

Texas

April 15-30, 2011



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Introduction

This was Robert's second and Patrik's first birding trip to Texas. This had some consequences for how we planned the trip. We decided on a somewhat more target species based trip, compared to how most first time visitors probably plan their trip. Consequently we decided to focus on the Rio Grande area and include Big Bend, but not to try for Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl at San Miguelito Ranch, Whooping Cranes in the Rockport area, Tropical Parula in the King Ranch area or do a Yellow Rail walk, to be able to focus more on ABA-rarities as Audubon's Oriole, Hook-billed Kite and Colima Warbler. Undoubtedly our trip gave so much more than the target species; we managed to really enjoy the breadth of two weeks of birding in Texas in spring in different habitats and with loads of birds of many species. Texas is a place to return to, again and again!

We started in the Rockport area, where we enjoyed the first fall-out of the trip, seeing all in all 21 warbler species. We then continued via CR 239 and Audubon's Oriole to South Padre Island where it was very slow compared to when Robert was here in 2007. From there we continued to the Lower Rio Grande Valley, with all the expected stops including Sabal Palms, Bentsen, Quinta Matzlan, Santa Ana and Salineno. We were highly successful here with our target species, including Hook-billed Kite and Muscovy Duck. From Salineno we drove all the way to Big Bend, only birding at Amistad Reservoir on the way. We enjoyed Big Bend NP for one day and were highly successful with our main target species here, i.e. Colima Warbler. We had planned to try for Montezuma Quail and Buff-breasted Flycatcher in Davis Mountain State Park after this, not far from Alpine, but unfortunately the wildfires had caused a closure of the state park. Therefore we had to be satisfied with some sightseeing in the town of Fort Davis, after which we went to High Island via Lost Maples. We spent five days in the High Island area; we had two fabulous fall-out days here, seeing all in all 29 warbler species! The last day was spent in W.G. Jones State Forest where we easily saw all target species, including Red-cockaded Woodpecker. All in all we saw 325 species. The number of species seen is somehow interesting if one considers when in April to visit Texas, something that is pretty difficult to decide on. After the trip we were in contact with another Swedish "birding team" who had visited Texas from April 7 to 21. They visited the same places that we visited, but saw 42 less species. We have included a comparison between our result and theirs as Appendix 1. From this comparison one gets the impression that some species are easier during the earlier part of April, i.e. Common Loon, Northern Pintail, American Wigeon, Merlin and Bonaparte's Gull, while the second half of April seems better for larger number of warbler species, including Colima Warbler, and Hudsonian Godwit.

We pre-booked three motel nights in Ingleside (April 15-18) and five motel nights in Winnie (April 24-29), but the other seven nights we easily found accommodation in motels the same day as we intended to stay there. Since we visited Winnie at prime time we booked ahead, and this proved to be wise, considering that almost all motels in the area were fully booked when we tried to find a motel two months ahead of the trip. One doesn't really need to book ahead in the Rockport-Ingleside area, but we did so out of convenience.

We flew with Lufthansa to Houston from Gothenburg via Frankfurt, and home again with Lufthansa from Houston to Gothenburg via London and Frankfurt. We paid 6225 Swedish kronor (kr) per person for the return flight. We rented a car from Alamo at George Bush International Airport, through Holiday Autos, and paid 4975 kr in all for fifteen days.

Prior to the trip we got some useful information from Jon McIntyre, a birder from Port Aransas who runs birding tours. We were told by him about a hotspot for Audubon's Oriole close to Orange Grove at CR 239¹. From Jon we also got to know that Black Rail is possible

¹ Coming from Rockport continue to Corpus Christi. Go west on Hwy 37. Turn south on Hwy 69/77. Turn west on FM 624 past Orange Grove to the intersection with Hwy 281. Turn south on 281. Then turn right

at Port Aransas Birding Center in Port Aransas, where they can be found all year round, but most easily in spring when they are more vocal. They are most easily heard early morning, late afternoon or night, according to Jon. We were successful with the Audubon's Oriole, but it was far too windy when we tried for the Black Rail.

Itinerary at a glance

April 15	Arrival to Houston at 2 pm. Katy Prairie. Katy Mills Outlet. Night in Studio 6, Ingleside.
April 16	Rockport Demo Bird Garden and Goose Island State Park. Night in Studio 6, Ingleside.
April 17	Ingleside: Johnson Ave Pond, Live Oak City Park. Port Aransas: Joan and Scott Holt Paradise Pond and Port Aransas Birding Center. Night in Studio 6, Ingleside.
April 18	CR 239 and South Padre Island (SPI). Night in Motel 6, SPI.
April 19	SPI, Sabal Palm and Bentsen. Night in Motel 6, Mission.
April 20	Quinta Matzlan, Pharr, Santa Ana and Bentsen. Night in motel in Roma.
April 21	Salineno and Amistad Reservoir. Night in Budget Inn, Sanderson.
April 22	Big Bend National Park. Night in motel in Alpine.
April 23	Alpine and Fort Davis. Night in America's Best Value Inn, Uvalde.
April 24	Lost Maples and Utopia. Night at Winnie Inn & Suites.
April 25	Boy Scout Woods, Smith Oaks and Bolivar Peninsula. Night at Winnie Inn & Suites.
April 26	High Island and Anahuac. Night at Winnie Inn & Suites.
April 27	High Island and North Fork of Taylor's Bayou. Night at Winnie Inn & Suites.
April 28	High Island and Bolivar Peninsula. Night at Winnie Inn & Suites.
April 29	Sabine Woods and Liberty. Night at Days Inn, Shenandoah.
April 30	W.G. Jones State Forest. Flight home at 3.45 pm.
May 1	Arrival late night after delays in London and Frankfurt.

Literature

Cooksey, Mel and Weeks, Ron, *A Birder's Guide to the Texas Coast*, ABA, 2006

Lockwood, Mark W., McKinney, William, Paton, James N. and Zimmer, Barry R., *A Birder's Guide to the Rio Grande Valley*, ABA, 2008

Sibley, David, *The North American Bird Guide*, Pica Press, Sussex, 2001

CD-recordings

Keller, Geoffrey A., *Bird Songs of the Lower Rio Grande Valley and SW Texas*, Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology, Ithaca

Peterson, Roger Tory, *Western Bird Songs*, Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology, Ithaca

Peterson, Roger Tory, *Eastern/Central Bird Songs*, Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology, Ithaca

(west) on paved CR239. The road is about 10 miles long. The orioles are usually seen anywhere from where the road makes a hard right turn to the end.

The trip day by day

APRIL 15

After a long trip from Gothenburg via Frankfurt we finally arrive to Houston's George Bush Intercontinental Airport at 2 pm. After spending almost an hour in the queues for the Homeland Security passport controls, we are at last ready for picking up our car from Alamo and heading out on the Texas roads. After a not too exciting hamburger meal at one of the chain restaurants along the highway, we reach **Katy Prairie**, or to be more specific Cochran Road, in the evening. We spend almost two hours here, enjoying large flocks of *Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks*, two *Northern Bobwhites*, large numbers of *Upland Sandpipers* and a singing *Grasshopper Sparrow*. But the highlight of the evening is when all of the sudden a flock of 150 *Franklin's Gulls* fly in from the southeast towards us, passing us very close and continuing northwest. What a surprise and what an experience! After an hour at Katy Mills Outlet close to Katy Prairie, we continue all the way down to Ingleside, where we arrive to our pre-booked motel after midnight, being exhausted to say the least.



Kentucky Warbler, Goose Island State Park, April 16

APRIL 16

After a few hours of heavy sleep we are more than keen to start birding in the Rockport area. Already at the parking lot of the motel we see species like *Crested Caracara* and *Scissor-tailed Flycatcher*, both new species for Patrik. Our first real birding stop is at **Rockport Demo Bird Garden**, where the birding is surprisingly slow. From there we continue to **Goose Island State Park** where we spend the rest of the day, apart from a lunch break in town. It doesn't take long before we understand that it is a fall-out day; we later get to know that it is a fantastic fall-out day in Port Aransas. One warbler species is added to another, for example *Blue-winged-*, *Magnolia-*, *Blackburnian-*, *Worm-eating-*, *Prothonotary-*, *Kentucky-* and *Hooded Warbler*, all in all 17 warbler species during the day. Other interesting species include *Buff-bellied-*, *Black-chinned-* and *Ruby-throated Hummingbird*, *Eastern Wood-Pewee*, *Alder Flycatcher*, *Black-crested Titmouse*, *Rufous-crowned Sparrow* and *Hooded-* and *Orchard Oriole*. During a lunch break in Rockport we add two breeding *Tropical Kingbirds* at H-E-B Pharmacy. Late afternoon we bird at the end of Trout Street watching the many birds in Aransas Bay and St. Charles Bay, where we add species like *American Oystercatcher*, *Willet*, *Whimbrel*, *Short-billed*

Dowitcher and *Royal Terns*. We end the day with a fantastic meal at Charlotte Plummer's seafood restaurant at Fulton Harbor.

APRIL 17

The first part of this day is spent in the **Ingleside area**, and although no really important species are seen, the birding is varied and pretty exciting. We start at Johnson Avenue Pond, where we see a *Redhead*. From here we continue on Collins Lane, where two *Green Herons* are seen. Then we go past McCampbell Airport and scan the fields, from where we see *White-tailed Hawks* and a *Greater Roadrunner*. After this we visit the birding platform at Kenny Lane (**Whitney Lake Marsh Park**), where we enjoy *Pectoral Sandpipers*, *Least Sandpipers*, *Long-billed Dowitchers* and a *Wilson's Snipe*. We meet two American birders who give us some valuable information considering how to separate Long-billed- from Short-billed Dowitchers. Live Oak City Park is described as an exciting place in the guide, but it proves to be very slow indeed, why we leave after only half an hour. After an enjoyable lunch at a Mexican restaurant north of the park along FM-1069, we head for Port Aransas.

It is with great excitement we enter the area of **Joan and Scott Holt Paradise Pond**. On a small whiteboard filled with observations we read that a female *Rusty Blackbird* has been seen at the site the same morning, a would-be new tick for the both of us. Unfortunately we are not able to find the bird despite a couple of hours of focused searching, but we are able to enjoy *Yellow-billed Cuckoo*, *Acadian Flycatcher*, *Philadelphia Vireo*, *Veery*, *Swainson's-* and *Gray-cheeked Thrush*, *Orange-crowned-*, *Prairie-*, *Magnolia-*, *Kentucky-* and *Hooded Warbler* and *Swamp Sparrow* in this tiny area. We are told that all those exciting species are only a fraction of what were seen yesterday, when the pond area was crammed with birds because of a major fall-out. From here we continue to **Port Aransas Birding Center**, where we encounter *Solitary Sandpiper*, *Western Kingbird*, *Ruby-crowned Kinglet* and *Blackburnian-* and *Yellow-throated Warbler*. We also meet a Polish-



Action at Port Aransas Birding Center, April 17

American birder/photographer, Marcin Kojtka, and his wife Daria, a couple we are to meet at High Island again later during the trip. After some time here Robert drives back to the Paradise Pond again for another try for the *Rusty Blackbird*, but again no luck ... At dusk we listen for *Black Rails*, but unfortunately it is very windy, which might be the reason behind why we don't hear any.



