



# Texas 2021: Spring Migration & Hill Country 2021

April 12th - 23rd, 2021 (12 days)



Black-capped Vireo by Stephan Lorenz

Trip report compiled by Tour Leader: Stephan Lorenz



Cerulean Warbler by Stephan Lorenz

## Tour Summary

It was another successful Texas spring tour with more than 270 species recorded, including all specialty species, 34 species of shorebirds, and 28 species of warblers. Highlight species in the Hill Country and southern coastal plains included Black-capped Vireo, Golden-cheeked Warbler, Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl, Green Jay, Tropical Parula, Groove-billed Ani and more. On the upper coast we experienced two days of migration with astounding numbers of thrushes, warblers, grosbeaks, vireos orioles, and buntings. Warbler highlights included a male Golden-winged, several Cerulean, a handful of Worm-eating, loads of Kentucky, some Blue-winged, and of course the Swainson's Warblers on territory. The coastal marshes and shoreline offered huge numbers and diversity of terns, shorebirds, herons, egrets, and ibis. A quick tour through the Big Thicket netted us Red-cockaded Woodpecker, Bachman's Sparrow, and Brown-headed Nuthatch. Overall the weather was mild with some rain that really increased the number of migrants. Overall it was a bit of a late spring with many early migrants showing in exceptional numbers, while others were low in numbers or missing.

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## Tour in Detail

The tour started at the Houston Airport where we collected everyone at the pre-tour hotel and set out across Houston to reach the first birding spot just west of the city. Our short detour proved productive and as we pulled into John Paul Landing Park, we immediately spotted three Upland Sandpipers on the lawn, this would be the only sighting of these distinctive migrant shorebirds for the tour. We drove further in order to reach an area of regenerating prairie. A Crested Caracara flew in and landed on a telephone pole for great scope views, while Red-tailed and Swainson's Hawks were also added to the raptor tally. Our main target here was the secretive LeConte's Sparrow, a species that was unlikely anywhere else on the tour. Once we found the right spot, we flushed several, one of which landed in a bush and offered good views. Savannah Sparrows also showed in numbers and we added the first Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, Loggerhead Shrike, Purple Martin, Barn and Cliff Swallows, Northern Mockingbird, Red-winged Blackbird, Brown-headed Cowbird, Great-tailed Grackle, and Northern Cardinal. After such success and with the afternoon warming quickly, we continued heading west for several hours towards San Antonio. Once we reached Boerne, we checked in and then enjoyed a take-out dinner from a local restaurant back at the hotel, discussing our plans for the following day.



**Kentucky Warbler by Stephan Lorenz**

We started the next day with a short drive to Kerr WMA and then spent the entire morning birding this productive reserve which offers a mixture of scrub oak, juniper woodlands, riparian thickets, and drier

upland areas. The diversity and quantity of birds here are always astounding. We spent the first hour right next to the visitor center and found White-winged Dove, Eastern Phoebe, a singing Canyon Wren, Cedar Waxwing, and House Finch. A buzzy song nearby alerted us to the presence of a male Golden-cheeked Warbler that showed well foraging at eye level in a juniper right in front of us. A Zone-tailed Hawk that took to the air right in front of us was a bonus bird and we enjoyed good views as it slowly circled up next to Turkey Vultures for great comparisons. We also found a good selection of sparrows here that included Field, Lark, and Rufous-crowned Sparrows plus a Spotted Towhee further down the road, the latter another good bonus as most have left by this time of year. One of the main targets at the Kerr WMA was the Black-capped Vireo, an endangered species that is quite common at the reserve, and with a bit of patience, we all had fantastic, clear views of a singing male. We moved further into the wildlife management area and in a more open area found a good amount of bird activity quickly adding Golden-fronted and Ladder-backed Woodpeckers, Vermillion and Ash-throated Flycatchers, Yellow-throated Vireo, Black-crested Titmouse, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, and Summer Tanager. Our picnic lunch in a section of juniper forest was accompanied by singing Golden-cheeked Warblers and a short walk here resulted in good views of the uncommon Woodhouse's Scrub-Jay. From here we drove south towards the Concan area and checked into the quaint cabins at Neal's Lodge right on the Rio Frio. The lodge's property is always birdy with many excellent species nesting right around the cabins. A short walk here during the late afternoon added Black-chinned Hummingbird, Bell's Vireo, Carolina Chickadee, Bewick's Wren, Eastern Bluebird, Lesser Goldfinch, Chipping and Clay-colored Sparrows, Blue Grosbeak, and Indigo Bunting. Across the river, we focused on an area of productive thorn scrub and had excellent views of Olive Sparrow (a South Texas specialty), Yellow-breasted Chat, and Yellow-throated Warbler. It was a productive few hours of birding indeed. After dark, we heard two Eastern Screech-Owls of which we saw one very well.

We spent nearly the entire day west of Uvalde at Chalk Bluff Park. This small park offers a wide variety of habitats including mesquite scrub, desert flats, grassy areas, and riparian forest all backed by the Nueces River and impressive cliffs. Along the entrance road, we found a Greater Roadrunner that marched out into the open, Cactus Wrens perched up, calling Curve-billed Thrasher, and three species of orioles with Orchard, Hooded, and Bullock's all showing well. A Pyrrhuloxia was much admired as it sat up and sang. Above the fields, we noted Northern Rough-winged, Cliff and Cave Swallows, while the grassy margins of the fields and roads held good numbers of Clay-colored Sparrows with a single singing Brewer's Sparrow mixed in, a definite bonus in this part of Texas. We explored the stands of live oaks and along the river margins where we added Spotted Sandpiper, Brown-crested Flycatcher, vocal Couch's Kingbirds, Carolina Wren, and a few species of warblers moved through including Orange-crowned, Nashville and Yellow-rumped Warblers, and Northern Parula. The thickets held White-eyed and Bell's Vireos, the near-endemic Long-billed Thrasher, Olive Sparrow, and a Black-throated Sparrow perched up in a drier area. A pair of Green Jays moved through, mainly staying in the canopy but eventually offering good views, a scarce species in the area. Raptors were also moving through the area and we saw Cooper's and Swainson's Hawks plus a Peregrine Falcon.



**Summer Tanager by Stephan Lorenz**

We left the park after a picnic lunch, having found more than 60 species in a relatively small area. In the early evening, we birded around the Neal's Lodge and found an interesting parula that after closer inspection looked like a hybrid NorthernXTropical Parula and some additions to the list included Chimney Swift, Broad-winged Hawk, and good views of an "Audubon's" Yellow-rumped Warbler, a full species on the IOC list. We enjoyed another delicious home-cooked meal at the lodge for dinner.

