

# **Bird Inventory for Abraham Lincoln National Historic Site**

## **Final Report**

**Submitted by**

**Mark S. Monroe  
Biological Consultant**

**October 2005**

**Agreement # P5530030033  
Permit # ABLI-2003-SCI-0003**

**National Park Service  
Cumberland Piedmont Network  
Abraham Lincoln National Historic Site  
2995 Lincoln Farm Road  
Hodgenville, KY 42748**

# **Bird Inventory for Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historic Site**

## **Background and Objectives**

A project was undertaken by the National Park Service Natural Resource Challenge initiative to document the occurrence of at least 90% of the species of vertebrates and vascular plants in each National Park unit. This particular piece of the project looked at the avifauna on Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historic Site in central Kentucky.

As part of the project for the park, point counts were conducted park-wide during the breeding season using a statistically valid study design using plots placed in different vegetative communities to get a picture of breeding species and densities within the park, walking and driving surveys were conducted during migration and winter to generate lists of birds using the parks with emphasis on grasslands and water bodies when applicable, and hawk-watching during migration where applicable. Additionally, incidental information on species of conservation concern was noted.

## **Notes on Park**

Unlike many national parks, Abraham Lincoln Birthplace is a historical monument and not a large block of natural area. The park consists of two units, the main unit is a small part of the Sinking Spring Farm where Lincoln was born, the other is a larger piece of land several miles away at Knob Creek where Lincoln moved in his youth. The two units are comprised of upland bluff, north-facing rich slope, south-facing dry slope, stream corridor and cultivated habitats. However, the units combined are relatively very small, only comprising a few hundred acres which provides little opportunity for large-scale habitat differences to support varied avian populations and communities in comparison to other parks within the region. Although a potential list for the area might be high, many of the rarer species included will not be likely to occur within any given year within the park.

## **Overall Summary**

A total of 2154 individuals representing 112 species were recorded during the survey period (Table 1). The potential for additional species exists, but the small area within the park makes it difficult to locate many species, particularly migrants that are completely 'hit or miss' on where they may be located. Sturgeon and Kistler (1994) provided a checklist of birds for Abraham Lincoln Birthplace from the main unit only. The list contains 126 species, but in my opinion, is somewhat 'generous' in a few of those included. Although the list is supposedly of species actually observed, it is questionable with some species and seems to me to be perhaps a list of potential species within and near the main unit of the park, not those necessarily observed therein. Some of these species such as Loggerhead Shrike, Henslow's Sparrow, Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, Alder Flycatcher, Willow Flycatcher, Rusty Blackbird, and American Tree Sparrow lack habitat within the park and realistically have little to no chance of occurring

making a modified list of 119 slightly more realistic. In addition to the 119 listed by Sturgeon and Kistler that are included for the main unit, several other species were noted. Louisiana Waterthrush, Prairie Warbler, American Woodcock, Northern Rough-winged Swallow and Wild Turkey are present on the Knob Creek unit as breeders. Blue-headed Vireo is a common migrant that somehow was omitted. Swamp Sparrows were present in migration in the grassy field at the Knob Creek unit. Red-breasted Nuthatch, Pine Siskin, and Purple Finch were present at least in the winter of 2003-2004.

Other species are also likely visitors that were not found on either survey. Horned Lark is a possible year round bird near or over the park. Two raptor species, Osprey and Northern Harrier, are also potential regular transients over the park but not included in their checklist. This brings the potential total for the park to approximately 132 species (Table 2). However, due to the small size of the park, even regular migrants through the area can easily bypass the park and not be noted in a given year. Rare species such as Black-throated Blue Warbler, Orange-crowned Warbler, Connecticut Warbler, and Evening Grosbeak may go many years, if not decades, without being seen.

The park is mostly limited to species that prefer edges and small woodlots. Open farmland is adjacent to the park and some species that prefer these areas can be seen or heard from inside the park. However, true grassland species such as Grasshopper and Henslow's Sparrows lack habitat within the park, were missed entirely, and not expected to occur. The park also lacks any water bodies of significance and thus is devoid of waterfowl.

## **Breeding Bird Results**

Each of 13 established points within the park were surveyed twice, once in 2003 and once in 2004 (Figure 1). A total of 66 species were recorded on the breeding bird points with individual points ranging from 16 to 23 species per point count and a mean of 19.4 (Table 3). The species were heavily weighted towards edge and woodlot species. The most numerous species recorded was Common Grackle, however those numbers are greatly inflated due to a roost adjacent to the main unit of the park. At dawn, large numbers of birds were flying over the park as they dispersed from their roost, and all but two of the 832 Common Grackles recorded were flyovers. Aside from that species, the most numerous species recorded were Indigo Bunting, Red-eyed Vireo, and American Crow (Table 4). The most widely distributed species was also Indigo Bunting, occurring on each of the 26 points surveys. Additionally, American Crow and Red-bellied Woodpecker were widely distributed, occurring on each of the 13 established points, although not on both repetitions (Table 5). In addition to the expected distribution of woodlot species such as woodpeckers, chickadees, and titmice, it is of note that two of the more widely distributed species within the park were Summer and Scarlet Tanager, the former being one of the most abundant species on the main unit while the latter was quite common at Knob Creek. Species that prefer larger tracts of woodlands that are relatively common in the area, such as Ovenbird and Hooded Warbler were very difficult to locate within park boundaries. Additionally grassland species, with the exception of the most common (i.e. Field Sparrow) and very vocal species (i.e. Northern Bobwhite) that occur adjacent to the park, were not found.