Black-throated Green Warbler, Paradise Pond, April 17

APRIL 18

Via Orange Grove we drive early in the morning to **CR 239** from Ingleside. Almost immediately after the road makes a hard right turn we park the car and start walking along this desolate county road. We spend a couple of hours walking along it, and it is certainly worth the time spent: *Fulvous Whistling-Duck*, *White-tailed Kite*, *Harris's Hawk*, *Northern Bobwhite*, *Scaled Quail*, *Wild Turkey*, *Common Ground-Dove*, *Ash-throated Flycatcher*, *Green Jay*, *Long-billed Thrasher* and *Pyrrhuloxia* are among all the interesting species seen. The highlight of the morning, though, and one of the main targets species of the trip, *Audubon's Oriole*, is found by Patrik to the east of the road in a grove after more than two hours walking along the road, and when we are starting to despair. What a relief!

After lunch at Whataburger in Kingsville we continue all the way down to **South Padre Island**. We check in at a motel, and continue to the newly built South Padre Island Birding and Nature Center² where we pay an entrance fee to be able to access the boardwalk. The photo possibilities are great and we also see some exciting species, i.e. *Clapper Rail* and *Sora*, and we get great comparison possibilities concerning *Northern-* vs. *Louisiana Waterthrush*. The boardwalk ends by the Convention Center where it is obviously slow. Scanning the mudflats west of the center brings *Snowy Plover*. Returning to the Center we start talking to some photographers sitting in front of some small trees. When we ask them if they've seen anything exciting they say that nothing much is around, except for a *Northern Parula*, a *Warbling Vireo* and a *Blackpoll Warbler*. To us those are great news – the Blackpoll Warbler would be a new tick for both of us. It doesn't take long before it turns up at a cut orange placed in a tree. Yeahhh! Very satisfied we enjoy another great hamburger meal at Whataburger close to the motel.

² <http://www.southpadrebirdingcenter.com/>

APRIL 19



Blackpoll Warbler, South Padre Island, April 19

After a good night's sleep we start down by the Convention Center on **South Padre Island**. "Unfortunately" it is a nice and sunny day, why the birds we see mainly are repeats from yesterday, but the *Blackpoll Warbler* is still as stunning as yesterday, and a *Sedge Wren* is the first (and only one) for the trip. After this we continue to South Padre Island Migratory Bird Sanctuary at Sheep Head's Rd, where it is as slow, why we decide to leave the island. We continue to **Sabal Palm Sanctuary**, 45 minutes away. When we reach the sanctuary it is very hot, and bird activity consequently low, but we manage to find some interesting species, i.e. *Least Grebe*, *Plain Chachalaca* and *White-tipped Dove*. During the oppressive heat of the Rio Grande Valley afternoon we spend a few hours enjoying shopping in the air-conditioned shops in the Rio Grande Valley Premium Outlet east of Mercedes, a fabulous place if you are interested in buying

clothes. With the trunk filled with new clothes we thereafter drive to **Bentsen**³ where we arrive at dusk. We walk from the parking area to the Kingfisher Overlook and back. We are rewarded with *Elf Owl*, *Eastern Screech-Owl*, *Common Pauraque*, *Common Poorwill*, *Chuck-will's-widow* and *Lesser Nighthawk*.

April 20

We have detailed driving directions to **Quinta Matzlan**⁴, but nevertheless we end up at McAllen Miller International Airport several times, and we are on the edge of giving up when we all the sudden find our way to the birding site by pure luck. We are the first visitors to the site, which feels like a good sign. From the parking area there is a straight asphalted road leading up towards the mansion. Along this stretch of the road we manage to find both *Green Parakeets* and *Red-crowned Parrots*, the main target species here. We walk around the small area for a while, seeing among others *Altamira Oriole* and *Clay-colored Robin*.

³ <http://www.theworldbirdingcenter.com/Bentsen.html>

⁴ <http://www.theworldbirdingcenter.com/Quinta.html>

There has been a *Crimson-collared Grosbeak* for weeks in **Allen Williams Wildscape** in Pharr, a bird that is supposed to be generally most active from 9-10:30 am, why we decide to try for it before we head on to Santa Ana. The bird has not been reported the last two days, but considering how long the bird has been there we hope that the reason behind this is that no birders have tried for it. The wildscape is a nice place with trees and benches in a small garden. We spend almost two hours here really keen on seeing the bird, but unfortunately we have to leave the area unsuccessful, three *Lesser Goldfinchs* being the only thing close to exciting being seen.

It is already very hot when we reach **Santa Ana**⁵. Some time in the air-conditioned Visitor Center is a relief, but we soon walk down towards the Hawk Tower. On the way we see two *Clay-colored Robins* at exactly the same place where Robert saw them 2007. Since *Hook-billed Kite* is the main target species here we soon walk the stairs up to the Hawk Tower, from where we start scanning for soaring raptors. After some time Patrik decides to take a walk in the surrounding area. He is very excited when he comes back, having seen *Green Kingfishers* and *Groove-billed Ani*. All in all we spend a few hours in the extreme heat up in the tower, but unfortunately this is resultless. We decide to walk along a trail heading west from the Visitors Center, but it is almost zero bird activity now, and after a while we decide to give up and turn back.



Buff-bellied Hummingbird, Santa Ana, April 20

It is now time for a second visit to **Bentsen**. This time we walk to the Hawk Tower. It is a nice, calm evening. Close to the tower we react to the song of a *Northern Beardless-Tyrannulet*, and it doesn't take long before we have seen the bird. From the Hawk Tower we start scanning the open water areas and the sky. A *Ringed Kingfisher* is the first for the trip. A massive raptor migration is going on overhead. Swarms of *Mississippi Kites* fill the sky, and two *White-tailed Kites* are seen repeatedly. Suddenly Robert see two birds soaring close by, to

⁵ <http://www.fws.gov/refuges/profiles/index.cfm?id=21551>

the northeast of the tower with very distinct shapes – two *Hook-billed Kites*. Fabulous! Patrik also finds an exciting Falcon, that he thinks might be an Aplomado Falcon, but unfortunately Robert does not see the bird good enough to confirm the species. The return walk towards the parking lot yields the same species as yesterday evening.

APRIL 21

After spending the night in a motel in Roma we start really early in the morning to be able to be at **Salineno** at dawn. It is still dark when we arrive at the little church in the small town, where we park our car and walk down to the river. The first light reveals good numbers of *Lesser Nighthawks* hunting over the river. It doesn't take long before we see a *Muscovy Duck* flying east along the river. Yes! Only five minutes after this the first of several groups of birders drives down to the river. Another (or maybe the same?) *Muscovy Duck* comes flying west, and most of the newly arrived birders get to see this bird. Two *Ringed Kingfishers* fly back and forth along the river all the time. Scanning west we also manage to find *Gray Hawk*, and two Finnish birders point out two *Red-billed Pigeons*.

Now it is time for the long and tiring drive towards Big Bend NP. After lunch in Nuevo Laredo we continue all the way to **Amistad Reservoir** where we make a short but enjoyable birding stop. Down by the lake side there are plenty of birds, among which the most noticeable are *Eared Grebes*, *Vermilion Flycatchers*, *Bell's Vireo*, *Painted Buntings* and *Yellow-headed Blackbirds*. Between Amistad and Sanderson along Hwy 90 we drive into a really scary thunderstorm. The strokes of lightening hit the ground along the highway all the time, and it lights some fires, of which one is right along the road ... All of the sudden the windscreen is hit by huge hailstones, and we feel afraid that they will crack it. We are in the middle of nowhere and have not seen any houses for miles, so there is nowhere to stop really, why we feel that we have to continue driving. After half an hour we reach the first town for miles, Sanderson, where we decide to stay the night, despite the original plan to drive all the way to Marathon. The black skies and the tiredness after the exhaustive drive make this an easy decision!

APRIL 22

After a few hours of badly needed sleep, we start the drive towards **Big Bend National Park**, where we arrive at dawn. At the parking lot at the Visitor Center at Chisos Mountain Lodge we meet the two Finnish birders from yesterday's visit to Salineno. They have slept in their car, and already done some birding

when we arrive. Finland-Sweden 1-0 ... Together with them we start the beautiful hike upwards along Pinnacles Trail⁶, where a lot of new trip species are seen: *Band-tailed Pigeon*,



Big Bend National Park, April 22

⁶ Trail map: <http://www.nps.gov/bibe/planyourvisit/upload/HighChisos-Trails.pdf>

Blue-throated Hummingbird, Acorn Woodpecker, Say's Phoebe, Mexican Jay, Violet Green Swallow, Canyon Wren, Black-tailed Gnatcatcher, Hermit Thrush, Virginia's-, Townsend's- and Wilson's Warbler, Hepatic Tanager, Spotted- and Canyon Towhee, Vesper Sparrow, Scott's Oriole, Dusky Flycatcher and White-throated Swift. But the highlight, of course, is when Robert finally hears a singing *Colima Warbler*, and it doesn't take long before the four of us can enjoy great views of the bird. Good birds along Boot Canyon Trail include *White-headed- and Red-breasted Nuthatch* and *Black-throated Gray Warbler*. A suggested lunch stop makes the Finnish birders look like question marks. Lunch? It is very hot and we have walked upwards for hours. They haven't brought anything to eat (Finland-Sweden 1-1), so we share what we have brought with them. Soon after lunch we reach Boot Springs, where we sit down for an hour or so enjoying all the exciting birds that come to drink from the spring: *Painted Redstart, Black-headed Grosbeak, and Townsend's Solitaire*. After this it is "only" the walk down towards the Visitor Center left, along Colima Trail and Laguna Meadows Trail. It is extremely hot and it doesn't take long before our water supplies are empty, although we felt that we brought a lot of water. The lack of water and food and the heat make the walk a true challenge to Robert, who is totally exhausted when he reaches the parking lot half an hour after Patrik who has run (!) parts of the trail.