In the early morning, we packed our bags and after breakfast headed north to the Lost Maples State Natural Area, a superb spot that combines lush riparian forest in shady canyons with dense stands of mature juniper forest and scrub oak. It also has a great feeder setup that allows for many specialties to be studied at length and photographed well. Staking out the feeders and hiking into the canyon along the stream proved enjoyable and productive. Some of the scarcer specialties we added here included White-tipped Dove, Louisiana Waterthrush here at the western limit of its range, and lots of Golden-cheeked Warblers. Some of the more widespread species we added to the trip list during our time here included Red-eyed Vireo, Common Raven, a lingering Hermit Thrush, Pine Siskins, and Blue Grosbeak. A welcome surprise was a singing Tropical Parula that showed very well and is very rare in this part of the Hill Country. The walk was enjoyable not just for the great views we had of many excellent species, but also for the memorable scenery and display of wildflowers. We had another

picnic lunch right in the canyon next to the busy feeders and then started the journey towards the Kingsville area. Our drive was interrupted by a roadside pair of Chihuahuan Ravens, an uncommon species in this part of Texas, and this unplanned stop also held Whimbrel flying over, Northern Harrier, Crested Caracara, Pyrrhuloxia, and a reluctant Verdin. We arrived in Kingsville in time to check-in and have dinner.



**Black-throated Sparrow by Stephan Lorenz**

This morning we started very early in order to bird nearly the entire day on the famous King Ranch. We left Kingsville before sunrise and drove south to the Norias division of the King Ranch. During our drive into the ranch, we lucked into a roadside Groove-billed Ani, an unpredictable species, and an excellent bonus bird. The ani perched atop a mesquite for great views. We stopped first at the main building and quickly found several new species including displaying Wild Turkey, localized Tropical Kingbird, unexpected Yellow-headed Blackbird, Bronzed Cowbird, and Hooded Oriole. We got a call that another group on the ranch had found a Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl and after a bit of an anxious drive and a few wrong turns, we got the small owl in the scope. The Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl called twice before flying off its perch to disappear. After our success with the owl, we soon tracked down two of the other main targets of the ranch, the nondescript Northern Beardless-Tyrannulet and another good view of a Tropical Parula. In the general vicinity of the oak woodlands, we also found a Northern Bobwhite that walked right up to us, Greater Roadrunner, Long-billed Curlew, Brown-crested

Flycatcher, Couch's Kingbird, and colorful Green Jay. Raptors were also numerous with good views of Crested Caracara, Northern Harrier, Sharp-shinned, Harris's, White-tailed and Red-tailed Hawks. We explored a bit more after a picnic lunch and then drove north back towards Kingsville, seeing the only Brewer's Blackbirds of the tour at a roadside rest area.



**Golden-cheeked Warbler by Stephan Lorenz**

For the late afternoon, we explored a small park in Kingsville with hopes to find Great Kiskadee, another species that appeared to have vanished after the freeze. We didn't have any luck with the kiskadee here but added Black-bellied Whistling-Duck, Blue-winged Teal, Northern Shoveler, American Wigeon, and Mottled Duck in a small wetland. The muddy margins of the pond harbored Least Sandpiper, Long-billed Dowitcher, Spotted Sandpiper, and a flock of migrating Franklin's Gulls flew over. The surrounding scrub held Lincoln's Sparrow and Baltimore Orioles plus better views of Green Jay and other species we had seen previously.



**Groove-billed Ani by Stephan Lorenz**

After breakfast, we drove north towards Corpus Christi and the coast. Our first stop was at Blucher Park, a little-known migrant trap in the middle of the city. The park was busy with migrants and we ended up seeing an excellent variety of warblers, including Ovenbird, Worm-eating Warbler, Northern Waterthrush, Blue-winged, Black-and-white, Tennessee, Orange-crowned and Nashville Warblers, Common Yellowthroat, Hooded Warbler, Northern Parula, Yellow, Yellow-rumped (Myrtle), Yellow-throated and Black-throated Green Warblers. Other migrant birds present included Great Crested Flycatcher, Red-eyed Vireo, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Swainson's Thrush, Grasshopper Sparrow, Yellow-breasted Chat, Orchard and Baltimore Orioles, Summer Tanager, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, and Indigo Bunting. A male Painted Bunting was much admired and this stunning bird showed very well. A Great Kiskadee finally called and we ended up with excellent views of this species which proved unusually uncommon this spring. Other highlights included an Inca Dove, a rapidly declining species in the area, and astounding numbers of roosting Chuck-will's-widows. We flushed a dozen of these large nightjars and were able to see several sitting on the ground. We left Corpus Christi just in time and heavy rains started pelting the Texas coast. Despite the rain, we carried on to Mustang Island and managed to see a single Aplomado Falcon well that perched in low bushes, the bird seemingly also waiting out the weather. After being extirpated from Texas, Aplomado Falcons have successfully recovered thanks to a reintroduction program that started two decades ago. From here we continued up the coast and made a stop at the Big Tree at Goose Island. This offered the chance to admire the Texas State Live Oak, which is around 1,000 years old, and the wetlands nearby offered some excellent birds. Scoping flooded fields and ponds, we saw Black-bellied Whistling-Duck, Gull-billed Tern, Black



Skimmer, and Brown Pelican. Lots of shorebirds, egrets, herons, and ibis were flying past, and we added Pectoral Sandpiper, Long-billed Dowitcher, Willet, Lesser Yellowlegs, Great Blue Heron, Great, Snowy and Cattle Egrets, Green Heron, Black-crowned Night-Heron, White Ibis, and Roseate Spoonbill. Swallows were feeding in numbers on the edge of the fields, offering good studies of Northern Rough-winged, Tree, Bank and Barn Swallows. We also saw a Cerulean Warbler briefly nearby. From Goose Island, we started the long drive to Winnie where we arrived in time for check-in and dinner.



**Great Kiskadee by Stephan Lorenz**

Today we started birding the Texas coast proper by visiting High Island in the morning and exploring the Bolivar Peninsula for the remainder of the day. We saw well over 100 species with many highlights. Smith Oak's at High Island was busy with neotropical migrants and we spent the entire morning exploring the trails and water features seeing 20 species of warblers alone. Among the diversity of warblers, standouts included Worm-eating Warbler, Louisiana Waterthrush, Golden-winged, Blue-winged, Prothonotary, secretive Swainson's, Kentucky, Hooded, Cerulean, Blackburnian and Chestnut-sided Warblers. We also saw several Yellow-billed Cuckoos and even better, had good luck with two Black-billed Cuckoos. The first Broad-winged Hawk sailed over and we found a lingering Blue-headed Vireo among the scores of Red-eyed and Yellow-throated Vireos. Gray Catbirds were abundant and so were thrushes with multiple views of Veery, Gray-cheeked, Swainson's, Hermit and Wood Thrushes. The mulberry trees were bouncing with colorful species, including easily seen and photographed Summer and Scarlet Tanagers, Rose-breasted and Blue Grosbeaks, Indigo and Painted

Buntings; at some points during the morning we didn't know where to look first! A Merlin flew through quickly.