No federally or state listed species were found on the park, but a few other species of note were detected. Both Chuck-will's Widow and Whip-poor-will are present on the Knob Creek unit and can be heard from the parking area at night. Wood Thrush, Acadian Flycatcher, and Prairie Warbler appeared to have healthy populations within the park as they were fairly well distributed on the Knob Creek unit. Kentucky Warbler and Worm-eating Warbler were very locally distributed, found only in some of the denser areas of the Knob Creek unit and likely prefer larger, more intact, tracts of woodlands than are present on the park. Although both species were present both years of the breeding bird surveys, it is quite possible that they are absent from the park some years. Louisiana Waterthrushes were present along the streams in the Knob Creek unit and seemed well-established. A single Red-headed Woodpecker was also noted during the breeding season on the Knob Creek unit from point 13.

### **Wintering Birds**

Priorities for wintering birds with this project focused on grassland species and waterfowl. A few small grassy areas occur within the park, primarily on the Knob Creek unit, but other than a very few common sparrows such as Song, Field and Swamp, do not support a wide number or variety of species. Waterfowl species are completely absent due to lack of habitat.

Walking surveys across the two units were conducted during the winter to determine what species were wintering within the park. The park primarily hosts wandering woodlot songbird flocks consisting of common species such as assorted woodpeckers, Tufted Titmice, Carolina Chickadees, Golden-crowned Kinglets, White-throated Sparrows, and Slate-colored Juncos with occasional less common species such as Brown Creeper, Yellow-rumped Warbler, and Yellow-bellied Sapsucker mixed in. The most interesting winter birds found were finches. Purple Finch, Pine Siskin, and Red-breasted Nuthatch were all noted near the main Visitor Center during winter suggesting that the main unit seems to attract a few winter finches that feed primarily on cone crops of trees such as pines. No other rare or noteworthy species were noted on the park during the winter. The most noteworthy missed species were Fox Sparrow and White-crowned Sparrow. The park is a bit small to offer much habitat for Fox Sparrow, but it could easily occur during winter or migration in mixed songbird flocks, particularly with White-throated Sparrows. White-crowned Sparrows are present in surrounding farmland and could, from time to time, be present along the edge of the main unit.

### **Migration**

Walking surveys were conducted on both units during spring and fall to determine what species were using the park during migration. About half of the species found on the park were found outside the breeding season (Table 6). The park does offer some edge habitat that can be quite attractive to passing migrants, but the small size of the park can make it quite difficult to find significant warbler (and other migrant) flocks within the park boundaries, even during peak migration. Additionally, the park offers no unique geography within the region to funnel or concentrate migrants within the park. However, when encountered, flocks tended to be equivalent to those found in the region

with relatively the same mixes and concentrations as to be expected anywhere in migration. Although no truly rare species were noted, most expected migrants were located. Blue-winged Warbler and Golden-winged Warbler, two species of some note, were both found using the park during migration.

In addition to the species mentioned previously as occurring within the park by Sturgeon and Kistler, missed species that are likely to occur in small numbers annually included Baltimore Oriole, Rock Pigeon, Common Nighthawk, Warbling Vireo, Pine Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Mourning Warbler, Cerulean Warbler, and Canada Warbler. All but the latter three of these are likely breeders within a few miles of the park and thus possible in the park during summer as well as migration. However, relative rarity and small park size made it so that these species were not located within the park.

## **Raptors**

The park does not offer any specific hawk-watching locations that serve to funnel or concentrate hawks during migration. However, the Knob Creek unit offers a small potential for viewing the sky over small hills that can create minor updrafts that raptors can use. The only species noted migrating over the park were Sharp-shinned and Broad-winged Hawks, although Red-tailed, Red-shouldered, and Cooper's Hawks were also noted within the park during the breeding season. Both Black Vulture and Turkey Vulture are also present on the park. American Kestrel, a species listed by Sturgeon and Kistler, is a year-round residents in surrounding areas, and should be expected from time to time on or adjacent to the park. Two other raptor species, Northern Harrier and Osprey, are common enough migrants that they likely fly over the park at least a few times a year.

