

Paridae (Tits, Chickadees, and Titmice).

CAROLINA CHICKADEE (*Poecile carolinensis*) – Fairly common along West Niblett Road.

TUFTED TITMOUSE (*Baeolophus bicolor*) – One calling in Kisatchie National Forest. [*]

Hirundinidae (Swallows).

NORTHERN ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*) – A few in the masses of swallows near the coast.

TREE SWALLOW (*Tachycineta bicolor*) – Many thousands in rice country, with the most impressive spectacle being the gathering at Cameron Prairie National Wildlife Refuge at dusk.

BARN SWALLOW (*Hirundo rustica*) – Dozens still among the Tree Swallows.

CAVE SWALLOW (*Petrochelidon fulva*) – Two near Thornwell and about five in the masses of swallows at Cameron Prairie National Wildlife Refuge.

Regulidae (Kinglets).

GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET (*Regulus satrapa*) – A few came in to see us in Kisatchie National Forest.

RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET (*Regulus calendula*) – A remarkably common bird throughout the tour route, except in the rice fields!

Sittidae (Nuthatches).

BROWN-HEADED NUTHATCH (*Sitta pusilla*) – Several family groups around Kisatchie National Forest. An attractive little species with a distinctive call, endemic to the mainland United States.

Poliopitilidae (Gnatcatchers).

BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER (*Poliopitila caerulea*) – Wow! Louisiana has a lot of gnatcatchers in late fall! We saw dozens just about everywhere we went, with the exception of the rice fields, of course.

Troglodytidae (Wrens).

HOUSE WREN (*Troglodytes aedon*) – A smattering of singles from rice country to Kisatchie National Forest.

WINTER WREN (*Troglodytes hiemalis*) – A lovely serenade and show by a territorial wintering bird at Kisatchie National Forest.

SEDGE WREN (*Cistothorus platensis*) – Good views along West Niblett Road, with many more flushed in rice country during harvesting operations. The distinctive calls of this species were often heard as we watched other birds.

MARSH WREN (*Cistothorus palustris*) – Also rather common in the rice fields (at least 17 among the Yellow Rails!), but our best views were probably at the National Wildlife Refuges.

CAROLINA WREN (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*) – A pair showed pretty well in Kisatchie National Forest.

Sturnidae (Starlings).

EUROPEAN STARLING (*Sturnus vulgaris*) – Small flocks in fields and urban areas, with a few in mixed blackbird flocks. Great to see this declining species in fresh plumage!

Mimidae (Mockingbirds and Thrashers).

GRAY CATBIRD (*Dumetella carolinensis*) – Singles along West Niblett Road, at Peveto Woods, and at Sabine National Wildlife Refuge.

NORTHERN MOCKINGBIRD (*Mimus polyglottos*) – Very common throughout, including in cities and towns.

Turdidae (Thrushes and Allies).

EASTERN BLUEBIRD (*Sialia sialis*) – One west of Lake Arthur; another calling in Kisatchie National Forest.

HERMIT THRUSH (*Catharus guttatus*) – Singles mostly in Kisatchie National Forest and at Peveto Woods.

Passeridae (Old World Sparrows).

HOUSE SPARROW (*Passer domesticus*) – A common bird in towns and along highways, usually recorded at rest stops!

Fringillidae (Finches, Euphonias, and Allies).

AMERICAN GOLDFINCH (*Spinus tristis*) – One flyover at Peveto Woods. [*]

Passerellidae (New World Sparrows).

BACHMAN'S SPARROW (*Peucaea aestivalis*) – We heard more than a dozen at Kisatchie National Forest, but we were able to see only two of this beautiful U.S. endemic species.

CHIPPING SPARROW (*Spizella passerina*) – One at Sabine National Wildlife Refuge, one in Kisatchie National Forest.

WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*) – Six along Niblett Road.

WHITE-THROATED SPARROW (*Zonotrichia albicollis*) – A few along Niblett Road and in Kisatchie National Forest.

LECONTE'S SPARROW (*Ammospiza leconteii*) – One was somewhat cooperative along West Niblett Road, seen by most.

SEASIDE SPARROW (*Ammospiza maritima*) – A great look at one in the marshes near the Cameron/Holly Beach ferry!

NELSON'S SPARROW (*Ammospiza nelsoni*) – Also near the ferry landing on the Cameron side of the Calcasieu River, a beautiful Nelson's Sparrow came out in our final hour of coastal birding.

SAVANNAH SPARROW (*Passerculus sandwichensis*) – Fairly common in rice country along the field edges.