**Black-billed Cuckoo by Stephan Lorenz**

We continued east along the Bolivar Peninsula, one of the finest stretches of coastline for birding in North America, and after a picnic lunch, we walked out to the Bolivar Reserve, a productive area of tidal flats and marshes. Driving towards the Bolivar Flats, we found a half dozen American Golden-Plovers in a grassy field. A stop at the freshwater marshes resulted in a good diversity of shorebirds including Stilt, Least and Pectoral Sandpipers, Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs, and both subspecies of Willet. A Clapper Rail stepped out of the dense grasses a few times to show well along the edge of the road. The high tide roost at the end of the peninsula held an even higher diversity and larger numbers of shorebirds. Our walk along the beach here got us into a good position to scope through the masses of birds and we picked out Black-necked Stilt, hundreds of American Avocet, Black-bellied, Snowy, Wilson's, Semipalmated and Piping Plovers, Whimbrel, Long-billed Curlew, Marbled Godwit, Ruddy Turnstone, Red Knot, Sanderling, Dunlin, Semipalmated and Western Sandpipers, and Short-billed Dowitcher. Surprise shorebirds on the beach included Baird's and Buff-breasted Sandpipers, and Wilson's Phalarope. A pair of Lesser Scaup offshore added to the waterfowl list. Gulls and terns were numerous and we studied Laughing, Ring-billed and Herring Gulls, Least, Gull-billed, Caspian, Common, Forster's, Royal and Sandwich Terns with a few Black Skimmers mixed in. Reddish Egrets were also present and feeding nearby. We enjoyed watching the comical feeding style of these egrets. Another highlight among the plethora of birds here were three

Horned Larks and this area of beach and dunes is one of the few places where this species nests in Texas. The number and diversity of birds at Bolivar Flats were nearly overwhelming and we left the area with a considerable boost to our list. We stopped at Rollover Pass during the drive back to Winnie and quickly found two Black Terns among the other roosting terns. We enjoyed a delicious dinner back at the hotel and completed the lengthy daily checklist.



**Hooded Warbler by Stephan Lorenz**

For the early morning, we headed east to the Sabine Pass area where we first stopped at Pilot Station road. The saltwater marshes here were filled to the brim with specialties and rails were particularly active during the early hours with Sora and Clapper Rails both showing well in the road. Least Bitterns flushed from the marsh while White-faced Ibis flew over. The marsh also held territorial Seaside Sparrows that perched up to sing, while Sedge and Marsh Wrens were a bit more secretive and after some effort, we all had good views of the skulking Nelson's Sparrow. We headed to Sabine Woods where we walked the trails and were again inundated with Neotropical migrants. Although the numbers were a bit lower compared to the previous day at High Island, we still enjoyed more photo opportunities of 21 species of warblers, lots of vireos, thrushes, tanagers, grosbeaks, orioles, and buntings. Some of the additions to the trip list we picked out included two Swallow-tailed Kites flying over, a drumming Downy Woodpecker, and lingering Brown Thrashers. With migrants still on the move, we drove back to High Island to see if anything else would drop in for the afternoon. We were rewarded with a photogenic Black-billed Cuckoo and stunning Purple Gallinule plus we took our time

at the rookery that was busy with nesting egrets, herons, ibis, and spoonbills which are always a joy to watch.



**Wilson's Plover by Stephan Lorenz**

For the early morning, we headed to Anahuac NWR to explore the vast freshwater marshes and coastal prairies here. A stop at the east unit proved productive for shorebirds and netted us close views of White-rumped Sandpipers, one of the few shorebirds species we were still missing. As usual, the Shoveler Loop was packed with birds and we had great studies of a variety of waterfowl, waders, and shorebirds. New species we found during the morning included Fulvous Whistling-Duck, Pied-billed Grebe, Common Gallinule, the locally scarce Glossy Ibis, Belted Kingfisher, Loggerhead Shrike, and Boat-tailed Grackle. We had to search far and wide, but eventually found a small pond that held a pair of cooperative King Rails and we could watch the birds at leisure as they foraged in the open. A stop at the prairie resulted in even closer views of Seaside Sparrow and added Swamp Sparrow. During the afternoon, we drove to Beaumont and explored the wetlands at Tyrrell Park gaining additional views of King Rail, a Bald Eagle near an active nest, and the localized Fish Crow. Driving back into Winnie, we chanced upon the only American Robins of the trip, this species tends to nest only locally in Texas. After another delicious dinner, we retired in preparation for another long and exciting day.



**Clapper Rail by Stephan Lorenz**

For the morning, we returned to High Island where there were noticeably fewer migrants in the woods, but we finally found a few Dickcissels which had been strangely missing and appeared to be arriving late. We drove north into the Big Thicket and stopped at Martin Dies Junior State Park where we found a pair of Swainson's Warblers on territory and everyone was able to enjoy good views and photo opportunities of this tricky species. We also saw the first Pine Warbler, a common species in the Big Thicket.

The final day of the tour began with a predawn start in Jasper from where we drove to Boykin Springs. We set out to find several of the Pineywoods specialties and by midmorning had good views of all of them. We first found a family group of the endangered Red-cockaded Woodpecker that gave good views, but a Bachman's Sparrow was reluctant to perch up. We had a field breakfast accompanied by a territorial Louisiana Waterthrush and many Pine Warblers. Returning to the right habitat and searching carefully, we eventually located the Bachman's Sparrow on its song perch and enjoyed good scope views. At a reliable stakeout, we had below eye level views of Brown-headed Nuthatch and then found a singing Prairie Warbler. Other specialties we found as we drove the back roads of the area included a surprise White-tailed Kite, Red-shouldered Hawk, Red-bellied Woodpecker, and Tufted Titmouse.



**Roseate Spoonbill by Stephan Lorenz**

For the final stop of the tour, we returned to Martin Dies State Park and added a handful of species, including some surprises. New species included Wood Duck, a female Hooded Merganser with ducklings, a truly rare breeding species in this part of Texas, and great views of Red-headed and Pileated Woodpeckers. We drove back to the Houston area, checked into the final hotel, and then celebrated our successful trip with a delicious dinner at a French restaurant.