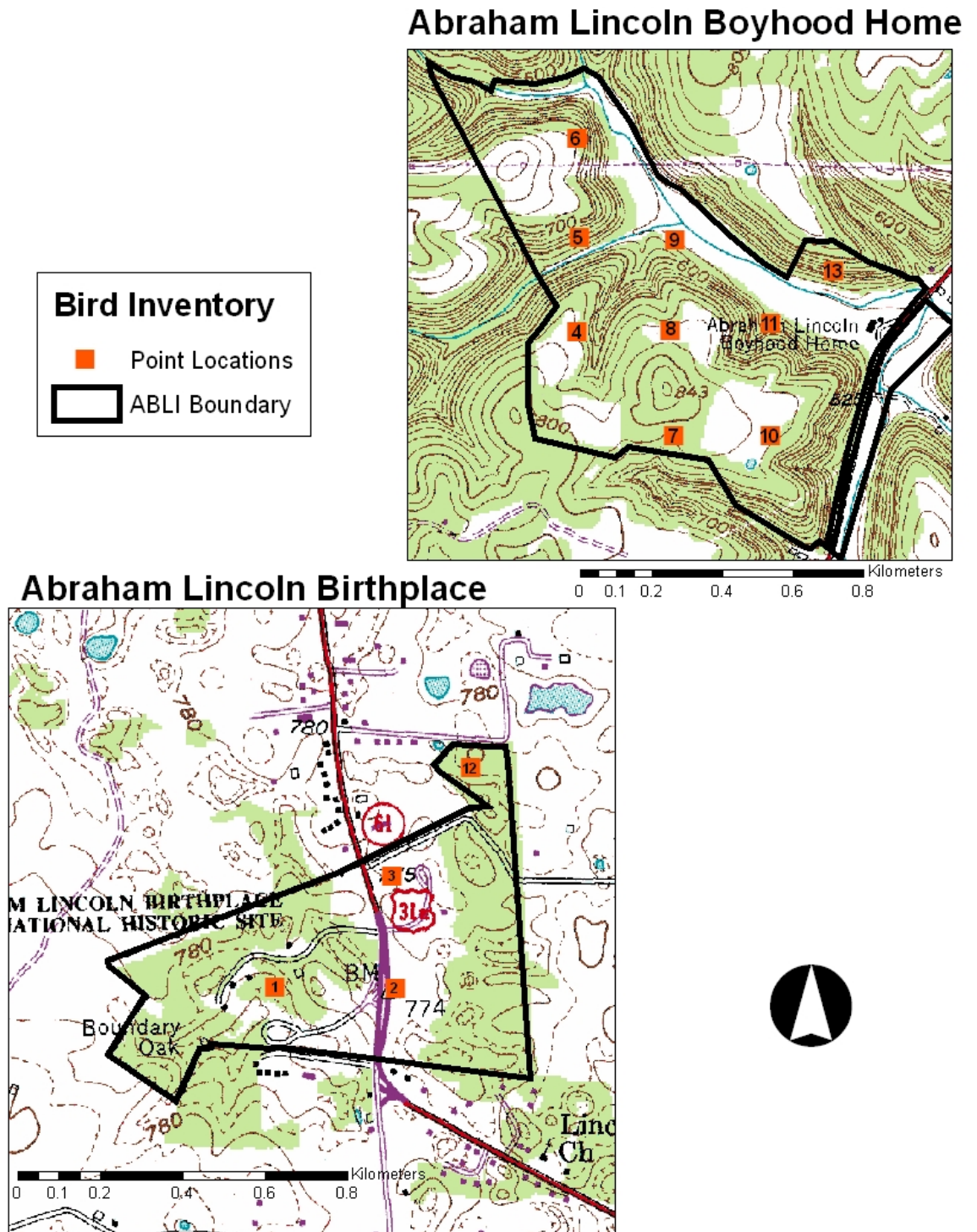
The park also hosts three species of owls. Great Horned, Barred, and Eastern Screech-Owl were all found on the Knob Creek unit. Eastern Screech-Owls were also noted during the day near the Amphitheatre on the main unit.

## **Habitat Availability and Management Implications**

The park offers very little in the way of diversity for avian communities primarily due to its small size. Second-growth, edge, and small woodlot habitat is the most prominent within the park, while a few small grassy fields are also present. The main unit is quite small and hosts several historical buildings, visitor facilities, and has a busy US highway bisecting it. Simply put, this unit is not heavily-managed towards, nor could it be, natural resources. Bird populations will always be small and variable within this unit.

The Knob Creek unit is larger and more natural. It does not offer much habitat variety but does support a fairly large community of edge and woodlot species. The area has several openings, including a powerline cut, that are for all intents and purposes permanent. Neither species that prefer larger woodland tracts nor grasslands species are likely to ever be supported in large numbers there due to the small size of the park and lack of uniform contiguous habitat. No state or federal endangered bird species are known from the area either to potentially influence management decisions, and thus no particular course of action or change is recommended.

Figure 1. Breeding Bird Points.



**Table 1. Summary of Birds Detected during 2003-2004 Survey.**

<b>Common</b>	<b>Alpha</b>	<b>Number of Detection</b>	<b>Number of Individuals Detected</b>
American Woodcock	AMWO	1	2
Northern Bobwhite	NOBO	3	4
Wild Turkey	WITU	2	3
Mourning Dove	MODO	16	21
Turkey Vulture	TUVU	3	11
Black Vulture	BLVU	1	1
Sharp-shinned Hawk	SSHA	1	1
Cooper's Hawk	COHA	2	2
Red-tailed Hawk	RTHA	4	5
Red-shouldered Hawk	RSHA	2	2
Broad-winged Hawk	BWHA	1	2
Barred Owl	BDOW	1	1
Eastern Screech-Owl	EASO	4	6
Great Horned Owl	GHOW	1	1
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	YBCU	10	10
Hairy Woodpecker	HAWO	6	7
Downy Woodpecker	DOWO	19	22
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	YBSA	1	1
Pileated Woodpecker	PIWO	15	18
Red-headed Woodpecker	RHWO	2	2
Red-bellied Woodpecker	RBWO	21	24
Yellow-shafted Flicker	YSFL	5	8
Chuck-will's-widow	CWWI	1	1
Whip-poor-will	WPWI	1	2
Chimney Swift	CHSW	10	15
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	RTHU	3	3
Eastern Kingbird	EAKI	1	1
Great Crested Flycatcher	GCFL	9	10
Eastern Phoebe	EAPH	5	6
Eastern Wood-Pewee	EAWP	12	16
Acadian Flycatcher	ACFL	16	23
Least Flycatcher	LEFL	2	2
Blue Jay	BLJA	17	29
American Crow	AMCR	25	61
European Starling	EUST	4	11
Brown-headed Cowbird	BHCO	12	17
Red-winged Blackbird	RWBL	4	21
Eastern Meadowlark	EAME	2	2
Orchard Oriole	OROR	2	2
Common Grackle	COGR	9	857
Purple Finch	PUFI	1	6
House Finch	HOFI	4	12
American Goldfinch	AMGO	12	22
Pine Siskin	PISI	1	2
White-throated Sparrow	WTSP	1	8
Chipping Sparrow	CHSP	4	4
Field Sparrow	FISP	6	6
Slate-colored Junco	SCJU	1	10
Song Sparrow	SOSP	6	12