Townsend's Warbler, Big Bend NP, April 22

It is now late afternoon and not many hours left before dusk, why we head as soon as possible to **Rio Grande Village**. The area where the *Common Black-Hawk* pair breeds is very small, but it takes almost an hour before we find one of the birds perched in a tree. This is the second great bird of the day; this tick feels fantastic partly because it was one of the few species we didn't find on our California/Arizona/Nevada trip in 2005. From here we drive all the way up to Alpine, and to Robert, who is the only one with a driver's license, this is a true challenge, exhausted after a very intense day. One of those experiences where you have to fight really hard not to fall asleep while driving...

APRIL 23

This ninth morning of the trip we do something as unusual and “strange” as having a well-needed lie-in. This means that we can “enjoy” the classical American motel breakfast – donuts, pancakes, milk, cereals and “coffee”. Driving north along hwy 118 we make a stop at some ponds on the right hand side of the road. This proves to be a most fruitful stop: *Wood Duck*, *Cinnamon Teal*, *Black Phoebe*, *Varied Bunting*, *MacGillivray’s Warbler*, *Black-chinned Sparrow*, *Brewer’s Blackbird* and *Brewer’s Sparrow*.

Since Davis Mountains State Park unfortunately is closed due to the wildfires plaguing this area of Texas we have to do with some sightseeing instead. We make a short visit to Fort Davis National Historic Site, a place that to Europeans is not very impressive. We are more impressed by the lunch at a cosy Mexican restaurant in town!

From Fort Davis it is time for another long drive, this time to Uvalde, which we reach after twilight has set in.



Wilson’s Warbler, Alpine, April 23

APRIL 24

We drive from Uvalde an hour and a half before dawn to be able to catch the first light at **Lost Maples State Natural Area**. When we have reached the parking lot, we start our birding walk following the East Trail towards the camping ground and ponds area. We hear several *Golden-cheeked Warblers* along this stretch of the trail, but the best observations are made when we take a short detour up the West Trail. One bird comes extremely close, but unfortunately the bird is moving fast and gone when we are ready with our cameras to take pictures of it. Other birds seen along the trail towards the camping ground are *Eastern Wood-Percee*, *Acadian Flycatcher*, *Black Phoebe*, *Yellow-throated Vireo*, *Western Scrub-Jay*, *Carolina Chickadee*, *Rock Wren* and *Blue Grosbeak*. Up by the ponds there are a lot of noisy campers, but just a short walk up past the big pond along Can Creek Trail it is more quiet and we manage to find both *Louisiana Waterthrush*, *Green Kingfisher* and surprisingly enough a *Audubon’s Oriole*. From the camping ground we follow the steep East Trail up to the ridge. Up there several *Black-capped Vireos* are singing, but they are really difficult to get good views of, and it is almost impossible to take photographs of them. Up here we also manage

to find *Field Sparrows*. With all the targets species seen within a two hours walk we feel really satisfied and return to the car. By the parking lot there are some feeders that are frequented by *Black-chinned Hummingbirds* and *Clay-colored Sparrows*. From Lost Maples we drive to **Utopia** where we walk some of the streets and also make a visit to the city park, mainly looking for *American Robin*, but unfortunately it is fruitless. We are more than happy though to find a huge flock of *Cedar Waxwings*. Now it is time for the long drive



Lost Maples, April 24

to Winnie. Since it is Easter Day there a lot of cars on the highway, but everything, including a lunch stop at a Denny's, run smoothly. Driving through Houston is actually very easy and straightforward. We easily find Winnie Inn & Suites, a really nice hotel perfectly situated in Winnie.

APRIL 25

We awake filled with great expectations – High Island is waiting. Original as we are, we start at **Boy Scout Woods**. Due to southerly winds birds are few and far between, but we keep on walking up and down the trails, and eventually it pays off. To begin with Patrik discovers four *Magnificent Frigatebirds* flying over the small wood, which is unexpected to say the least. Furthermore, and even more unexpected, a *Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher* is found by Robert. He has seen the species once before in Arizona, but even there it was scarce, and



he feels sceptical about the identification however much it looks like one. After having checked the books available he is sure about the identification. Unfortunately Patrik has not seen the bird. Together we start walking the trails again searching for the bird. It doesn't take long before we meet Marcin,

Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher, Boy Scout Woods, April 25 © Marcin Kojtka

the Polish/American guy we met in Port Aransas, and a few other birders obviously focused on searching for something extraordinary. When we ask them what they are searching for the answer is *Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher*! It feels great to know that also other birders have seen and identified the bird, but re-finding it is a demanding task. Robert manages to see the bird briefly two times more, but when Patrik reaches the spot it is gone again. Since also Patrik has seen the bird in Arizona we decide to leave the site and try our success at **Smith Oaks** instead. Also here it is slow, but a *Yellow-billed Cuckoo* is somewhat exciting. After a wonderful lunch at the hamburger restaurant at Gulfway motel along Hwy 124 we bird **Bolivar Peninsula**. It's very windy indeed. Along the beach we manage to find a lot of *Common-* and *Black Terns*. **Bob Road** is supposed to be good for shorebirds, according to information on the whiteboard at Boy Scout Woods, and although it's by no means fantastic we manage to find some good species here, including *Wilson's Plover*, *Pectoral-* and *Semipalmated Sandpiper* and *Caspian Terns*. Walking along the dirt road surrounding the ponds we get fantastic views of *Clapper Rails* and *Seaside Sparrows*. **Port Bolivar Ferry Landing** is an area from which it is supposed to be possible to see *Magnificent Frigatebirds*, and surely enough it doesn't take long before we find three birds. Before it gets too dark we try our luck along **Fairview Road**, along which there is supposed to be flooded rice fields according to information on the whiteboard at Boy Scout Woods. There are amazing numbers of *Whimbrels* here, but our main target species here, *Hudsonian Godwit*, proves to be scarcer. After scanning the fields over and over again Robert finally manages to find eight Godwits. Not overwhelmed but definitely satisfied we end the day at Al-T's Seafood & Steakhouse, opposite the motel, where we try the local Cajun food. Patrik is not impressed by his seafood gumbo soup, but Robert's meal is price worthy.



Seaside Sparrow, Bolivar Peninsula, April 25

APRIL 26

Sadly enough it is another day with southerly winds, and therefore we have no hopes for a most longed-for fall-out. Just as yesterday we start at **Boy Scout Woods**. Unfortunately it

is very slow today too; apart from *Solitary Sandpiper* nothing exciting at all is seen. From the High Island area we drive the short distance to **Anahuac**⁷. This was a most exciting site when Robert visited Texas in April 2007, why we have high expectations, but today everything is different, partly due to the destruction caused by Hurricane Ike. The visitor center was destroyed by the hurricane, and a temporary one is housed in a cabin. *Fulvous Whistling-Ducks*, *Gull-billed Terns* and *Stilt Sandpipers* are observed at the small pond next to the visitor center. Close by we find some *White-crowned Sparrows*. White-fronted Moist Soil Units and Salt Cedars are almost completely dry, why there are almost no shorebirds or waders. We start by walking to the watch tower at Salt Cedars. We then return to the visitor center and keep on walking along the dirt road around Shoveler Pond. The ditch parallel to the road is productive: *American-* and *Least Bittern*, *Purple Gallinule*, *King Rail*, *Sora* and singing *Marsh Wrens*. The surrounding fields are also somewhat productive: *Northern Harriers* and loads of *Dickcissels*. When checking the weather forecast for tomorrow back at the motel we feel very excited – the winds are going to change from south to north!!! During the night we dream sweet dreams about a fall-out!



Chestnut-sided Warbler and American Redstart, Smith Oaks, April 27

APRIL 27

That the winds have changed is obvious – chilly northerly winds! Great! Since we know that the action at High Island will begin later during the morning, we start at the **North Fork of Taylor's Bayou**. The bridge is closed for traffic, why we park our car west of it. It is exciting to bird in an area with a lot of local nesting birds, like *Red-bellied Woodpecker*, *Blue Jay*, *Louisiana Waterthrush* and *Prothonotary-* and *Swainson's Warbler*. The latter is seen and heard at exactly the same spot as in 2007, east of the bridge.

Magical and stunning are two suitable words to describe the birding at **Boy Scout Woods** and **Smith Oaks** today. That something is going on is obvious already when reaching High Island – the numbers of cars parked along 5th street have tripled since yesterday! We join the birders and photographers lining 5th street watching the trees of the edge of Boy Scout Woods. We are



⁷ <http://www.fws.gov/southwest/refuges/texas/anahuac/anahuac%20fact%20sheet%20map%202006.pdf>

filled with epinephrine as we enjoy species such as *Cape May*-, *Golden-winged*-, *Bay-breasted*-, *Chestnut-sided*-, *Magnolia*-, *Cerulean*-, *Blackburnian*-, *Blue-winged*-, *Palm*-, *Blackpoll*-, *Hooded*-, *Canada*- and *Yellow-throated Warbler* and *Philadelphia Vireo*. We also see the *Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher* again. Smith Oaks is as loaded with birds, but there are less birders. We mostly get to see the same species as in Boy Scout Woods, but *Yellow-bellied Sapsucker*, *Ovenbird* and *Scarlet Tanager* are new. We return to Boy Scout Woods where we bird until dusk. We spend some time in the photo blind, where we obtain good looks of *Wood Thrush* and *White-throated Sparrow*. When we sum the day we realize that we have seen an amazing number of 27 warbler species during one day!!!



Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Boy Scout Woods, April 27

APRIL 28

The decision to start in the High Island area is easy to make. The winds are still northerly and a wide variety of species remain, although the numbers are lower compared to yesterday. At **Boy Scout Woods** we see *Philadelphia Vireo*, *Veery*, *Blue-winged*-, *Golden-winged*-, *Chestnut-sided*-, *Magnolia*-, *Blackburnian*- and *Blackpoll Warbler* and *Ovenbird*. The highlight of the day, though, is undoubtedly the male *Black-throated Blue Warbler* at **Smith Oaks**.

After some time we feel that the crowds are far too big, and that we have seen almost everything we can expect here, why we decide to try **Bolivar Peninsula** instead. At **Rollover Pass** the most exciting species are *American White Pelican*, *American Oystercatcher*, *American Avocet* and *Ring-billed Gull*. From here we continue to **Bolivar Flats**. It is very nice to walk along the beach, and surprisingly enough we are almost alone here. Along the beach there are good amounts of shorebirds, gulls and terns, i.e. *Red Knot*, *Piping*-, *Semipalmated*- and *Wilson's Plover*, *Marbled Godwit* and approximately 500 *Least Terns*. We then decide to go searching fields for shorebirds, and we are fortunate enough to find three *American Golden-Plovers* at some grass fields and all in all eleven *Upland Sandpipers* at three different locations. We finish at dusk at **Yacht Basin Road**, where we succeed in finding one of the target species, *Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow*, before we are eaten alive by all the mosquitoes.