SONG SPARROW (*Melospiza melodia*) – Rather few! One seen fairly well at Sabine National Wildlife Refuge.

LINCOLN'S SPARROW (*Melospiza lincolni*) – One appeared briefly in chenier habitat east of Peveto Woods.

SWAMP SPARROW (*Melospiza georgiana*) – Scattered singles in the freshwater marshes.

EASTERN TOWHEE (*Pipilo erythrophthalmus*) – One calling in Kisatchie National Forest. [*]

Icteridae (Troupials and Allies).

EASTERN MEADOWLARK (*Sturnella magna*) – Relatively common in rice fields and a few in saltmarsh habitat.

RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD (*Agelaius phoeniceus*) – Large flocks throughout rice country. So nice to see fresh plumage in perfect autumn light!

BRONZED COWBIRD (*Molothrus aeneus*) – One adult and two young males in the mixed blackbird-grackle flock at Holly Beach. An uncommon species in Louisiana.

BROWN-HEADED COWBIRD (*Molothrus ater*) – Fairly common in rice country.

COMMON GRACKLE (*Quiscalus quiscula*) – A few small flocks in towns.

BOAT-TAILED GRACKLE (*Quiscalus major*) – Very common in coastal areas and adjacent rice country.

GREAT-TAILED GRACKLE (*Quiscalus mexicanus*) – Plenty of flyby birds, but we saw them well perched in Sulphur.

Parulidae (New World Warblers)

ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER (*Leiothlypis celata*) – Remarkably common and confiding in cheniers and brushy edges and woodlands in the south.

COMMON YELLOWTHROAT (*Geothlypis trichas*) – A few peeked out at us from dense marsh, woodland, and thickets.

HOODED WARBLER (*Setophaga citrina*) – At least one chipping at Peveto Woods. [*]

NORTHERN PARULA (*Setophaga americana*) – Marta spotted our first along West Niblett Road, and another appeared in the warbler mix at Peveto Woods.

MAGNOLIA WARBLER (*Setophaga magnolia*) – One in chenier habitat east of Peveto Woods, another in Peveto Woods proper.

BAY-BREASTED WARBLER (*Setophaga castanea*) – Dan spotted one right above our picnic at Peveto Woods, a rather late migrant!

PALM WARBLER (*Setophaga palmarum*) – A cooperative little bird at Sabine National Wildlife Refuge.

PINE WARBLER (*Setophaga pinus*) – Rather common in the Longleaf and Loblolly pine woods of Kisatchie National Forest.

YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER (MYRTLE) (*Setophaga coronata coronata*) – A few singles here and there, with many flyovers heard calling. One spotted by Dan gave a Myrtle chip note but seemed to have a head pattern more typical of Audubon's (possibly an intergrade).

BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER (*Setophaga virens*) – Three still at Peveto Woods, a beautiful warbler.

Cardinalidae (Cardinals and Allies)

SCARLET TANAGER (*Piranga olivacea*) – Most unexpected was a late bird at Peveto Woods, right over our picnic spot!

NORTHERN CARDINAL (*Cardinalis cardinalis*) – Small numbers in brushy woodlands and towns.

ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK (*Pheucticus ludovicianus*) – A late bird was in Mulberry trees along the marsh walkway at Sabine National Wildlife Refuge.

BLUE GROSBEAK (*Passerina caerulea*) – One calling in chenier habitat. [*]

INDIGO BUNTING (*Passerina cyanea*) – Small groups were seen along West Niblett Road.

PAINTED BUNTING (*Passerina ciris*) – A female was out sunning in oak trees among Orange-crowned Warblers and Blue-gray Gnatcatchers on West Niblett Road.

MAMMALS

SWAMP RABBIT (*Sylvilagus aquaticus*) – One hopped up to us at Peveto Woods.

EASTERN GRAY SQUIRREL (*Sciurus carolinensis*) – A few in towns and woodlands throughout.

FOX SQUIRREL (*Sciurus niger*) – One in Kisatchie National Forest.

BOTTLENOSE DOLPHIN (*Tursiops truncatus*) – Several hunting fish in the tidal bore up the Calcasieu River, seen from the Cameron marshes, and a few more in the Gulf of Mexico.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

In addition to a nice raptor flight along Gulf shores, we witnessed the migration of Monarch butterflies, with hundreds flying westward along the beaches, some pausing to alight to rest on goldenrod or oak trees. We also saw a fair few road-killed creatures, sadly, the most notable being a Graham's Crayfish Snake (*Regina grahamii*) at our first stop along West Niblett Road.

Totals for the tour: 171 bird taxa and 4 mammal taxa