<b>Common</b>	<b>Alpha</b>	<b>Number of Detection</b>	<b>Number of Individuals Detected</b>
Eastern Towhee	EATO	14	18
Northern Cardinal	NOCA	23	65
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	RBGR	2	2
Indigo Bunting	INBU	28	74
Scarlet Tanager	SCTA	20	34
Summer Tanager	SUTA	19	33
Purple Martin	PUMA	2	2
Barn Swallow	BARS	4	4
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	NRWS	1	1
Cedar Waxwing	CEDW	11	26
Red-eyed Vireo	REVI	21	78
Philadelphia Vireo	PHVI	3	3
Yellow-throated Vireo	YTVI	12	13
Blue-headed Vireo	BHVI	2	2
White-eyed Vireo	WEVI	5	8
Black-and-White Warbler	BAWW	2	2
Worm-eating Warbler	WEWA	2	2
Blue-winged Warbler	BWWA	1	2
Golden-winged Warbler	GWWA	1	1
Nashville Warbler	NAWA	2	2
Tennessee Warbler	TEWA	5	25
Northern Parula	NOPA	11	15
Cape May Warbler	CMWA	2	2
Myrtle Warbler	MYWA	3	11
Magnolia Warbler	MAWA	4	12
Chestnut-sided Warbler	CSWA	3	4
Bay-breasted Warbler	BBWA	3	4
Blackpoll Warbler	BLPW	1	5
Blackburnian Warbler	BLBW	3	5
Yellow-throated Warbler	YTWA	6	6
Black-throated Green Warbler	BTNW	3	9
Western Palm Warbler	WPWA	3	6
Prairie Warbler	PRAW	12	18
Ovenbird	OVEN	4	5
Louisiana Waterthrush	LOWA	6	6
Kentucky Warbler	KEWA	4	4
Common Yellowthroat	COYE	11	15
Yellow-breasted Chat	YBCH	14	15
Hooded Warbler	HOWA	1	1
Wilson's Warbler	WIWA	1	1
American Redstart	AMRE	2	4
House Sparrow	HOSP	2	7
Northern Mockingbird	NOMO	5	5
Gray Catbird	GRCA	1	1
Brown Thrasher	BRTH	3	3
Carolina Wren	CARW	23	42
House Wren	HOWR	3	3
Winter Wren	WIWR	1	1
Brown Creeper	BRCR	1	2
White-breasted Nuthatch	WBNU	10	13



<b>Common</b>	<b>Alpha</b>	<b>Number of Detection</b>	<b>Number of Individuals Detected</b>
Red-breasted Nuthatch	RBNU	1	2
Eastern Tufted Titmouse	ETTI	24	46
Carolina Chickadee	CACH	22	45
Golden-crowned Kinglet	GCKI	1	2
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	RCKI	2	4
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	BGGN	17	28
Wood Thrush	WOTH	15	35
Veery	VEER	1	1
Gray-cheeked Thrush	GCTH	2	2
Swainson's Thrush	SWTH	5	13
Hermit Thrush	HETH	1	2
American Robin	AMRO	13	34
Eastern Bluebird	EABL	2	3
		<b>Total # of Detections</b>	724
		<b>Total # Individuals</b>	2154

**Table 2.**

		Checklist of Birds of Abraham Lincoln Birthplace NHS			
Species	Sp	Su	F	W	
Wild Turkey	U	U	U	U	
Northern Bobwhite	U	U	U	U	
Black Vulture	U	U	U	U	
Turkey Vulture	C	C	C	C	
Osprey	V		V		
Northern Harrier	V		V	V	
Sharp-shinned Hawk	U	V	U	U	
Cooper's Hawk	U	U	U	U	
Red-shouldered Hawk	U	U	U	U	
Broad-winged Hawk	U	O	C		
Red-tailed Hawk	C	C	C	C	
American Kestrel	U	V	C	U	
American Woodcock	R	V			
Rock Pigeon	R	R	R	R	
Mourning Dove	C	C	C	C	
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	C	C	C		
Eastern Screech-Owl	C	C	C	C	
Great Horned Owl	U	U	U	U	
Barred Owl	U	U	U	U	
Common Nighthawk	R	V	R		
Chuck-will's-widow	U	U			
Whip-poor-will	C	C			
Chimney Swift	C	C	C		
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	U	U	U		
Red-headed Woodpecker	R	R	R	R	
Red-bellied Woodpecker	C	C	C	C	
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	U		U	U	
Downy Woodpecker	C	C	C	C	
Hairy Woodpecker	C	C	C	C	
Northern Flicker	C	C	C	R	
Pileated Woodpecker	C	C	C	C	
Eastern Wood-Pewee	C	C	C		
Acadian Flycatcher	C	C	C		
Least Flycatcher	U		U		
Eastern Phoebe	U	U	U	O	
Great Crested Flycatcher	U	U	U		
Eastern Kingbird	R	R	R		
White-eyed Vireo	R	R	R		
Yellow-throated Vireo	C	C	C		
Blue-headed Vireo	U		U		
Warbling Vireo	R	O	R		
Philadelphia Vireo	U		U		
Red-eyed Vireo	C	C	C		
Blue Jay	C	C	C	C	
American Crow	C	C	C	C	
Horned Lark	V	V	V	V	
Purple Martin	R	R	R		
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	U	U	U		
Barn Swallow	U	U	U		
Carolina Chickadee	C	C	C	C	
Tufted Titmouse	C	C	C	C	
Red-breasted Nuthatch	U		U	U	
White-breasted Nuthatch	C	C	C	C	
Brown Creeper	U		U	U	
Carolina Wren	C	C	C	C	
House Wren	U	U	U		
Winter Wren	R		R	R	
Golden-crowned Kinglet	C		C	C	
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	C		C	R	
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	C	C	C		