APRIL 29



Wood Thrush, Sabine Woods, April 29

Since we have been most fortunate in the High Island area it does actually not feel especially difficult to leave it for **Sabine Woods**. There are lots of birders here too, but they all say that compared to yesterday it is very slow today. Nevertheless we manage to find exciting species as *Yellow-billed Cuckoo*, *Alder Flycatcher*, *Wood Thrush*, *Brown Thrasher*, *Blackpoll Warbler* and *Ovenbird*.

After birding in Sabine Woods we do some last shopping at a mall in Beaumont before we head west towards Houston. Along the highway we make a stop at **Trinity River** between Liberty and Dayton. Our main target here is *Swallowed-tailed Kite*, and surely enough one is seen briefly by Patrik. Here we also find a few *Mississippi Kites* and the only *Belted Kingfisher* of the trip. From Liberty we then drive onwards all the way to The Woodlands, where we check into a motel.

APRIL 30

This is unfortunately our last day in Texas. The short drive from The Woodlands to **W.G. Jones State Forest** doesn't take more than ten minutes. We are the first visitors of the day at the site, and the visitor center is closed. We walk along the trails northwest of the visitor center. Compared to when Robert was here in 2007 we find all our target species much faster this time, and in a very limited area: *Red-headed Woodpecker*, *Red-cockaded Woodpecker*, *Pileated Woodpecker*, *Brown-headed Nuthatch*, *Eastern Bluebird* and *Pine Warbler*. After having left our car at the rental car return center we check-in at the rather chaotic George Bush International Airport.

List of bird-species

Eared Grebe *Podiceps nigricollis* (Svarthalsad dopping)

3 at Amistad Reservoir 21/4.

Pied-billed Grebe *Podilymbus podiceps* (Tjocknäbbad dopping)

Observed six days.

Least Grebe *Tachybaptus dominicus* (Dvärgdopping)

20 at Sabal Palm 19/4.

American White Pelican *Pelecanus erythrorhynchos* (Hornpelikan)

1 being eaten by an alligator at Smith Oaks 26/4 and 7 seen (alive!) at Rollover Pass 28/4.

Brown Pelican *Pelecanus occidentalis* (Brun pelikan)

Common along the coast - observed six days.

Magnificent Frigatebird *Fregata magnificens* (Praktfregattfågel)

7 seen towards Galveston from ferry landing on Bolivar Peninsula 25/4.

Double-crested Cormorant *Phalacrocorax auritus* (Öronskarv)

Observed six days.

Neotropic Cormorant *Phalacrocorax brasilianus* (Amazonskarv)

Observed eight days.

Anhinga *Anhinga anhinga* (Amerikansk ormhalsfågel)

7 at Santa Ana 20/4 and 3 at Salineno 21/4.

American Bittern *Botaurus lentiginosus* (Amerikansk rördrom)

1 at Anahuac 26/4.

Least Bittern *Ixobrychus exilis* (Amerikansk dvärgrördrom)

6 at Anahuac 26/4.

Great Blue Heron *Ardea herodias* (Amerikansk gråhäger)

Observed nine days.

Great Egret *Ardea alba* (Ägretthäger)

Observed twelve days.

Snowy Egret *Egretta thula* (Snöhäger)

Observed twelve days.

Reddish Egret *Egretta rufescens* (Rosthäger)

2 on South Padre Island 18/4 and 1 on SPI 19/4, 3 on Bolivar Peninsula 25/4 and 5 on Bolivar Peninsula 28/4.

Tricolored Heron *Egretta tricolor* (Trefärgad häger)

Observed eleven days.

Little Blue Heron *Egretta caerulea* (Blåhäger)

Observed ten days.

Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis* (Kohäger)

Observed ten days.

Green Heron *Butorides virescens* (Grönryggad häger)

Observed five days.

Black-crowned Night-Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax* (Natthäger)

10 at Goose Island SP 16/4, 15 in Port Aransas 17/4 and 1 in Bentsen 20/4.

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron *Nyctanassa violacea* (Gulkronad natthäger)

2 in Port Aransas 17/4 and seen in small numbers in the High Island area 25-27/4.

White Ibis *Eudocimus albus* (Vit ibis)

Observed ten days.

White-faced Ibis *Plegadis chihi* (Maskibis)

Observed seven days.

Roseate Spoonbill *Ajaia ajaja* (Rosenskedstork)

Observed seven days.

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck *Dendrocygna autumnalis* (Svartbukig visseland)

Observed nine days - greatest number ~100 in the Rockport area 16/4.

Fulvous Whistling-Duck *Dendrocygna bicolor* (Brun visseland)

2 at CR 239 18/4 and 2 in Anahuac 26/4.

Muscovy Duck *Cairina moschata* (Myskand)

1-2 at Salineno 21/4.

Wood Duck *Aix sponsa* (Brudand)

2 in pond north of Alpine 23/4.

Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos* (Gräsand)

5 in pond north of Alpine 23/4.

Mottled Duck *Anas fulvigula* (Fläckand)

Observed five days.

Gadwall *Anas strepera* (Snatterand)

1 in the Ingleside area 17/4, 4 in Amistad reservoir 21/4 and 3 in pond north of Alpine 23/4.

Northern Shoveler *Anas clypeata* (Skedand)

5 in the Ingleside area 17/4, 1 in Sabal Palm 19/4 and 4 in the High Island area 26/4.

Cinnamon Teal *Anas cyanoptera* (Kanelårta)

3 in pond north of Alpine 23/4.

Blue-winged Teal *Anas discors* (Blåvingad årta)

Observed ten days.

Green-winged Teal *Anas carolinensis* (Amerikansk kricka)

1 in the Ingleside area 17/4.

Redhead *Aythya americana* (Amerikansk brunand)

1 in the Ingleside area 17/4.

Lesser Scaup *Aythya affinis* (Mindre bergand)

1 in the Rockport area 16/4 and 2 in the Ingleside area and 2 at Port Aransas Birding Center 17/4.

Red-breasted Merganser *Mergus Serrator* (Småskrake)

20 at South Padre Island 18/4 and 1 at SPI 19/4.

Ruddy Duck *Oxyura jamaicensis* (Amerikansk kopparand)

15 in the Ingleside area 17/4 and 8 in Santa Ana 20/4.

Turkey Vulture *Cathartes aura* (Kalkongam)

Very common; seen daily.

Black Vulture *Coragyps atratus* (Korpgam)

Observed twelve days.

Northern Harrier *Circus cyaneus* (Blå kärhöök)

1 at Port Aransas Birding Center 17/4, 2 at CR 239 18/4 and 2 at Anahuac 26/4.

Hook-billed Kite *Chondrohierax uncinatus* (Kroknäbbsglada)
2 at Bentsen 20/4.

White-tailed Kite *Elanus leucurus* (Vitstjärtad glada)
1 at Katy Prairie 15/4, 1 at CR 239 18/4 and 2 at Bentsen 20/4.

Mississippi Kite *Ictinia mississippiensis* (Mississippiglada)
150+ at Bentsen 20/4 and 4 at Liberty 29/4.

Swallow-tailed Kite *Elanoides forficatus* (Svalstjärtsglada)
1 at Liberty 29/4.

Cooper's Hawk *Accipiter cooperii* (Coopers hök)
1 at CR 239 18/4, 3 at Santa Ana 20/4 and 1 at Salineno 21/4.

Common Black-Hawk *Buteogallus anthracinus* (Mindre svartvråk)
1 at Rio Grande Village, Big Bend, 22/4.

Harris's Hawk *Parabuteo unicinctus* (Kaktusvråk)
3 at CR 239 18/4.

Gray Hawk *Asturina nitida* (Gråvråk)
1 at Salineno 21/4.

Zone-tailed Hawk *Buteo albonotatus* (Bandstjärtad vråk)
1 at Bentsen 20/4.

Red-shouldered Hawk *Buteo lineatus* (Bandvingad vråk)
1 in the Ingleside area 17/4, 1 in Utopia 24/4 and 1 at North Fork of Taylor's Bayou 27/4.

Broad-winged Hawk *Buteo platypterus* (Bredvingad vråk)
1 at Santa Ana 20/4 and 1 at North Fork of Taylor's Bayou 27/4.

Swainson's Hawk *Buteo swainsoni* (Prärievråk)
1 at Katy Prairie 15/4, 2 at Santa Ana 20/4 and 1 in the Alpine area 23/4.

White-tailed Hawk *Buteo albicaudatus* (Vitstjärtad vråk)
3 in the Ingleside area 17/4 and 4 at CR 239 18/4.

Red-tailed Hawk *Buteo jamaicensis* (Rödstjärtad vråk)
Observed eight days.

Osprey *Pandion haliaetus* (Fiskgjuse)
Observed eight days.

Crested Caracara *Caracara cheriway* (Tofscaracara)
Observed six days. Largest number 8 at CR 239 18/4.

American Kestrel *Falco sparverius* (Sparvfalk)
1 at CR 239 18/4 and 1 in the Big Bend area 22/4.

Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus* (Pilgrimsfalk)
1 at Rio Grande Village 22/4 and 1 at Bolivar Flats 28/4.

Plain Chachalaca *Ortalis vetula* (Nordlig chachalaca)
Seen and heard daily in the Lower Rio Grande 19-21/4.

Northern Bobwhite *Colinus virginianus* (Vitstrupig vaktel)
2 at Katy Prairie 15/4 and 25 at CR 239 18/4.

Scaled Quail *Callipepla squamata* (Fjällig tofsvaktel)
2 at CR 239 18/4 and 1 at Big Bend 22/4.

Wild Turkey *Meleagris gallopavo* (Kalkon)
7 at CR 239 18/4.

Purple Gallinule *Porphyrio martinica* (Amerikansk sultanhöna)

2 in the High Island area 26/4.

Common Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus* (Rörhöna)

Observed six days.

American Coot *Fulica americana* (Amerikansk sothöna)

Observed eight days.

Clapper Rail *Rallus longirostris* (Kustrall)

5 at South Padre Island 18/4, 5 in the Bolivar Peninsula 25/4 and 3 in the Bolivar Peninsula 28/4.

King Rail *Rallus elegans* (Kungsrall)

1 in the Bolivar Peninsula 25/4 and 6 at Anahuac 26/4.

Virginia Rail *Rallus Limicola* (Virginiarall)

1 in Port Aransas 17/4.

Sora *Porzana carolina* (Karolinasumphöna)

1 in the Ingleside area and 4 at Port Aransas Birding Center 17/4, 2 at South Padre Island Convention Center 18/4 and 1 at Anahuac 26/4.

Black-bellied Plover *Pluvialis squatarola* (Kustpipare)

2 at Goose Island State Park 16/4, 2 at South Padre Island 18-19/4, 15 at Bolivar Peninsula 25/4 and 10 at Bolivar Peninsula 28/4.

