.T.C. and the first for the summer season. The bird's aberrant bill (foreshortened upper mandible) may have had something to with the bird appearance and odd date.

Worm-eating Warbler – A Worm-eating Warbler seen 25 Jul at Sabine Woods, *Jefferson* was the first summer record for the U.T.C. (John Haynes).

Observers:

Michael Bradham

Scott Buckel

Marissa Buschow

Nicholas DeMaio

Shelli Ellerbe

John Haynes

J&C Miles

Kelly Smith

Jim Stevenson

Margaret Kirby Taylor

Aaron Tjelmeland