Eastern Bluebird	R	R	R	R	
Veery	U		U		
Gray-cheeked Thrush	R		R		
Swainson's Thrush	C		C		
Hermit Thrush	R		R	R	
Wood Thrush	C	C	U		
American Robin	C	C	C	U	
Gray Catbird	R	R	R		
Northern Mockingbird	U	U	U	U	
Brown Thrasher	U	U	U		
European Starling	U	U	U	U	
Cedar Waxwing	C	C	C	C	
Blue-winged Warbler	U		U		
Golden-winged Warbler	R		R		
Tennessee Warbler	C		C		
Orange-crowned Warbler	O		O		
Nashville Warbler	C		C		
Northern Parula	C	U	C		
Yellow Warbler	R	O	R		
Chestnut-sided Warbler	C		C		
Magnolia Warbler	U		C		
Cape May Warbler	U		U		
Black-throated Blue Warbler	O		O		
Yellow-rumped Warbler	C		C	C	
Black-throated Green Warbler	C		C		
Blackburnian Warbler	U		C		
Yellow-throated Warbler	U	U	U		
Pine Warbler	R	O	R		
Prairie Warbler	C	C	C		
Palm Warbler	U		U		
Bay-breasted Warbler	R		C		
Blackpoll Warbler	C				
Cerulean Warbler	R				
Black-and-White Warbler	C	O	C		
American Redstart	C		C		
Worm-eating Warbler	R	R	R		
Ovenbird	U	R	U		
Louisiana Waterthrush	U	U			
Kentucky Warbler	U	U	U		
Connecticut Warbler	O		O		
Mourning Warbler	V		V		
Common Yellowthroat	C	C	C		
Hooded Warbler	U	R	V		
Wilson's Warbler	R		R		
Canada Warbler	R		R		
Yellow-breasted Chat	C	C	C		
Summer Tanager	C	C	C		
Scarlet Tanager	C	C	C		
Eastern Towhee	C	C	C	U	
Chipping Sparrow	R	R	R		
Field Sparrow	U	U	U	U	
Fox Sparrow	V		V	V	
Song Sparrow	U	U	U	U	
Swamp Sparrow	R		R	R	
White-throated Sparrow	C		C	C	
White-crowned Sparrow	V		V	V	
Dark-eyed Junco	C		C	C	
Northern Cardinal	C	C	C	C	
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	C		C		
Indigo Bunting	C	C	R		
Red-winged Blackbird	U	U	U	O	
Eastern Meadowlark	U	U	U	R	
Common Grackle	C	C	C	O	
Brown-Headed Cowbird	C	C	U	O	
Orchard Oriole	R	R			
Baltimore Oriole	R	O	R		

<b>Purple Finch</b>	<b>U</b>		<b>U</b>	<b>U</b>	
<b>House Finch</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>C</b>	
<b>Pine Siskin</b>	<b>U</b>		<b>U</b>	<b>U</b>	
<b>American Goldfinch</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>C</b>	
<b>Evening Grosbeak</b>				<b>O</b>	
<b>House Sparrow</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>R</b>	
<b>C = common – easily found</b> <b>U = uncommon – usually present but may not be seen</b> <b>R = rare – only a few individuals, if any, may be present</b> <b>V = very rare – not always present</b> <b>O = occasional – unusual visitor not located most years</b>					

**Table 3. Species Diversity on Breeding Bird Points**

<b>Point</b>	<b>Max (Mean)</b>
1	22 (22)
2	19 (18)
3	19 (18.5)
4	20 (19.5)
5	21 (19.5)
6	19 (17.5)
7	21 (19)
8	19 (18.5)
9	19 (17.5)
10	23 (22.5)
11	18 (17.5)
12	22 (21)
13	23 (21.5)

**Table 4. Totals recording on Breeding Bird Surveys at Abraham Lincoln Birthplace**

<b>Species</b>	<b>Total observed (includes flyovers and 2 observations at each point)</b>
Common Grackle	832
Indigo Bunting	71
Red-eyed Vireo	61
American Crow	44
Wood Thrush	35
Northern Cardinal	32
Summer Tanager	31
Scarlet Tanager	30
Carolina Wren	28
Tufted Titmouse	22
Carolina Chickadee	21
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	20
Mourning Dove	19
American Robin	19
Acadian Flycatcher	18
Red-bellied Woodpecker	17
Brown-headed Cowbird	17
Cedar Waxwing	16
Downy Woodpecker	15
Pileated Woodpecker	14
Prairie Warbler	14
Eastern Towhee	14
Chimney Swift	13
Blue Jay	13
Yellow-breasted Chat	13
Eastern Wood-Pewee	11
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	9
Yellow-throated Vireo	9
Common Yellowthroat	9
American Goldfinch	9
Great Crested Flycatcher	8
Northern Parula	7
White-breasted Nuthatch	6
Red-winged Blackbird	6
Field Sparrow	6
European Starling	5
Hairy Woodpecker	4
Northern Mockingbird	4
Yellow-throated Warbler	4
Kentucky Warbler	4
Louisiana Waterthrush	4

Song Sparrow	4
Chipping Sparrow	4
House Finch	4
Wild Turkey	3
Northern Bobwhite	3
Yellow-shafted Flicker	3
Eastern Phoebe	3
Barn Swallow	3
Brown Thrasher	3
House Wren	2
White-eyed Vireo	2
Worm-eating Warbler	2
Ovenbird	2
Eastern Meadowlark	2
Orchard Oriole	2
Red-tailed Hawk	1
Red-shouldered Hawk	1
Barred Owl	1
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	1
Red-headed Woodpecker	1
Eastern Kingbird	1
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	1
Purple Martin	1
Eastern Bluebird	1
Gray Catbird	1