American Golden-Plover *Pluvialis dominica* (Amerikansk tundrapipare)

3 at Bolivar Peninsula 28/4.

Piping Plover *Charadrius melodus* (Flöjtstrandpipare)

2 at Bolivar Flats 28/4.

Semipalmated Plover *Charadrius semipalmatus* (Flikstrandpipare)

2 on South Padre Island 18/4, 5 at Bolivar Peninsula 25/4 and 8 at Bolivar Peninsula 28/4.

Snowy Plover *Charadrius alexandrinus* (Svartbent strandpipare)

1 on South Padre Island 18/4.

Wilson's Plover *Charadrius wilsonia* (Wilsonstrandpipare)

5 at Bolivar Peninsula 25/4 and 8 at Bolivar Peninsula 28/4.

Killdeer *Charadrius vociferus* (Skrikstrandpipare)

Observed ten days.

American Oystercatcher *Haematopus palliatus* (Amerikansk strandskata)

15 at Goose Island State Park 16/4, 1 at South Padre Island 19/4 and 4 at Bolivar Flats 28/4.

American Avocet *Recurvirostra americana* (Amerikansk skärfläcka)

45 at Port Aransas Birding Center 17/4 and 20 at Bolivar Peninsula 28/4.

Black-necked Stilt *Himantopus mexicanus* (Amerikansk stytlöpare)

Observed eight days.

Greater Yellowlegs *Tringa melanoleuca* (Större gulbena)

Common, but in smaller numbers compared to Lesser Yellowlegs; observed five days.

Lesser Yellowlegs *Tringa flavipeds* (Mindre gulbena)

Only observed three days: 15 at Bolivar Peninsula 25/4, 20 at Anahuac 26/4 and 5 at Bolivar Peninsula 28/4.

Solitary Sandpiper *Tringa solitaria* (Amerikansk skogssnäppa)

1 at Port Aransas Birding Center 17/4, 1 at pond north of Alpine 23/4 and 2 at Anahuac 26/4.

Willet *Catoptrophorus semipalmatus* (Willetsnäppa)

Observed five days.

Spotted Sandpiper *Actitis macularius* (Fläckdrillsnäppa)

Small numbers seen during six days.

Upland Sandpiper *Bartramia longicauda* (Piparsnäppa)

25 at Katy Prairie 15/4 and 11 at Bolivar Peninsula 28/4.

Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus* (Småspov)

5 at Goose Island State Park 16/4, 250 at Bolivar Peninsula 25/4 and 4 at Bolivar Peninsula 28/4.

Hudsonian Godwit *Limosa haemastica* (Hudsonspov)

8 at fields close to Anahuac (Fairview Road) 25/4.

Marbled Godwit *Limosa fedoa* (Präriespov)

5 on South Padre Island 18/4, 15 on South Padre Island 19/4 and 3 at Bolivar Peninsula 28/4.

Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpres* (Roskarl)

Observed five days.

Red Knot *Calidris canutus* (Kustsnäppa)

2 at Bolivar Flats 28/4.

Sanderling *Calidris alba* (Sandlöpare)

30 and 15 respectively on South Padre Island 18-19/4 and 4 and 60 respectively at Bolivar Peninsula 25/4 and 28/4.

Dunlin *Calidris alpina* (Kärrensäppa)

Observed five days.

Pectoral Sandpiper *Calidris melanotos* (Tuvsnäppa)

2 at Kenny Lane 17/4, 1 at Port Aransas Birding Center 17/4, 2 on South Padre Island 18/4 and 2 at Bolivar Peninsula 25/4.

Semipalmated Sandpiper *Calidris pusilla* (Sandsnäppa)

1 at Bolivar Peninsula 25/4.

Least Sandpiper *Calidris minutilla* (Dvärgsnäppa)

Observed seven days.

Stilt Sandpiper *Calidris himantopus* (Styltsnäppa)

1 at Kenny Lane 17/4, 1 at Port Aransas Birding Center 17/4 and 12 at Anahuac 26/4.

Long-billed Dowitcher *Limnodromus scolopaceus* (Större beckasinsnäppa)

4 at Kenny Lane 17/4, 2 at South Padre Island 18/4, 8 at Bolivar Peninsula 25/4 and 15 at Anahuac 26/4.

Short-billed Dowitcher *Limnodromus griseus* (Mindre beckasinsnäppa)

8 at Goose Island State Park 16/4, 40 and 30 respectively on South Padre Island 18-19/4, 45 at Bolivar Peninsula 25/4 and 70 at Bolivar Flats 28/4.

Wilson's Snipe *Gallinago delicata* (Wilsonbeckasin)

1 at Kenny Lane 17/4 and 2 at Anahuac 26/4.

Franklin's Gull *Larus pipixcan* (Präriemås)

150 at Katy Prairie 15/4.

Laughing Gull *Larus atricilla* (Sotvingad mås)

Observed nine days.

Ring-billed Gull *Larus delawarensis* (Ringnäbbad mås)

1 and 2 respectively at Bolivar Peninsula 25/4 and 28/4.

Herring Gull *Larus argentatus* (Gråtrut)

3 at Bolivar Peninsula 25/4, 2 at Anahuac 26/4 and 3 at Bolivar Peninsula 28/4.

Caspian Tern *Sterna caspia* (Skräntärna)

4 at Bolivar Peninsula 25/4.

Royal Tern *Sterna maxima* (Kungstärna)

Observed six days.

Sandwich Tern *Sterna sandvicensis* (Kentsk tärna)

Observed four days.

Common Tern *Sterna hirundo* (Fisktärna)

25 at Bolivar Peninsula 25/4 and 18 at Bolivar Peninsula 28/4.

Forster's Tern *Sterna forsteri* (Kärrtärna)

Observed six days.

Least Tern *Sterna antillarum* (Amerikansk småtärna)

1 at Port Aransas 17/4, 1 on South Padre Island 18/4, 25 on South Padre Island 19/4, 40 at Bolivar Peninsula 25/4 and 500 (!) at Bolivar Flats 28/4.

Gull-billed Tern *Sterna nilotica* (Sandtärna)

Observed five days.

Black Tern *Chlidonias niger* (Svarttärna)

60 and 45 respectively at Bolivar Peninsula 25/4 and 28/4.

Black Skimmer *Rynchops niger* (Amerikansk saxnäbb)

Observed six days.

Mourning Dove *Zenaida macroura* (Spetsstjärtad duva)

Very common, seen daily except for April 22.

White-winged Dove *Zenaida asiatica* (Vitvingad duva)

Very common, seen daily except for April 30.

Eurasian Collared-Dove *Streptopelia decaocto* (Turkduva)

Common, observed nine days.

White-tipped Dove *Leptotila verreauxi* (Vitpannad duva)

Seen in small numbers in the Lower Rio Grande Valley daily April 19 to 21.

Inca Dove *Columbina inca* (Inkaduva)

Common, observed ten days.

Common Ground-Dove *Columbina passerina* (Nordlig markduva)

1 at CR 239 18/4.

Rock Dove *Columba livia* (Klippduva/Tamduva)

Common, observed twelve days.

Band-tailed Pigeon *Patagioenas fasciata* (Bandstjärtsduva)

2 in Big Bend National Park 22/4.

Red-billed Pigeon *Columba flavirostris* (Rödnäbbad duva)

2-3 at Salineno 21/4.

Red-crowned Parrot *Amazona viridigenalis* (Amazonpapegoja)

3 at Quinta Matzlan 20/4.

Green Parakeet *Aratinga holochlora* (Grön parakit)

10 at Quinta Matzlan 20/4.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo *Coccyzus americanus* (Gulnäbbad regngök)

1 at Paradise Pond 17/4, 1, 2 and 1 respectively at Boy Scouts Wood 25/4, 27/4 and 28/4 and 1-2 at Sabine Woods 29/4.

Groove-billed Ani *Crotophaga sulcirostris* (Strimnäbbad ani)

1 at Santa Ana 20/4.

Greater Roadrunner *Geococcyx californianus* (Större tuppgök)

1 at McCampbell Airport 17/4 and 1 in Big Bend National Park 22/4.

Elf Owl *Micrathene whitney* (Kaktusuggla)

1 at Bentsen 19/4.

Eastern Screech-Owl *Otus asio* (Östlig skrikdvärguv)

3 and 4 respectively at Bentsen 19/4 and 20/4.

Common Pauraque *Nyctidromus albicollis* (Azteknattskärre)

4 at Bentsen 19/4.

Common Poorwill *Phalaenoptilus nuttallii* (Dvalnattskärre)

1 at Bentsen 19/4.

Chuck-will's-widow *Caprimulgus carolinensis* (Karolinanattskärre)

1 at Bentsen 19/4 and 20/4.

Common Nighthawk *Chordeiles minor* (Större falknattskärre)

1 at Goose Island SP 16/4, 2 at SPI 18/4, 2 at Bolivar Peninsula 25/4, 2 in the High Island area 27/4 and 25 at the Bolivar Peninsula 28/4.

Lesser Nighthawk *Chordeiles acutipennis* (Mindre falknattskärre)

7 and 2 respectively at Bentsen 19/4 and 20/4 and 10+ at Salineno 21/4.

Chimney Swift *Chaetura pelagica* (Skorstensseglare)

1 at Katy Prairie 15/4, 10 at Port Aransas Birding Center 17/4, 7 at Santa Ana 20/4, 1 at Amistad Reservoir 21/4, 2 at Utopia 24/4 and 3 at Bolivar Peninsula 28/4.

White-throated Swift *Aeronautes saxatalis* (Brokseglare)

25 in Big Bend NP 22/4.

Buff-bellied Hummingbird *Amazilia yucatanensis* (Beigebukig kolibri)

3 at Goose Island State Park 16/4, 1 at SPI 18/4, 2 at Sabal Palm 19/4 and 3 at Santa Ana 20/4.

Blue-throated Hummingbird *Lampornis clemenciae* (Blåstrupig kolibri)

2 in Big Bend NP 22/4.

Black-chinned Hummingbird *Archilochus alexandri* (Svarthakad kolibri)

4 at Goose Island State Park 16/4, 2 at SPI Convention Center 18/4-19/4, 2 at Santa Ana 20/4 and 10 in Lost Maples SP 24/4.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird *Archilochus colubris* (Rubinkolibri)

2 at Goose Island State Park 16/4 and 1 at SPI Convention Center 18-19/4.

Belted Kingfisher *Ceryle alcyon* (Bälteskungsfiskare)

1 at Liberty 29/4.

Ringed Kingfisher *Ceryle torquata* (Ringkungsfiskare)

1 at Bentsen 20/4 and 2 at Salineno 21/4.