**Swainson's Warbler by Stephan Lorenz**



**Brown-headed Nuthatch by Stephan Lorenz**

**USA - Texas: Spring Migration & Hill Country 2021 Trip List:**

1. Black-bellied Whistling-Duck (*Dendrocygna autumnalis*) - fairly common in coastal wetlands
2. Fulvous Whistling-Duck (*Dendrocygna bicolor*) - uncommon in coastal wetlands, especially in the Anahuac NWR area
3. Wood Duck (*Aix sponsa*) - a pair flew over at Martin Dies Junior SP
4. American Wigeon (*Anas americana*) - single seen
5. Mottled Duck (*Anas fulvigula*) - the resident duck of coastal wetlands
6. Blue-winged Teal (*Anas discors*) - numerous in various wetlands
7. Northern Shoveler (*Anas clypeata*) - seen well at Anahuac NWR
8. Lesser Scaup (*Aythya affinis*) - seen in flight and briefly on the water offshore Bolivar Flats
9. Hooded Merganser (*Lophodytes cucullatus*) - a female with ducklings seen in the wooded wetland at Martin Dies Junior SP was a surprise
10. Red-breasted Merganser (*Mergus serrator*) - seen near Rollover Pass
11. Northern Bobwhite (*Colinus virginianus*) - a calling male approached us closely at the King Ranch and offered great views
12. Ring-necked Pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus*) - a bird seen near High Island was very likely a recent release or escape
13. Wild Turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo*) - common at the King Ranch with several males in full display
14. Pied-billed Grebe (*Podilymbus podiceps*) - wetlands of the upper Texas coast
15. Neotropic Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*) - abundant with many nesting at the Smith Oaks rookery at High Island
16. Double-crested Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax auritus*) - uncommon this time of year



17. Anhinga (*Anhinga anhinga*) - multiple seen well at Martin Dies Junior SP
18. Brown Pelican (*Pelecanus occidentalis*) - abundant at the coast
19. Least Bittern (*Ixobrychus exilis*) - seen well along Pilot Station Road and at Anahuac NWR
20. Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*) - widespread
21. Great Egret (*Ardea alba*) - common with many nesting at the Smith Oaks rookery
22. Snowy Egret (*Egretta thula*) - common and widespread and actively nesting at the Smith Oaks rookery
23. Little Blue Heron (*Egretta caerulea*) - widespread and common
24. Tricolored Heron (*Egretta tricolor*) - widespread and often seen in flight in coastal wetlands
25. Reddish Egret (*Egretta rufescens*) - great views at Bolivar
26. Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*) - abundant throughout
27. Green Heron (*Butorides virescens*) - singles frequently seen
28. Black-crowned Night-Heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*) - seen in the Goose Island area
29. Yellow-crowned Night-Heron (*Nyctanassa violacea*) - seen well in various locations on the upper coast
30. White Ibis (*Eudocimus albus*) - widespread in coastal wetlands
31. Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*) - good views in the Anahuac area where this species is greatly outnumbered by the species below
32. White-faced Ibis (*Plegadis chihi*) - common in coastal wetlands
33. Roseate Spoonbill (*Platalea ajaja*) - best views of actively nesting birds at the High Island rookery, a beautiful and pleasantly common bird on the Texas coast
34. Black Vulture (*Coragyps atratus*) - abundant

35. Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*) - abundant
36. Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*) - uncommon during spring but we saw some in the Bolivar and High Island areas
37. White-tailed Kite (*Elanus leucurus*) - after missing the species in coastal areas we lucked into one during the final day in the Boykin Springs area of the Big Thicket
38. Swallow-tailed Kite (*Elanoides forficatus*) - fantastic views of migrating birds at Sabine Woods and seen again at Martin Dies SP
39. Northern Harrier (*Circus cyaneus*) - several sightings including on the King Ranch, Bolivar, and High Island
40. Sharp-shinned Hawk (*Accipiter striatus*) - one seen briefly on the King Ranch
41. Cooper's Hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*) - a single flying over at Chalk Bluff Park
42. Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) - seen well at Tyrrell Park in Beaumont and again in the Martin Dies SP area, and increasingly common breeding bird in east Texas
43. Harris's Hawk (*Parabuteo unicinctus*) - seen well on the King Ranch
44. White-tailed Hawk (*Geranoaetus albicaudatus*) - excellent views of several on the King Ranch including an active nest
45. Red-shouldered Hawk (*Buteo lineatus*) - seen in coastal woodlots and the Big Thicket
46. Broad-winged Hawk (*Buteo platypterus*) - several sightings in the Big Thicket area
47. Swainson's Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*) - frequently seen throughout
48. Zone-tailed Hawk (*Buteo albonotatus*) - great views of an adult taking to the air right in front of us at the Kerr WMA, a definite highlight to see this rare raptor so well
49. Red-tailed Hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*) - widespread and common
50. King Rail (*Rallus elegans*) - great views of a pair in the Anahuac NWR and another in Tyrrell Park in Beaumont

51. Clapper Rail (*Rallus crepitans*) - we enjoyed the best views of birds out in the open at Pilot Station road near Sabine Pass, these bold birds remained in the open for minutes on end
52. Virginia Rail (*Rallus limicola*) - heard only at Tyrrell Park in Beaumont
53. Sora (*Porzana carolina*) - many seen well in the Sabine and Beaumont areas
54. Purple Gallinule (*Porphyrio martinicus*) - many good views of this colorful rail in the High Island area and at Anahuac NWR
55. Common Gallinule (*Gallinula galeata*) - widespread and fairly common
56. American Coot (*Fulica americana*) - widespread and fairly common
57. Black-necked Stilt (*Himantopus mexicanus*) - a widespread and noisy breeding shorebird
58. American Avocet (*Recurvirostra americana*) - hundreds at Bolivar Flats
59. Black-bellied Plover (*Pluvialis squatarola*) - great views including some in breeding plumage on the Bolivar Peninsula
60. American Golden-Plover (*Pluvialis dominica*) - great scope views in a grassy field on the Bolivar Peninsula
61. Snowy Plover (*Charadrius nivosus*) - excellent close views of this scarce small plover at the Bolivar Flats
62. Wilson's Plover (*Charadrius wilsonia*) - this chunky plover was on territory at Bolivar Flats
63. Semipalmated Plover (*Charadrius semipalmatus*) - the most common and widespread small plover
64. Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*) - good views of this threatened species at Bolivar Flats
65. Killdeer (*Charadrius vociferus*) - a common and widespread shorebird
66. Spotted Sandpiper (*Actitis macularius*) - several seen well in wetlands in the Rio Grande Valley
67. Solitary Sandpiper (*Tringa solitaria*) - seen well at Pilot Station road