**Table 5. Distribution on Breeding Bird Surveys at Abraham Lincoln Birthplace**

<b>Species</b>	<b>Points observed [n=26] (unique points [n=13])</b>
Indigo Bunting	26 (13)
American Crow	21 (13)
Scarlet Tanager	18 (9)
Tufted Titmouse	17 (11)
Summer Tanager	17 (10)
Northern Cardinal	17 (9)
Carolina Wren	17 (9)
Red-bellied Woodpecker	16 (13)
Red-eyed Vireo	16 (10)
Carolina Chickadee	15 (10)
Mourning Dove	15 (10)
Wood Thrush	15 (8)
Downy Woodpecker	14 (12)
Acadian Flycatcher	14 (9)
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	13 (8)
Yellow-breasted Chat	13 (8)
Pileated Woodpecker	12 (9)
Brown-headed Cowbird	12 (7)
Eastern Towhee	12 (6)
Blue Jay	12 (9)
Prairie Warbler	10 (5)
Cedar Waxwing	9 (8)
Chimney Swift	9 (7)
American Goldfinch	9 (7)
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	9 (6)
Eastern Wood-Pewee	9 (5)
American Robin	9 (5)
Yellow-throated Vireo	9 (5)
Common Yellowthroat	9 (5)
Great Crested Flycatcher	8 (6)
Common Grackle	8 (6)
Northern Parula	7 (5)
White-breasted Nuthatch	6 (5)
Field Sparrow	6 (3)
Hairy Woodpecker	4 (3)
Yellow-throated Warbler	4 (3)
Kentucky Warbler	4 (3)
Northern Mockingbird	4 (2)
Louisiana Waterthrush	4 (2)
Song Sparrow	4 (2)
Chipping Sparrow	4 (2)
Yellow-shafted Flicker	3 (3)



Barn Swallow	3 (3)
Red-winged Blackbird	3 (3)
Northern Bobwhite	3 (2)
Eastern Phoebe	3 (2)
Brown Thrasher	3 (2)
European Starling	3 (2)
Wild Turkey	2 (2)
House Wren	2 (1)
White-eyed Vireo	2 (1)
Worm-eating Warbler	2 (1)
Ovenbird	2 (1)
Eastern Meadowlark	2 (1)
Orchard Oriole	2 (1)
House Finch	2 (1)
Red-tailed Hawk	1 (1)
Red-shouldered Hawk	1 (1)
Barred Owl	1 (1)
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	1 (1)
Red-headed Woodpecker	1 (1)
Eastern Kingbird	1 (1)
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	1 (1)
Purple Martin	1 (1)
Eastern Bluebird	1 (1)
Gray Catbird	1 (1)

## **Table 6. Species Summaries (\* denotes probable breeding species)**

Black Vulture – Noted flying over the hills of the Knob Creek Unit. Probably present year round.

Turkey Vulture – Noted over the park. Likely breeds in vicinity and present year round.

Northern Harrier – Uncommon to rare migrant and possible winter visitor. Not noted on park but probably an annual visitor over the park.

Osprey – Uncommon to rare migrant in the area. Not noted during surveys but a possible annual visitor over the park.

Sharp-shinned Hawk – Uncommon to common as a migrant and probable rare winter resident. Noted during migration over Knob Creek unit.

\*Cooper's Hawk – Uncommon migrant over the park and uncommon year-round resident. Noted at Knob Creek unit near point 6 during June. Probable breeder on or near the park.

\*Red-shouldered Hawk – Uncommon resident in the Knob Creek unit. Noted on one breeding point suggesting the species breeds on or near the park.

Broad-winged Hawk – Common migrant over the park, primarily in the fall. May breed in area but was not detected on park during breeding months. Prefers larger tracts of mature forest.

\*Red-tailed Hawk – Relatively common year-round resident. Easier to find on Knob Creek unit, but to be expected on or over both units.

American Kestrel – Common year-round resident in surrounding areas, but not noted on park. Reported by Sturgeon and Kistler. Possibly an uncommon to rare year-round visitor.

Northern Bobwhite – Was found on two breeding bird points on the main unit. Appeared to be a fairly common resident in surrounding farmland and frequent visitor to the main unit.

\*Wild Turkey – Uncommon to common resident on Knob Creek unit. Can be found year round.

\*American Woodcock – Possibly a rare breeder in the park on the Knob Creek unit. A single male was noted calling over the grassy field in March.

\*Mourning Dove – Relatively common species year round. Found throughout both units.

Rock Pigeon – Introduced species. Present in community near main unit. Not observed during survey period but reported by Sturgeon and Kistler. Probably a regular visitor over the main unit.

\*Yellow-billed Cuckoo – Present and common throughout the park in both units. Present in summer and during migration.

\*Eastern Screech-Owl – Surprisingly easily located on both units, including during the daytime. Probable family group was noted at the Knob Creek unit parking lot. Common. Can be found year round.

\*Great Horned Owl – Heard from the Knob Creek unit parking lot. Probably present in small numbers on or near both units. Can be found year round.

\*Barred Owl – Noted on a breeding bird point at dawn on the Knob Creek unit. Likely common on the Knob Creek unit, possibly present on the main unit.

\*Chuck-will's-widow – Uncommon breeder in the region. A single bird was noted calling on the Knob Creek unit. Spring and summer only.

\*Whip-poor-will – Common breeder in the region in mature woodlands. Multiple birds were noted calling on the Knob Creek unit. Spring and summer only.

Common Nighthawk – Probably a rare visitor to the park during migration and possibly summer. Not noted during survey period but reported by Sturgeon and Kistler.

\*Chimney Swift – Common species over the park. Noted on several breeding bird points. Present during summer and migration.