Green Kingfisher *Chloroceryle americana* (Grön kungsfiskare)

2 at Santa Ana 20/4 and 1 at Lost Maples SP 24/4.

Acorn Woodpecker *Melanerpes formicivorus* (Samlarspett)
15 in Big Bend NP 22/4.

Red-headed Woodpecker *Melanerpes erythrocephalus* (Rödhuvad hackspett)
2 in W.G. Jones State Forest 30/4.

Golden-fronted Woodpecker *Melanerpes aurifrons* (Gulpannad hackspett)
1 in Rockport 16/4, common in the Lower Rio Grande Valley 18-21/4 and 2 in Utopia 24/4.

Red-bellied Woodpecker *Melanerpes carolinus* (Karolinaspett)
1 at North Fork of Taylor's Bayou 27/4.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker *Sphyrapicus varius* (Gulbröstad savspett)
1 at Smith Oaks 27/4.

Downy Woodpecker *Picoides pubescens* (Dunspett)
1 in W.G. Jones State Forest 30/4.

Hairy Woodpecker *Picoides villosus* (Hårspett)
1 in W.G. Jones State Forest 30/4.

Red-cockaded Woodpecker *Picoides borealis* (Tallspett)
2 in W.G. Jones State Forest 30/4.

Ladder-backed Woodpecker *Picoides scalaris* (Bandryggig hackspett)
Observed seven days.

Pileated Woodpecker *Dryocopus pileatus* (Amerikansk spillkråka)
1 in W.G. Jones State Forest 30/4.

Northern Beardless-Tyrannulet *Camptostoma imberbe* (Nordlig dvärgtyrann)
1 at Santa Ana 20/4.

Eastern Wood-Pewee *Contopus virens* (Östlig pivi)
1 in Goose Island SP 16/4, 2 in Lost Maples SP 24/4, 2 in the High Island area 27/4 and 2 in Sabine Woods 29/4.

Acadian Flycatcher *Empidonax virescens* (Akadempid)
1 at Paradise Pond 17/4 and 2 in Lost Maples SP 24/4.

Alder Flycatcher *Empidonax alnorum* (Alempid)
1 at Goose Island SP 16/4 and 1 at Sabine Woods 29/4.

Dusky Flycatcher *Empidonax oberholseri* (Bergempid)
10+ in Big Bend NP 22/4.

Black Phoebe *Sayornis nigricans* (Svart fibi)
2 at pond north of Alpine 23/4 and 1 in Utopia 24/4.

Say's Phoebe *Sayornis saya* (Rödbrun fibi)
1 in Big Bend NP 22/4 and 1 at pond north of Alpine 23/4.

Vermilion Flycatcher *Pyrocephalus rubinus* (Rubintyrann)
5+ at Amistad Reservoir 21/4, 4 in Big Bend NP 22/4 and 2 at pond north of Alpine 23/4.

Ash-throated Flycatcher *Myiarchus cinerascens* (Gråstrupig topptyrann)
5 at CR 239 18/4, 4 at pond north of Alpine 23/4 and 2 in Lost Maples SP 24/4.

Brown-crested Flycatcher *Myiarchus tyrannulus* (Brunhättad topptyrann)
Observed six days.

Great Crested Flycatcher *Myiarchus crinitus* (Större topptyrann)
Seen in good numbers in the Rockport/Port Aransas area 16-17/4, 1 at SPI 19/4 and 1 in Utopia 24/4.

Eastern Kingbird *Tyrannus tyrannus* (Östlig kungstyrann)
Seen in good numbers in the High Island/Sabine Woods area 25-29/4.

Tropical Kingbird *Tyrannus melancholicus* (Tropisk kungstyrann)
2 at H-E-B in Rockport 16/4.

Couch's Kingbird *Tyrannus couchii* (Mayakungstyrann)
Common on South Padre Island and in the Rio Grande Valley 18-21/4.

Western Kingbird *Tyrannus verticalis* (Västlig kungstyrann)
1 at Port Aransas Birding Center 17/4.

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher *Tyrannus forficatus* (Saxstjärtstyrann)
Common, observed fourteen days.

Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher *Myiodynastes luteiventris* (Gulbukig tyrann)
1 in Boy Scout Woods 25/4 and 27/4.

Great Kiskadee *Pitangus sulphuratus* (Större kiskadi)
1 on SPI 18-19/4 and very common in the Lower Rio Grande Valley 20-21/4.

Loggerhead Shrike *Lanius ludovicianus* (Amerikansk törnskata)
2 at Katy Prairie 15/4, 5 at CR 239 18/4 and 1 in the High Island area 26-27/4.

Red-eyed Vireo *Vireo olivaceus* (Rödögd vireo)
4 in Goose Island SP 16/4, 5 in Lost Maples SP 24/4, 5 and 3 respectively in the High Island area 27-28/4 and 2 in Sabine Woods 29/4.

Warbling Vireo *Vireo gilvus* (Sångvireo)
1 in Goose Island SP 16/4, 1 at SPI Convention Center 18-19/4 and 1 in the High Island area 27-28/4.

Philadelphia Vireo *Vireo philadelphicus* (Kanadavireo)
1 at Paradise Pond 17/4 and 2 in the High Island area 27-28/4.

Bell's Vireo *Vireo bellii* (Sumpvireo)
1 at Amistad Reservoir 21/4, 2 in Big Bend NP 22/4 and 2 at pond north of Alpine 23/4.

Black-capped Vireo *Vireo atricapillus* (Svarthuvad vireo)
4 at Lost Maples 24/4.

White-eyed Vireo *Vireo griseus* (Vitögd vireo)
Observed five days: Goose Island SP, Port Aransas, Sabal Palm, Lost Maples and Sabine Woods.

Yellow-throated Vireo *Vireo flavifrons* (Gulstrupig vireo)
6 at Lost Maples 24/4.

Blue Jay *Cyanocitta cristata* (Blåskrika)
1 at North Fork of Taylor's Bayou 27/4 and 2 at W.G. Jones State Forest 30/4.

Western Scrub-Jay *Aphelocoma californica* (Snårskrika)
2 at Lost Maples 24/4 and 3 in the High Island area 28/4.

Mexican Jay *Aphelocoma ultramarina* (Kanjonskrika)
30 in Big Bend NP 22/4.

Green Jay *Cyanocorax yncas* (Grönskrika)
1 at CR 239 18/4, 3 at Quinta Matzlan 20/4 and 3 at Salineno 21/4.

Common Raven *Corvus corax* (Korp)
Seen west of San Antonio 22-24/4, for example at Lost Maples.

Chihuahuan Raven *Corvus cryptoleucus* (Chihuahuakorp)
A few seen west of McAllen 21/4.

American Crow *Corvus brachyrhynchos* (Amerikansk kråka)

1 at Liberty 29/4 and 3 at W.G. Jones State Forest 30/4.

Fish Crow *Corvus ossifragus* (Fiskkråka)

1 northwest of Sabine Woods 29/4.

Purple Martin *Progne subis* (Blå storsvala)

Observed ten days.

Northern Rough-winged Swallow *Stelgidopteryx serripennis* (Nordlig kamvingesvala)

Observed 25-26/4.

Bank Swallow *Riparia riparia* (Backsvala)

Observed six days.

Violet-green Swallow *Tachycineta thalassina* (Violettgrön svala)

5 in Big Bend NP 22/4.

Tree Swallow *Tachycineta bicolor* (Trädsvala)

Observed three days.

Cliff Swallow *Petrochelidon pyrrhonota* (Stensvala)

Observed twelve days.

Cave Swallow *Petrochelidon fulva* (Grottsvala)

Observed four days.

Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica* (Ladusvala)

Very common - observed fifteen days.

Black-crested Titmouse *Parus atricristatus* (Svarttofsad gråmes)

2 at Rockport Demo Bird Garden and 3 at Goose Island SP 16/4, 1 at Sabal Palm 19/4, 2 in Big Bend NP 22/4, 2 in Alpine 23/4 and 4 at Lost Maples 24/4.

Carolina Chickadee *Poecile carolinensis* (Karolinatita)

6 at Lost Maples 24/4, 2 at North Fork of Taylor's Bayou 27/4, 3 at Sabine Woods 29/4 and 5 in W.G. Jones SF 30/4.

Verdin *Auriparus flaviceps* (Verdinmes)

1 in Big Bend NP 22/4 and 2 at pond north of Alpine 23/4.

Bushtit *Psaltriparus minimus* (Buskmes)

7 in Big Bend NP 22/4 and 2 in Lost Maples 24/4.

Red-breasted Nuthatch *Sitta canadensis* (Rödbröstad nötväcka)

1 in Big Bend NP 22/4.

White-breasted Nuthatch *Sitta carolinensis* (Vitbröstad nötväcka)

2 in Big Bend NP 22/4.

Brown-headed Nuthatch *Sitta pusilla* (Brunhuvad nötväcka)

3 in W.G. Jones State Forest 30/4.

Carolina Wren *Thryothorus ludovicianus* (Karolinagärdsmyg)

2 in Goose Island SP 16/4, 1 in Lost Maples 24/4, 1 in Boy Scout Woods 25/4 and 27/4 and 4 in W.G. Jones SF 30/4.

Bewick's Wren *Thryomanes bewickii* (Snårgärdsmyg)

1 in Goose Island SP 16/4, 1 at CR 239 18/4, 1 at Amistad Reservoir 21/4, 1 in Big Bend NP 22/4, 1 at pond north of Alpine 23/4 and 2 at Lost Maples 24/4.

House Wren *Troglodytes aedon* (Husgärdsmyg)

1 at Santa Ana 20/4 and 2 at pond north of Alpine 23/4.

Sedge Wren *Cistothorus platensis* (Starrgårdsmyg)

1 on South Padre Island 19/4.

Marsh Wren *Cistothorus palustris* (Kärrgårdsmyg)

Observed in small numbers at Port Aransas Birding Center 17/4, South Padre Island 18/4, High Island area 25/4 and at Anahuac 26/4.

Cactus Wren *Campylorhynchus brunneicapillus* (Kaktusgårdsmyg)

4 at Salineno 21/4, 4 in Big Bend NP 22/4 and 3 in Fort Davis 23/4.

Rock Wren *Xenicus gilviventris* (Bergsklippsmyg)

1 at Lost Maples 24/4.

Canyon Wren *Catherpes mexicanus* (Kanjonggårdsmyg)

5 in Big Bend NP 22/4, 1 in Alpine 23/4 and 3 at Lost Maples 24/4.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet *Regulus calendula* (Rödkronad kungsfågel)

1 at Port Aransas Birding Center 17/4 and 3 in Big Bend NP 22/4.