68. Greater Yellowlegs (*Tringa melanoleuca*) - widespread and fairly common
69. Willet (*Tringa semipalmata*) - both subspecies seen in coastal wetlands including the Eastern breeding ssp. and the Western ssp. that winters in and migrates through Texas
70. Lesser Yellowlegs (*Tringa flavipes*) - common
71. Upland Sandpiper (*Bartramia longicauda*) - one of the first birds of the tour at John Paul Landing Park, we had great views of three and these were the only ones of the tour
72. Whimbrel (*Numenius phaeopus*) - good numbers were seen in the Anahuac and Bolivar areas
73. Long-billed Curlew (*Numenius americanus*) - seen on the King Ranch and even better views in a park in Kingsville
74. Marbled Godwit (*Limosa fedoa*) - a handful seen on Bolivar Flats
75. Ruddy Turnstone (*Arenaria interpres*) - seen well on the Bolivar Peninsula
76. Red Knot (*Calidris canutus*) - half a dozen at Bolivar Flats
77. Stilt Sandpiper (*Calidris himantopus*) - great views of this elegant shorebird in freshwater marshes on the Bolivar Peninsula and many at Anahuac NWR
78. Sanderling (*Calidris alba*) - seen well at Bolivar Flats
79. Dunlin (*Calidris alpina*) - huge numbers at Bolivar Flats
80. Baird's Sandpiper (*Calidris bairdii*) - excellent studies of a single bird at Bolivar Flats, a scarce species by late spring
81. Least Sandpiper (*Calidris minutilla*) - common and widespread
82. White-rumped Sandpiper (*Calidris fuscicollis*) - half-dozen were seen at Anahuac NWR, incredibly close views of this shorebird
83. Buff-breasted Sandpiper (*Calidris subruficollis*) - another surprising find at Bolivar Flats, this species usually prefers grassy areas, but it offered great views on the shoreline

84. Pectoral Sandpiper (*Calidris melanotos*) - fairly common in freshwater wetlands
85. Semipalmated Sandpiper (*Calidris pusilla*) - seen well at Bolivar Flats
86. Western Sandpiper (*Calidris mauri*) - numerous at the Bolivar Flats
87. Short-billed Dowitcher (*Limnodromus griseus*) - numerous at Bolivar Flats
88. Long-billed Dowitcher (*Limnodromus scolopaceus*) - especially large numbers in freshwater wetlands at Anahuac NWR
89. Wilson's Snipe (*Gallinago delicata*) - a single seen at Anahuac NWR
90. Wilson's Phalarope (*Phalaropus tricolor*) - another excellent find on the Bolivar Flats where we studied an individual at close range
91. Laughing Gull (*Leucophaeus atricilla*) - abundant along the coast
92. Franklin's Gull (*Leucophaeus pipixcan*) - seen well migrating in the Kingsville and Goose Island areas
93. Ring-billed Gull (*Larus delawarensis*) - a few seen along the coast
94. Herring Gull (*Larus argentatus*) - a handful seen along the coast
95. Least Tern (*Sternula antillarum*) - this small tern was common on the Bolivar Peninsula
96. Gull-billed Tern (*Gelochelidon nilotica*) - seen well at Goose Island and Bolivar Flats
97. Caspian Tern (*Hydroprogne caspia*) - only two seen at the Bolivar Flats
98. Black Tern (*Chlidonias niger*) - seen in small numbers at Rollover Pass on the Bolivar Peninsula
99. Common Tern (*Sterna hirundo*) - good view of several at Bolivar Flats and Rollover Pass
100. Forster's Tern (*Sterna forsteri*) - the widespread and common medium-sized tern in Texas
101. Royal Tern (*Thalasseus maximus*) - the common background sound on the Texas coast, large numbers seen on the Bolivar Peninsula

102. Sandwich Tern (*Thalasseus sandvicensis*) - many seen well at Rollover Pass and Bolivar Flats
103. Black Skimmer (*Rynchops niger*) - we saw the biggest numbers of this distinctive species at Bolivar Flats
104. Rock Pigeon (*Columba livia*) - this introduced species was widespread in towns and cities
105. Eurasian Collared-Dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*) - an abundant nonnative species now and spreading rapidly
106. Inca Dove (*Columbina inca*) - this small and intricately patterned dove is decreasing, we only saw one but well at Blucher Park in Corpus Christi
107. White-tipped Dove (*Leptotila verreauxi*) - this subtropical dove is slowly expanding its range north and we saw it well at Lost Maples State Natural Area
108. White-winged Dove (*Zenaida asiatica*) - seen in small numbers in various locations, another species that expanded its range during the past decade
109. Mourning Dove (*Zenaida macroura*) - common
110. Yellow-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*) - several seen with many great views in coastal migrant hot spots
111. Black-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus erythrophthalmus*) - great views especially of one feeding in a tent caterpillar nest at Smith's Oaks High Island, it was fun to get such good views and photo opportunities of this scarce species
112. Groove-billed Ani (*Crotophaga sulcirostris*) - one seen well on the King Ranch a difficult species during the spring and a big bonus for the trip
113. Greater Roadrunner (*Geococcyx californianus*) - seen well at a stakeout near Chalk Bluff Park and noted again at the King Ranch
114. Eastern Screech-Owl (*Megascops asio*) - good views at Neal's Lodge
115. Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl (*Glaucidium brasilianum*) - after the freeze the species was quiet on the King Ranch but with some patience and after few wrong turns we had scope views of a single bird that even called a few times

116. Barred Owl (*Strix varia*) - heard only in the Boykin Springs area
117. Chuck-will's-widow (*Antrostomus carolinensis*) - seen well before sunrise in the Boykin Springs area
118. Chimney Swift (*Chaetura pelagica*) - small numbers seen throughout
119. Ruby-throated Hummingbird (*Archilochus colubris*) - many seen in coastal hot spots and one noted at Neal's Lodge
120. Black-chinned Hummingbird (*Archilochus alexandri*) - common in the Hill Country, especially at feeders around Neal's Lodge
121. Belted Kingfisher (*Megaceryle alcyon*) - seen in the Kingsville area and along the upper coast
122. Red-headed Woodpecker (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*) - great views at Martin Dies SP
123. Golden-fronted Woodpecker (*Melanerpes aurifrons*) - the common woodpecker in the Hill Country and Kingsville area
124. Red-bellied Woodpecker (*Melanerpes carolinus*) - widespread and fairly common along the upper Texas coast
125. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus varius*) - late staying birds at Blucher Park and Sabine Woods, rare this time of year
126. Ladder-backed Woodpecker (*Picoides scalaris*) - frequently seen in the Hill Country
127. Downy Woodpecker (*Picoides pubescens*) - good views at Sabine Woods on the upper coast
128. Red-cockaded Woodpecker (*Picoides borealis*) - excellent views of a small family group of this endangered woodpecker at Boykin Springs
129. Pileated Woodpecker (*Dryocopus pileatus*) - seen well at Martin Dies SP with especially great views in flight from the boardwalk
130. Crested Caracara (*Caracara cheriway*) - this tropical raptor was common and widespread especially in the Kingsville area