\*Ruby-throated Hummingbird – Uncommon breeder within the park. Only a single bird was noted on breeding bird surveys, but probably more numerous than that. Present in summer and migration.

\*Red-headed Woodpecker – Uncommon to rare species on the park. A single bird was noted on the breeding bird surveys on the Knob Creek Unit. Possibly present year round.

\*Red-bellied Woodpecker – Very common species within the park. Widespread and found on every breeding bird point. Present year round.

\*Downy Woodpecker – Common species within the park. Found on both units year round.

\*Hairy Woodpecker – Uncommon to common species within the park. Widespread but not as common as Downy Woodpecker. Present year round.

\*Northern (Yellow-shafted) Flicker – A few individuals of this species can be found throughout the park. Appears to be slightly more common on the Knob Creek unit. Most common during summer and fall migration, rare in winter.

\*Pileated Woodpecker – Fairly common resident in the park, much more numerous on Knob Creek unit than the main unit. Prefers forested areas and woodlots. Present year round.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker – Uncommon migrant and winter resident within the park. Possible on either unit.

\*Eastern Wood-Pewee – Fairly common species throughout the park. More numerous on Knob Creek unit but not difficult to find on either. Present during summer and migration.

\*Acadian Flycatcher – This species was fairly common in locations along streams in the Knob Creek unit, although it can be found virtually anywhere within the park in wooded areas. Present within the park during migration and summer.

Least Flycatcher – Uncommon migrant within the park, although somewhat difficult to distinguish from the more common Acadian Flycatcher. Present during migration only. Could occur anywhere with random migrant flocks.

\*Eastern Phoebe – Found primarily along streams and near buildings. Common during migration and in summer.

\*Great Crested Flycatcher – Uncommon to common species on the park. Not very numerous, but a few individuals were present on both units. Present during summer and migration.

Eastern Kingbird – Common species in surrounding farmland. Likely not breeding on the park itself, but individuals in surrounding areas were heard on a breeding bird point. Possible in summer and migration.

\*White-eyed Vireo – Uncommon species that prefers scrubby areas. More common on Knob Creek unit, but possible in summer and migration on both units.

\*Yellow-throated Vireo – Uncommon breeder within the park, primarily on the Knob Creek unit. Primarily found in wet areas along stream. Present during migration and summer.

Blue-headed Vireo – Uncommon to common during migration. Possible anywhere in mixed migrant flocks.

Warbling Vireo – Present primarily as a peripheral species in the breeding season in surrounding wetter areas. Was not noted on the park during the survey but was reported by Sturgeon and Kistler. Most likely in migration.

Philadelphia Vireo – Uncommon to rare migrant within the park. Is sometimes present in large flocks of migrating warblers and other songbirds within the park during fall and spring.

\*Red-eyed Vireo – One of the most common birds within the park during breeding season. Found throughout but more numerous on Knob Creek unit. Common in migration as well as breeding season.

\*Blue Jay – A common species throughout the park found in a variety of habitats. Year round resident.

\*American Crow – Common species throughout found in a variety of habitats. Present year round.

Horned Lark – Possibly an uncommon to rare migrant over the park. Can be found in surrounding areas year round, but most likely in migration or winter.

Purple Martin – Noted flying above the forest on the Knob Creek unit. Likely breeds in surrounding areas and forages over the park.

Northern Rough-winged Swallow – Was noted flying over during breeding bird surveys on the Knob Creek unit. Breeds in roadside cuts close to this unit.

Barn Swallow – Noted flying over the park during breeding bird surveys. Likely a common breeder in surrounding areas with individuals foraging over the park during the breeding season.

\*Carolina Chickadee – Common throughout the park. Year round resident.

\*Tufted Titmouse – Common throughout the park. Year round resident.

Red-breasted Nuthatch – Prefers areas with pine stands. Invasive species that can be anywhere from absent to abundant in any given year based on cone crop productivity. Individuals were noted around the Visitor Center on the main unit.

\*White-breasted Nuthatch – Uncommon to common resident within the park. Possible anywhere. Year round resident.

Brown Creeper – Uncommon migrant and winter resident within the park. Possible on either unit.

\*Carolina Wren – Common species in the park. Can be found throughout the park year round.

Winter Wren – Uncommon to rare migrant and winter resident within the park. Prefers areas with thick understory. A few individuals likely present on both units most years.

House Wren – Regular breeder in surrounding communities adjacent to the park. Easily heard calling from nearby houses adjacent to the main unit on the breeding bird survey. Possible breeder from time to time around the Visitor Center as well.

Golden-crowned Kinglet – Common migrant and winter resident within the park. Can be found virtually anywhere.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet – Common migrant and rare winter resident within the park. Possible anywhere.

\*Blue-gray Gnatcatcher – Common breeder within the park on both units. Present in summer and during migration.

Eastern Bluebird – Present in surrounding communities. Individuals can be heard from the main unit and were noted on a breeding point. Some individuals may enter the park from time to time. Possible year-round.

Veery – Uncommon migrant within the park. Possible in any wooded area during migration.

Gray-cheeked Thrush – Uncommon migrant within the park. Possible in any wooded areas during migration.

Swainson's Thrush – Common migrant within the park. Possible in any wooded area during migration.

Hermit Thrush – Uncommon migrant and rare winter resident within the park. Prefers thickets. More common on Knob Creek unit.

\*Wood Thrush – Common breeder primarily on the Knob Creek unit. Prefers wooded areas. Present during migration as well as summer.

\*American Robin – Common throughout the park on both units. Possible anywhere. Present year round, but least common in winter.

\*Gray Catbird – Prefers scrubby areas. Uncommon but present on both units. Possible in summer and during migration.