Black-tailed Gnatcatcher *Polioptila melanura* (Svartstjärtad myggsnappare)

10 in Big Bend NP 22/4 and 1 at pond north of Alpine 23/4.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher *Polioptila caerulea* (Blågrå myggsnappare)

1 at Goose Island SP 16/4, 20 in Big Bend NP 22/4 and 5 at Lost Maples 24/4.

Townsend's Solitaire *Myadestes townsendi* (Nordlig solitärtrast)

1 in Big Bend NP 22/4.

Eastern Bluebird *Sialia mexikana* (Östsialia)

4 in W.G. Jones State Forest 30/4.

Clay-colored Robin *Turdus grayi* (Lerfärgad trast)

1 at Quinta Matzlan and 2 at Santa Ana 20/4.

Wood Thrush *Hylocichla mustelina* (Fläckskogstrast)

1 at Boy Scout Woods 27/4 and 2 at Sabine Woods 29/4.

Veery *Catharus fuscescens* (Rostskogstrast)

2 at Paradise Pond 17/4 and 1 at Boy Scout Woods 28/4.

Swainson's Thrush *Catharus ustulatus* (Beigekindad skogstrast)

1 at Goose Island SP 16/4, 2 at Paradise Pond 17/4, 2 at Boy Scout Woods 27/4, 15 in Sabine Woods 29/4 and 1 at W.G. Jones State Forest 30/4.

Gray-cheeked Thrush *Catharus minimus* (Gråkindad skogstrast)

1 at Paradise Pond 17/4.

Hermit Thrush *Catharus guttatus* (Eremitskogstrast)

5 in Big Bend NP 22/4, 1 in Alpine 23/4 and 1 in Lost Maples 24/4.

Gray Catbird *Dumetella carolinensis* (Grå kattfågel)

Observed eight days.

Northern Mockingbird *Mimus polyglottos* (Nordlig härmtrast)

Very common, seen every day.

Brown Thrasher *Toxostoma rufum* (Rödbrun härmtrast)

1 at Boy Scout Woods 25/4 and 27/4 and 1 at Sabine Woods 29/4.

Long-billed Thrasher *Toxostoma longirostre* (Långnäbbad härmtrast)

8 at CR 239 18/4, 1 at Sabal Palm 19/4, 20 altogether at Quinta Matzlan and Santa Ana 20/4 and 3 at Salineno 21/4.

Curve-billed Thrasher *Toxostoma curvirostre* (Bågnäbbad härmtrast)

2 at Quinta Matzlan 20/4, 2 at Salineno 21/4 and 2 at pond north of Alpine 23/4.

European Starling *Sturnus vulgaris* (Stare)

Very common, observed eleven days.

Cedar Waxwing *Bombycilla cedrorum* (Indiansidensvans)

~200 in Utopia 24/4.

Northern Parula *Parula americana* (Messångare)

7 in Goose Island SP 16/4, 2 at Paradise Pond 17/4, 1 at South Padre Island Convention Center 18-19/4, 2 at Boy Scout Woods 27/4 and 1 in Sabine Woods 29/4.

Orange-crowned Warbler *Vermivora celata* (Orangekronad skogssångare)

1 in Goose Island SP 16/4, 1 at Paradise Pond 17/4 and 3 in the High Island area 27/4.

Tennessee Warbler *Vermivora peregrina* (Tennesseeskogssångare)

1 in Goose Island SP 16/4, 3 at Paradise Pond 17/4, 2 on South Padre Island 18/4, 1 at pond north of Alpine 23/4, 5 and 3 respectively in the High Island area 27-28/4 and 2 in Sabine Woods 29/4.

Blue-winged Warbler *Vermivora pinus* (Blåvingad skogssångare)

1 in Goose Island SP 16/4, 2 and 1 respectively in Boy Scout Woods 27-28/4.

Golden-winged Warbler *Vermivora chrysoptera* (Guldvingad skogssångare)

2 and 1 respectively at Boy Scout Woods 27-28/4.

Virginia's Warbler *Vermivora virginiae* (Virginias skogssångare)

3 in Big Bend NP 22/4.

Nashville Warbler *Vermivora ruficapilla* (Nashvilleskogssångare)

20 in Goose Island SP 16/4, 1 in Port Aransas 17/4, 1 on South Padre Island 18/4, 1 at Amistad Reservoir 21/4, 1 in Big Bend NP 22/4, 1 in the High Island area 27/4 and 1 in Sabine Woods 29/4.

Colima Warbler *Vermivora crissalis* (Colimaskogssångare)

3 in Big Bend NP 22/4.

Yellow Warbler *Dendroica petechia* (Gul skogssångare)

1 at Paradise Pond 17/4, 1 in Big Bend NP 22/4, 2 at pond north of Alpine 23/4, 1, 8 and 4 respectively in the High Island area 26-28/4 and 2 in Sabine Woods 29/4.

Chestnut-sided Warbler *Dendroica pensylvanica* (Brunsidig skogssångare)

30 (!) in Boy Scout Woods and Smith Oaks 27/4, 2 in Boy Scout Woods 28/4 and 1 in Sabine Woods 29/4.

Magnolia Warbler *Dendroica magnolia* (Magnoliaskogssångare)

1 in Goose Island SP 16/4, 1 at Paradise Pond 17/4, 7 and 10 respectively in the High Island area 27-28/4 and 1 in Sabine Woods 29/4.

Cape May Warbler *Dendroica tigrina* (Brunkindad skogssångare)

1 in Boy Scout Woods 27/4.

Black-throated Blue Warbler *Dendroica caerulescens* (Blåryggad skogssångare)

1 in Smith Oaks 28/4.

Cerulean Warbler *Dendroica cerulea* (Blåvit skogssångare)

2 in Boy Scout Woods 27/4.

Blackburnian Warbler *Dendroica fusca* (Orangestrupig skogssångare)

1 female in Goose Island SP 16/4, 1 male at Port Aransas Birding Center 17/4 and 15 (!) and 2 respectively in the High Island area 27-28/4.

Yellow-rumped Warbler *Dendroica coronata* (Gulgumpad skogssångare)

1 in Goose Island SP 16/4, 1 at Paradise Pond 17/4, 1 at Amistad Reservoir 21/4, 2 in Big Bend NP 22/4, 20 at pond north of Alpine 23/4 and 3 in Lost Maples 24/4.

Townsend's Warbler *Dendroica townsendi* (Townsend's skogssångare)
9 in Big Bend NP 22/4.

Black-throated Gray Warbler *Dendroica nigrescens* (Svartstrimmig skogssångare)
1 in Big Bend NP 22/4.

Black-throated Green Warbler *Dendroica virens* (Grönryggad skogssångare)
20 in Goose Island SP 16/4, 1 at Paradise Pond 17/4, 1 on South Padre Island 18/4, 1 in Utopia 24/4, 60 (!) and 25 respectively in the High Island area 27-28/4 and 1 in Sabine Woods 29/4.

Golden-cheeked Warbler *Dendroica chrysoparia* (Gulkindad skogssångare)
14 at Lost Maples 24/4.

Prairie Warbler *Dendroica discolor* (Prärieskogssångare)
1 at Paradise Pond 17/4.

Palm Warbler *Dendroica palmarum* (Brunhättad skogssångare)
1 at Boy Scout Woods 27/4.

Pine Warbler *Dendroica pinus* (Tallskogssångare)
~20 in W.G. Jones State Forest 30/4.

Bay-breasted Warbler *Dendroica castanea* (Brunbröstad skogssångare)
3 in the High Island area 27/4.

Blackpoll Warbler *Dendroica striata* (Vitkindad skogssångare)
1 at South Padre Island Convention Center 18-19/4, 1 and 2 respectively in the High Island area 27-28/4 and 1 in Sabine Woods 29/4.

Yellow-throated Warbler *Dendroica dominica* (Gulstrupig skogssångare)
1 at Port Aransas Birding Center 17/4, 1 in Lost Maples 24/4 and 2 in the High Island area 27/4.

Worm-eating Warbler *Helmitheros vermivora* (Beigebrynad skogssångare)
1 in Goose Island SP 16/4.

Prothonotary Warbler *Protonotaria citrea* (Gyllenskogssångare)
1 in Goose Island SP 16/4 and 4 at North Fork of Taylor's Bayou 27/4.

Black-and-white Warbler *Mniotilta varia* (Svartvit skogssångare)
5 in Goose Island SP 16/4, 2 at Paradise Pond 17/4, 1, 4 and 3 respectively in the High Island area 25/4, 27-28/4, and 2 in Sabine Woods 29/4.

American Redstart *Setophaga ruticilla* (Rödstartad skogssångare)
2 in Goose Island SP 16/4, 2 at Paradise Pond 17/4 and 6 and 10 respectively in the High Island area 27-28/4.

Painted Redstart *Myioborus pictus* (Vitvingad vitstjärt)
1 in Big Bend NP 22/4.

Swainson's Warbler *Limnothlypis swainsonii* (Swainsons skogssångare)
1 at North Fork of Taylor's Bayou 27/4.

Ovenbird *Seiurus aurocapillus* (Rödkronad piplärksångare)
1 in Lost Maples 24/4, 2 and 4 respectively in the High Island area 27-28/4 and 3 in Sabine Woods 29/4.

Northern Waterthrush *Seiurus noveboracensis* (Nordlig piplärksångare)
5 at Paradise Pond and 1 at Port Aransas Birding Center 17/4, 2 on South Padre Island 18/4 and 4 and 1 respectively in the High Island area 27-28/4.

Louisiana Waterthrush *Seiurus motacilla* (Sydlig piplärksångare)

1 on South Padre Island 18/4, 1 in Lost Maples 24/4 and 1 at North Fork of Taylor's Bayou 27/4.

Kentucky Warbler *Oporornis formosus* (Kentuckyskogssångare)

1 in Goose Island SP 16/4 and 1 at Paradise Pond 17/4.

MacGillivray's Warbler *Oporornis tolmiei* (Gråhuvad skogssångare)

1 at pond north of Alpine 23/4.

Common Yellowthroat *Geothlypis trichas* (Gulhake)

Seen in small numbers twelve of the days.

Wilson's Warbler *Wilsonia pusilla* (Svartkronad skogssångare)

5 in Big Bend NP 22/4, 15 at pond north of Alpine 23/4 and 1 at Lost Maples 24/4.

Canada Warbler *Wilsonia canadensis* (Kanadaskogssångare)

2 at Smith Oaks 27/4.

Hooded Warbler *Wilsonia citrina* (Kapuschongskogssångare)

1 at Rockport Demo Bird Garden and 5 in Goose Island SP 16/4, 2 at Paradise Pond 17/4 and 1 in the High Island area 27/4.

Yellow-breasted Chat *Icteria virens* (Trastskogssångare)

15 in Goose Island SP 16/4, 1 in the Ingleside area 17/4, 1 in Santa Ana 20/4, 1 at pond north of Alpine 23/4 and 1 in the High Island area 28/4.