131. American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius*) - seen in the Kingsville area
132. Merlin (*Falco columbarius*) - noted in flight in the High Island area
133. Aplomado Falcon (*Falco femoralis*) - a single bird seen very well in heavy rain on Mustang Island
134. Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) - good views at Chalk Bluff Park and the High Island area
135. Northern Beardless-Tyrannulet (*Camptostoma imberbe*) - great views of this small but distinctive flycatcher at the King Ranch, another tropical species that barely reaches the ABA area in south Texas
136. Eastern Wood-Pewee (*Contopus virens*) - widespread breeding species in the Hill Country and east Texas and a common migrant along the coast
137. Acadian Flycatcher (*Empidonax vireescens*) - several seen well in coastal migrant hot spots and noted on its nesting grounds at Martin Dies SP
138. Eastern Phoebe (*Sayornis phoebe*) - seen at Chalk Bluff Park and Lost Maples
139. Vermilion Flycatcher (*Pyrocephalus rubinus*) - this showy flycatcher was fairly common in the Hill Country where we enjoyed its unique flight display
140. Ash-throated Flycatcher (*Myiarchus cinerascens*) - seen well at Kerr WMA, Chalk Bluff, and Lost Maples SNA
141. Great Crested Flycatcher (*Myiarchus crinitus*) - seen well in migration hot spots along the coast
142. Brown-crested Flycatcher (*Myiarchus tyrannulus*) - common on the King Ranch
143. Great Kiskadee (*Pitangus sulphuratus*) - incredibly scarce this year due to the freeze and finally one seen very well at Blucher Park
144. Tropical Kingbird (*Tyrannus melancholicus*) - the pair was still at the stakeout on the King Ranch and showed very well
145. Couch's Kingbird (*Tyrannus couchii*) - common on the King Ranch and Kingsville area
146. Western Kingbird (*Tyrannus verticalis*) - seen at Kerr WMA



147. Eastern Kingbird (*Tyrannus tyrannus*) - common on the upper coast
148. Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (*Tyrannus forficatus*) - a stunning bird that was common and widespread
149. Loggerhead Shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*) - fairly common and widespread
150. White-eyed Vireo (*Vireo griseus*) - common in thickets throughout and especially common at Sabine Woods where birds were still migrating
151. Bell's Vireo (*Vireo bellii*) - seen well at Neal's Lodge and Chalk Bluff Park
152. Black-capped Vireo (*Vireo atricapilla*) - fantastic views of this skulking species at Kerr WMA where a bird sat up several times in the open to sing its jumbled song, also noted near Chalk Bluff Park and at Lost Maples
153. Yellow-throated Vireo (*Vireo flavifrons*) - widespread and fairly common seen in wooded parts of the Hill Country and migrant hot spots along the upper coast
154. Blue-headed Vireo (*Vireo solitarius*) - one seen at Smith's Oaks High Island was a late bird and a bonus
155. Red-eyed Vireo (*Vireo olivaceus*) - common especially on the upper coast
156. Green Jay (*Cyanocorax yncas*) - a difficult bird on this itinerary, but two seen at Chalk Bluff Park and several on the King Ranch
157. Blue Jay (*Cyanocitta cristata*) - frequent on the upper coast
158. Woodhouse's Scrub-Jay (*Aphelocoma californica*) - three vocal birds seen well at Kerr WMA
159. American Crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*) - common and widespread along the upper coast
160. Fish Crow (*Corvus ossifragus*) - a small group flew in at the water treatment plant in Beaumont
161. Chihuahuan Raven (*Corvus cryptoleucus*) - a big bonus as we chanced upon a pair between Uvalde and Kingsville, uncommon in this part of Texas
162. Common Raven (*Corvus corax*) - numerous in the Hill Country

163. Horned Lark (*Eremophila alpestris*) - seen at Bolivar Flats, one of a few breeding sites for this species in Texas
164. Northern Rough-winged Swallow (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*) - the highest numbers of this widespread swallow were seen at Goose Island
165. Purple Martin (*Progne subis*) - fairly common and widespread with many seen the first afternoon of the tour at John Paul Landing Park
166. Tree Swallow (*Tachycineta bicolor*) - several seen in coastal locations
167. Bank Swallow (*Riparia riparia*) - we noted the largest concentration of this small swallow at Goose Island
168. Barn Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*) - numerous and widespread
169. Cliff Swallow (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*) - common and widespread, especially around bridges and culverts, seen nest building at Anahuac NWR
170. Cave Swallow (*Petrochelidon fulva*) - seen well at Chalk Bluff Park
171. Carolina Chickadee (*Poecile carolinensis*) - this acrobatic bird was common and widespread
172. Tufted Titmouse (*Baeolophus bicolor*) - seen well at Boykin Springs
173. Black-crested Titmouse (*Baeolophus atricristatus*) - common in the Hill Country
174. Verdin (*Auriparus flaviceps*) - a skulking bird near a nest at the impromptu Chihuahuan Raven stop, glimpsed by a few of us
175. Brown-headed Nuthatch (*Sitta pusilla*) - great views in the Boykin Springs area with one bird clambering below eye level for great photo opportunities
176. Canyon Wren (*Catherpes mexicanus*) - seen very well at Kerr WMA
177. Sedge Wren (*Cistothorus platensis*) - small numbers at Pilot Station road and Anahuac NWR
178. Marsh Wren (*Cistothorus palustris*) - several noted along Pilot Station road

179. Carolina Wren (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*) - fairly common and widespread, first noted at Neal's Lodge
180. Bewick's Wren (*Thryomanes bewickii*) - widespread in the Hill Country
181. Cactus Wren (*Campylorhynchus brunneicapillus*) - great views of a pair at Chalk Bluff Park
182. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (*Poliophtila caerulea*) - numerous at Kerr WMA and seen in various locations
183. Ruby-crowned Kinglet (*Regulus calendula*) - singles were seen in the Hill Country
184. Eastern Bluebird (*Sialia sialis*) - a few seen Neal's Lodge and in the Big Thicket
185. Veery (*Catharus fuscescens*) - excellent views of this scarcer species at High Island and Sabine Woods
186. Gray-cheeked Thrush (*Catharus minimus*) - seen well in High Island and Sabine Woods, the numbers of migrating thrushes was astounding
187. Swainson's Thrush (*Catharus ustulatus*) - common in the coastal migrant hot spots
188. Hermit Thrush (*Catharus guttatus*) - lingering birds were seen at Lost Maples and High Island
189. Wood Thrush (*Hylocichla mustelina*) - common in migrant hot spots
190. American Robin (*Turdus migratorius*) - an uncommon nesting species in Texas and only seen in Winnie
191. Gray Catbird (*Dumetella carolinensis*) - abundant in the migrant hot spots
192. Curve-billed Thrasher (*Toxostoma curvirostre*) - one seen well at Chalk Bluff Park
193. Brown Thrasher (*Toxostoma rufum*) - two lingering at Sabine Woods
194. Long-billed Thrasher (*Toxostoma longirostre*) - seen well at Chalk Bluff Park
195. Northern Mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*) - the Texas state bird was common and widespread
196. European Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*) - a widespread introduced species

197. Cedar Waxwing (*Bombycilla cedrorum*) - a handful noted in the Hill Country
198. Ovenbird (*Seiurus aurocapilla*) - seen well in good numbers High Island and Sabine Woods
199. Worm-eating Warbler (*Helmitheros vermivorum*) - seen at Blucher Park, excellent numbers at High Island, and noted again at Sabine Woods, normally a scarce migrant
200. Louisiana Waterthrush (*Parkesia motacilla*) - territorial birds seen well at Lost Maples and also single seen at High Island
201. Northern Waterthrush (*Parkesia noveboracensis*) - present in low numbers in all coastal migrant traps
202. Blue-winged Warbler (*Vermivora cyanoptera*) - up to four seen at High Island with singles at Blucher Park and Sabine Woods, great views of several
203. Golden-winged Warbler (*Vermivora chrysoptera*) - a male of this scarce warbler seen exceedingly well at High Island
204. Black-and-white Warbler (*Mniotilta varia*) - good numbers migrating through coastal migrant hot spots
205. Prothonotary Warbler (*Protonotaria citrea*) - single birds seen in various coastal hot spots and Martin Dies SP, several great views of this stunning species
206. Swainson's Warbler (*Limnothlypis swainsonii*) - scarce this year, but we found a pair that showed well at Martin Dies SP, one of the tour highlights
207. Tennessee Warbler (*Oreothlypis peregrina*) - one of the most numerous migrant warblers during the tour
208. Orange-crowned Warbler (*Oreothlypis celata*) - singles were seen in the Hill Country
209. Nashville Warbler (*Oreothlypis ruficapilla*) - several seen in the Hill Country as expected for this circum-Gulf migrant
210. Kentucky Warbler (*Geothlypis formosa*) - high numbers present at High Island and Sabine Woods allowing for several great views of this ground-loving warbler

211. Common Yellowthroat (*Geothlypis trichas*) - seen in good numbers in all coastal migrant traps
212. Hooded Warbler (*Setophaga citrina*) - this attractive warbler was seen in excellent numbers at High Island and Sabine Woods, one of the most common migrating warblers along the coast, also heard on territory in the Big Thicket
213. American Redstart (*Setophaga ruticilla*) - singles and twos were seen at High Island and Sabine Woods
214. Cerulean Warbler (*Setophaga cerulea*) - several great sightings of this scarce warbler in coastal migrant hot spots
215. Northern Parula (*Setophaga americana*) - fairly frequent in migrant hot spots
216. Tropical Parula (*Setophaga pitiayumi*) - great views of a singing male at Lost Maples and another two seen on the King Ranch
217. Blackburnian Warbler (*Setophaga fusca*) - singles were seen at High Island and Sabine Woods
218. Yellow Warbler (*Setophaga petechia*) - seen at Blucher Park and Sabine Woods
219. Chestnut-sided Warbler (*Setophaga pensylvanica*) - one or two seen in coastal migrant hot spots
220. Pine Warbler (*Setophaga pinus*) - fairly common in the Big Thicket and Boykin Springs area
221. Yellow-rumped Warbler (*Setophaga coronata*) - we found both Myrtle and Audubon's subspecies (full species in IOC) around Neal's Lodge
222. Yellow-throated Warbler (*Setophaga dominica*) - this beautiful warbler showed well several times in the Hill Country with birds on territory right around the cabins at Neal's Lodge
223. Prairie Warbler (*Setophaga discolor*) - great views of a bird on territory near Boykin Springs, a reliable stakeout during the past few years
224. Golden-cheeked Warbler (*Setophaga chrysoparia*) - several seen at Kerr WMA and many recorded at Lost Maples
225. Black-throated Green Warbler (*Setophaga virens*) - small numbers seen in coastal migration hot spots

226. Wilson's Warbler (*Cardellina pusilla*) - brief views in the Hill Country
227. Yellow-breasted Chat (*Icteria virens*) - common in thickets in the Hill Country and Uvalde area with several great views of displaying birds
228. Olive Sparrow (*Arremonops rufivirgatus*) - this tropical sparrow was seen well at Neal's Lodge, Chalk Bluff Park, and the King Ranch
229. Rufous-crowned Sparrow (*Aimophila ruficeps*) - seen well at Kerr WMA, another western species at its eastern range limit in the Texas Hill Country
230. Bachman's Sparrow (*Peucaea aestivalis*) - it took some patience and effort but eventually we tracked down a singing bird for fantastic scope views at Boykin Springs
231. Grasshopper Sparrow (*Ammodramus savannarum*) - seen briefly on the King Ranch but we had excellent views at Blucher Park, although somewhat unexpected here on the mowed lawn
232. Chipping Sparrow (*Spizella passerina*) - widespread in the Hill Country
233. Clay-colored Sparrow (*Spizella pallida*) - unusually large numbers in the Hill Country
234. Brewer's Sparrow (*Spizella breweri*) - unexpected, but given the eastward movement of this western species this winter not too surprising, a nice bonus with a single singing bird seen and photographed well at Chalk Bluff Park
235. Field Sparrow (*Spizella pusilla*) - seen well in the Hill Country in the Neal's Lodge area
236. Lark Sparrow (*Chondestes grammacus*) - common in the Hill Country
237. Black-throated Sparrow (*Amphispiza bilineata*) - fantastic views at Chalk Bluff Park of a singing male perched up
238. Savannah Sparrow (*Passerculus sandwichensis*) - seen at John Paul Landing Park and other grasslands
239. Le Conte's Sparrow (*Ammodramus leconteii*) - we flushed several the first afternoon of the tour at John Paul Landing Park with one perched up in bushes for great views
240. Nelson's Sparrow (*Ammodramus nelsoni*) - excellent views of these shy birds at Pilot Station road