Northern Hepatic-Tanager *Piranga hepatica* (Tegelröd tangara)

2 in Big Bend NP 22/4.

Summer Tanager *Piranga rubra* (Sommartangara)

Common, observed eight days.

Scarlet Tanager *Piranga olivacea* (Scharlakanstangara)

1 in the High Island area 27-28/4 and 1 in Sabine Woods 29/4.

Pyrrhuloxia *Cardinalis sinuatus* (Ökenkardinal)

8 at CR 239 18/4, 2 in Pharr 20/4, 5 at Salineno 21/4 and 2 in the Alpine area 23/4.

Northern Cardinal *Cardinalis cardinalis* (Röd kardinal)

Very common, observed every day of the trip.

Black-headed Grosbeak *Pheucticus melanocephalus* (Svarthuvad kardinal)

10 in Big Bend NP 22/4.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak *Pheucticus ludovicianus* (Brokig kardinal)

1 in Goose Island SP 16/4, 1 at Paradise Pond 17/4, 2-5 daily in the High Island area 25-28/4 and 2 in Sabine Woods 29/4.

Blue Grosbeak *Guiraca caerulea* (Blåtjocknäbb)

3 in Lost Maples 24/4, 1 in the High Island area 27/4 and 1 in Sabine Woods 29/4.

Indigo Bunting *Passerina cyanea* (Indigofink)

Common, observed nine days.

Varied Bunting *Passerina versicolor* (Brokfink)

1 at pond north of Alpine 23/4.

Painted Bunting *Passerina ciris* (Påvefink)

1 at CR 239 and 1 on South Padre Island 18/4, 3 at Amistad Reservoir 21/4, 5 in Big Bend NP 22/4, 3 at pond north of Alpine 23/4, 1 at Boy Scout Woods 25/4, 2 at Boy Scout Woods 27/4, 7 in the High Island area 28/4 and 2 in Sabine Woods 29/4.

Dickcissel *Spiza americana* (Dickcissel)

1 at Salineno and 1 at Amistad Reservoir 21/4, 1 north of Alpine 23/4, 1 on the Bolivar Peninsula 25/4, 70, 15 and 10 respectively in the High Island area 26-28/4 and 1 in Sabine Woods 29/4.

Spotted Towhee *Pipilo maculatus* (Fläckig busksparv)

6 in Big Bend NP 22/4.

Canyon Towhee *Pipilo fuscus* (Kanjonbusksparv)

6 in Big Bend NP 22/4.

Olive Sparrow *Arremonops rufivirgatus* (Olivsparv)

2 at Sabal Palm 19/4 and common in Lower Rio Grande 20-21/4.

Rufous-crowned Sparrow *Aimophila ruficeps* (Rostkronad sparv)

4 in Goose Island SP 16/4 and 5 in Big Bend NP 22/4.

Cassin's Sparrow *Aimophila cassinii* (Cassinsparv)

2 in the Ingleside area 17/4, common along CR 239 18/4 and at Salineno 21/4.

Black-throated Sparrow *Amphispiza bilineata* (Svartstrupig sparv)

1 at Salineno 21/4 and 2 north of Alpine 23/4.

Black-chinned Sparrow *Spizella atrogularis* (Chaparralsparv)

2 north of Alpine 23/4.

Field Sparrow *Spizella pusilla* (Åkersparv)

4 at Lost Maples 24/4.

Brewer's Sparrow *Spizella breweri* (Brewersparv)

2 north of Alpine 23/4

Clay-colored Sparrow *Spizella pallida* (Lerfärgad sparv)

5 at Lost Maples 24/4.

Chipping Sparrow *Spizella passerina* (Tjippsparv)

2 in the Ingleside area 17/4, 15 at Amistad Reservoir 21/4, common in Big Bend NP and around Alpine 22-23/4 and at Lost Maples 24/4.

Grasshopper Sparrow *Ammodramus savannarum* (Gräshoppsparv)

1 at Katy Prairie 15/4 and common along CR 239 18/4.

Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow *Ammodramus nelson* (Nelsons sparv)

1 on the Bolivar Peninsula 28/4.

Seaside Sparrow *Ammodramus maritimus* (Kustsparv)

9 on the Bolivar Peninsula 25/4, 2 at Anahuac 26/4 and 1 on the Bolivar Peninsula 28/4.

Savannah Sparrow *Passerculus sandwichensis* (Gulbrynad grässparv)

Pretty common, observed six days.

Vesper Sparrow *Pooecetes gramineus* (Aftonsparv)

1 in Big Bend NP 22/4.

Lark Sparrow *Chondestes grammacus* (Lärksparv)

15 along CR 239 18/4, 10 at Salineno 21/4, 2 at pond north of Alpine 23/4 and 2 at Sabine Woods 29/4.

White-throated Sparrow *Zonotrichia albicollis* (Vitstrupig sparv)

1 in Boy Scout Woods 27/4.

White-crowned Sparrow *Zonotrichia leucophrys* (Vitkronad sparv)

4 on South Padre Island 18/4 and 5 at Anahuac 26/4.

Song Sparrow *Melospiza melodia* (Sångsparv)

1 in Utopia 24/4 and 1 at Anahuac 26/4.

Lincoln's Sparrow *Melospiza lincolnii* (Lincolnsparv)

15 in Goose Island SP 16/4, 5 at Paradise Pond 17/4, 1 at Santa Ana 20/4, 1 at Lost Maples 24/4 and 2 in Sabine Woods 29/4.

Swamp Sparrow *Melospiza georgiana* (Träsksparv)

3 at Port Aransas Birding Center 17/4.

Western Meadowlark *Sturnella neglecta* (Västlig ängstrupial)

Common at Katy Prairie 15/4 and along CR 239 18/4.

Eastern Meadowlark *Sturnella magna* (Östlig ängstrupial)

Common in suitable habitat, observed four of the days.

Brown-headed Cowbird *Molothrus ater* (Brunhuvad kostare)

Common, observed twelve days.

Bronzed Cowbird *Molothrus aeneus* (Bronskostare)

1 in Rockport 16/4 and common in the Lower Rio Grande Valley 20-21/4.

Yellow-headed Blackbird *Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus* (Gulhuvad trupial)

1 in the Ingleside area 17/4 and 2 at Amistad Reservoir 21/4.

Red-winged Blackbird *Agelaius phoeniceus* (Rödvingettrupial)

Common, observed thirteen days.

Brewer's Blackbird *Euphagus cyanocephalus* (Präriettrupial)

1 at pond north of Alpine 23/4.

Common Grackle *Quiscalus quiscula* (Mindre båtstjärt)

Common, especially on the Upper Texas Coast; observed seven days.

Boat-tailed Grackle *Quiscalus major* (Större båtstjärt)

Common, observed nine days.

Great-tailed Grackle *Quiscalus mexicanus* (Mexikobåtstjärt)

Very common, observed every day, except for in Big Bend NP 22/4.

Bullock's Oriole *Icterus bullockii* (Bullocktrupial)

2 on South Padre Island 18/4, 1 on South Padre Island 19/4 and 1 at Amistad Reservoir 21/4.

Baltimore Oriole *Icterus galbula* (Baltimoretrupial)

1 at CR 239 and 4 on South Padre Island 18/4, 1 on South Padre Island 19/4, 4, 7 and 12 respectively in the High Island area 25/4, 27/4 and 28/4.

Hooded Oriole *Icterus cucullatus* (Palmtrupial)

2 in Rockport Demo Bird Garden and 2 in Goose Island SP 16/4.

Orchard Oriole *Icterus spurius* (Trädgårdstrupial)

Common, especially on the Upper Texas coast, observed eight days.

Altamira Oriole *Icterus gularis* (Altamiratrupial)

1 at Quinta Matzlan and 2 at Santa Ana 20/4 and 7 at Salineno 21/4.

Scott's Oriole *Icterus parisorum* (Scotts trupial)

2 in Big Bend NP 22/4 and 1 at Lost Maples 24/4.

Audubon's Oriole *Icterus graduacauda* (Audubontrupial)

1 at CR 239 18/4 and 1 at Lost Maples 24/4.

House Finch *Carpodacus mexicanus* (Husrosenfink)

3 at Amistad Reservoir 21/4, 1 in Big Bend NP 22/4, 3 at pond north of Alpine 23/4 and 7 in Utopia 24/4.

Lesser Goldfinch *Carduelis psaltria* (Småsiska)

3 in Pharr 20/4 and 1 in Utopia 24/4.

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus* (Gråsparv)

Common, observed every day of the trip.

Appendix 1

Species only seen by our team 15-30/4	Species only seen by our team 15-30/4	Species only seen by the other team 7-21/4
<p>Eared Grebe Magnificent Frigatebird American Bittern Muscovy Duck Wood Duck Common Black-Hawk Red-shouldered Hawk Wild Turkey Purple Gallinule Snowy Plover Hudsonian Godwit Red Knot Pectoral Sandpiper Long-billed Dowitcher Band-tailed Pigeon Red-billed Pigeon Red-crowned Parrot Green Parakeet Groove-billed Ani Chuck-will's-widow Blue-throated Hummingbird Hairy Woodpecker Red-cockaded Woodpecker Acadian Flycatcher Great Crested Flycatcher Tropical Kingbird Warbling Vireo Philadelphia Vireo Fish Crow Bushtit Brown-headed Nuthatch House Wren Sedge Wren Rock Wren Clay-colored Robin Gray-cheeked Thrush Virginia's Warbler Colima Warbler Magnolia Warbler Canada Warbler Bay-breasted Warbler Black-throated Blue Warbler Prairie Warbler Blackpoll Warbler Painted Redstart Swainson's Warbler Hepatic Tanager Varied Bunting</p>	<p>Cassin's Sparrow Field Sparrow Grasshopper Sparrow Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow Song Sparrow Yellow-headed Blackbird Bullock's Oriole Audubon's Oriole Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher Black-throated Gray Warbler Dusky Flycatcher White-headed Nuthatch Red-breasted Nuthatch Black-headed Grosbeak Townsend's Solitaire Townsend's Warbler Black-chinned Sparrow Brewer's Blackbird</p>	<p>Common Loon Northern Gannet Northern Pintail American Wigeon Sharp-shinned Hawk Bald Eagle Merlin Long-billed Curlew Western Sandpiper Buff-breasted Sandpiper Wilson Phalarope Bonaparte's Gull Whip-poor-will Eastern Phoebe Blue-headed Vireo Horned Lark Crissal Thrasher Sage Thrasher Western Tanager Eastern Towhee Green-tailed Towhee Lark Bunting Pine Siskin American Goldfinch</p>