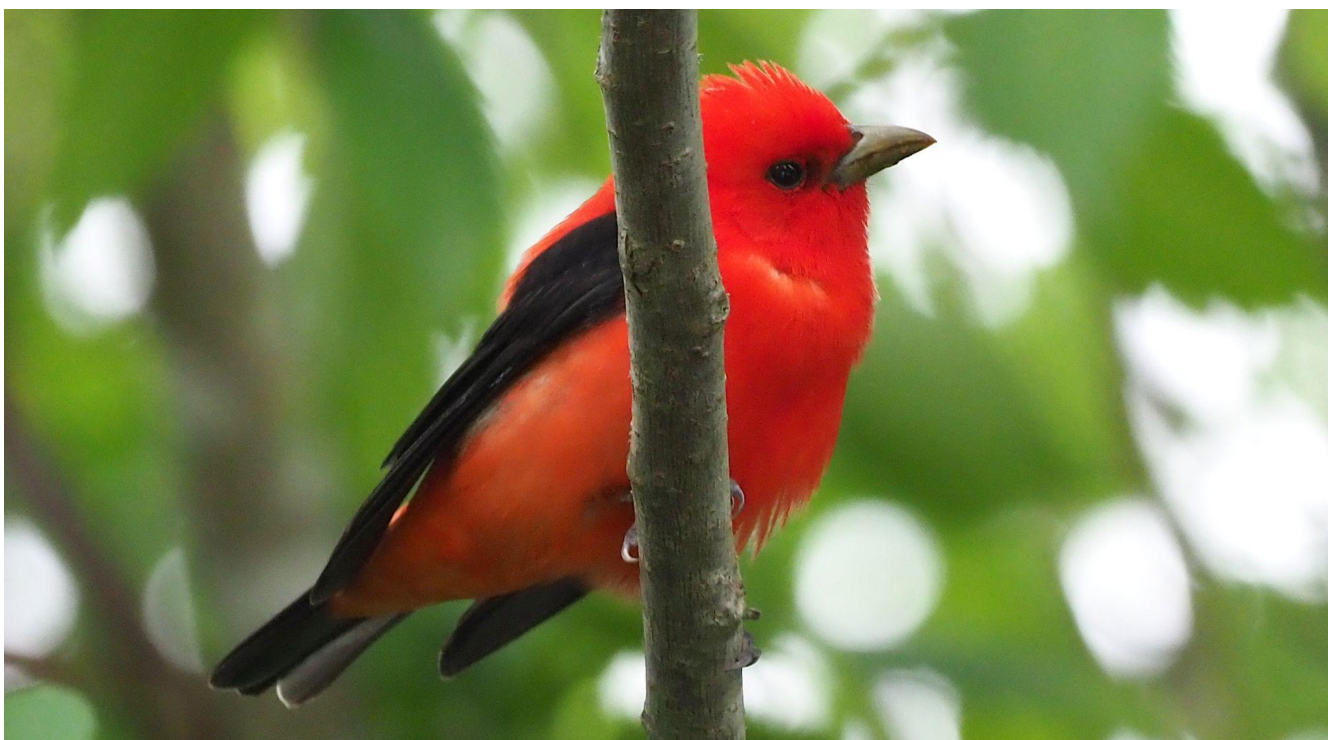
241. Seaside Sparrow (*Ammodramus maritimus*) - great views at Pilot Station road and Anahuac NWR
242. Lincoln's Sparrow (*Melospiza lincolni*) - singles seen at Lost Maples and in the Kingsville area
243. Swamp Sparrow (*Melospiza georgiana*) - singles flushed at Pilot Station Road and Anahuac NWR
244. White-crowned Sparrow (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*) - seen well a Chalk Bluff Park
245. Spotted Towhee (*Pipilo maculatus*) - another western species that lingered longer than usual and a definite bonus and surprise at Kerr WMA
246. Summer Tanager (*Piranga rubra*) - seen well in the Hill Country and widespread on the upper coast
247. Scarlet Tanager (*Piranga olivacea*) - abundant in the coastal migrant hot spots where this species was decorating the mulberry trees
248. Northern Cardinal (*Cardinalis cardinalis*) - this beautiful bird is always abundant in Texas
249. Pyrrhuloxia (*Cardinalis sinuatus*) - great views at Chalk Bluff Park
250. Rose-breasted Grosbeak (*Pheucticus ludovicianus*) - common in the upper Texas coast migrant hot spots, often in mulberry trees
251. Blue Grosbeak (*Passerina caerulea*) - seen at Neal's Lodge, Lost Maples, and the upper coast
252. Indigo Bunting (*Passerina cyanea*) - common and widespread, seen in large numbers in migrant hot spots
253. Painted Bunting (*Passerina ciris*) - this stunning species was best seen at Blucher Park and also noted at High Island and Sabine Woods
254. Dickcissel (*Spiza americana*) - this species arrived late this year and took some searching to find in the Anahuac area
255. Red-winged Blackbird (*Agelaius phoeniceus*) - common

256. Yellow-headed Blackbird (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*) - singles noted on the King Ranch and at High Island
257. Eastern Meadowlark (*Sturnella magna*) - widespread in low numbers on coastal grasslands
258. Brewer's Blackbird (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*) - seen at the rest area north of the King Ranch
259. Common Grackle (*Quiscalus quiscula*) - a few seen on the upper coast
260. Boat-tailed Grackle (*Quiscalus major*) - the grackle of coastal marshes, seen well at Anahuac NWR
261. Great-tailed Grackle (*Quiscalus mexicanus*) - widespread and abundant
262. Bronzed Cowbird (*Molothrus aeneus*) - numerous on the King Ranch
263. Brown-headed Cowbird (*Molothrus ater*) - widespread
264. Orchard Oriole (*Icterus spurius*) - numerous throughout
265. Hooded Oriole (*Icterus cucullatus*) - seen in the Chalk Bluff Park and numerous on the King Ranch
266. Bullock's Oriole (*Icterus bullockii*) - one seen briefly at Chalk Bluff Park
267. Baltimore Oriole (*Icterus galbula*) - common on the upper coast
268. House Finch (*Haemorhous mexicanus*) - widespread, but most common during the western portion of the tour
269. Pine Siskin (*Spinus pinus*) - with the unprecedented winter invasion and irruption this year it was not surprising that some lingered into the spring and we saw two flocks in the Hill Country
270. Lesser Goldfinch (*Spinus psaltria*) - common in the Hill Country
271. House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) - common and widespread





**King Rail by Stephan Lorenz**



**Scarlet Tanager by Stephan Lorenz**