\*Northern Mockingbird – Present only on the main unit. Most common around habitation. Present year round.

\*Brown Thrasher – Prefers scrubbier areas. Uncommon but present on both units. Possible in summer and during migration.

European Starling – Introduced species. Common resident in surrounding communities and regular visitor primarily to the main unit. Potentially could breed on park. Present year round.

Cedar Waxwing – Common resident on the park on both units. Can be found year round.

Blue-winged Warbler – Uncommon migrant through the park. Possible in any mixed species migrant flock in spring or fall.

Golden-winged Warbler – Uncommon to rare migrant through the park. Possible in any mixed species migrant flock in spring or fall.

Orange-crowned Warbler – Very rare transient within the park. Not observed during survey period but reported by Sturgeon and Kistler. This species is likely less than annual within the park.

Nashville Warbler – Common migrant within the park. Present within most flocks of warblers in both spring and fall.

\*Northern Parula – This species is found primarily in lowland, wet forest, particularly in the vicinity of streams as a breeder. However, a few individuals can be found scattered throughout the park on both units. Fairly common migrant through the park as well.

Yellow Warbler – Rare transient within the park. Probably an uncommon breeder in surrounding areas but not noted on the park during the survey period. Reported by Sturgeon and Kistler.

Chestnut-sided Warbler – Common as a migrant in the park. Possible in any mixed species flock during migration.

Magnolia Warbler – Abundant fall migrant, uncommon spring migrant within the park. Prefers areas with thick ground cover, but possible in any mixed species migrant flock.

Cape May Warbler – Uncommon migrant through the park. Possible anywhere in mixed species migrant flocks.

Black-throated Blue Warbler – One of the rarest warbler migrants in the region. Undoubtedly less than annual on park. Not noted during survey period but reported by Sturgeon and Kistler.

Yellow-rumped (Myrtle) Warbler – Common migrant and winter resident within the park. Found throughout.

Black-throated Green Warbler – A common migrant within the park. Possible in any mixed species flock during migration.

Blackburnian Warbler – Common migrant through the park. Possible in any mixed species migrant flock.

\*Yellow-throated Warbler – Only a few individuals of this species were noted during the breeding season, primarily along streams on the Knob Creek unit. Uncommon as a transient as well.

Pine Warbler – Not noted during the survey period, but likely an uncommon to rare transient within the park. Breeds in pine stands in the region as well. Reported by Sturgeon and Kistler.

\*Prairie Warbler – Common breeder on the Knob Creek unit, but appears to be absent from the main unit as a breeding species. Prefers scrubby areas, particularly where Eastern Redcedars are present. Possible as a migrant on either.

Palm Warbler – Uncommon to common transient within the park. Prefers openings and edges. Possible on both units.

Bay-breasted Warbler – Common fall transient, uncommon spring transient within the park. Possible in any mixed species migrant flock.

Blackpoll Warbler – Transient within the park. Common in spring, likely absent in fall. Usually present in mixed species warbler flocks.

Cerulean Warbler – Not noted during survey period. Probably a rare spring migrant in the park. Not likely to breed in park due to lack of large tracts of mature forest and the bulk of the species leaves the Eastern U.S. by August 1.

Black-and-White Warbler – Common migrant in the park. Possible in any mixed species flocks during migration. Uncommon to rare breeder in region that could possibly show up in summer from time to time.

American Redstart – Common migrant through the park. Possible in any mixed species migrant flock.

\*Worm-eating Warbler – Only a single individual was noted in consecutive years on the Knob Creek unit. Species prefers dense understory and larger tracts of forest. Rare breeder and migrant within the park.

\*Ovenbird – Uncommon to rare breeder within the park. Only noted from one location on Knob Creek unit during the breeding season. Prefers larger tracts of forests. More common as a migrant on both units.



\*Louisiana Waterthrush – Found in small numbers along streams on the Knob Creek unit during the breeding season. Present in spring migration as well on the unit, but individuals leave the breeding grounds by mid-summer.

\*Kentucky Warbler – Present in small numbers primarily on the Knob Creek unit. Prefers areas with denser understory. Possible in migration and summer.

Connecticut Warbler – Very rare transient through the region. Prefers areas with thick ground cover. Was not noted during the survey period but reported by Sturgeon and Kistler. Species is likely less than annual.

Mourning Warbler – Uncommon to rare transient through the region. Prefers areas with thick ground cover. Was not noted during the survey period but reported by Sturgeon and Kistler. Species possibly is annual within the park.

\*Common Yellowthroat – Fairly common breeder on the park. More numerous on Knob Creek unit. Prefers scrubby areas. Present during migration as well as summer.

\*Hooded Warbler – A single bird was noted singing on the Knob Creek unit after a breeding bird survey. Possibly a rare breeder on the unit. Prefers large forests with thick understory. Possible in migration as well as summer.

Wilson's Warbler – Rare transient through the region. Was not noted during the survey period but reported by Sturgeon and Kistler. Possible in mixed migrant flocks.

Canada Warbler – Uncommon to rare transient through the park. Was not noted during the survey period but was reported by Sturgeon and Kistler. Possible in mixed migrant flocks.

\*Yellow-breasted Chat – Fairly common breeder on both units. Prefers scrubby areas. Present in migration as well as summer.

\*Summer Tanager – Common breeder on both units but exceptionally numerous on the main unit. Prefers more open areas and second-growth. Present in migration as well as summer.

\*Scarlet Tanager – Common breeder on the park, but primarily on the Knob Creek unit where it was one of the most common species. Present in migration as well as summer.

\*Eastern Towhee – Present in small numbers near openings mostly on both units. Present year round.

\*Chipping Sparrow – Found only around the Visitor Center on the main unit, but also possible near the parking area on the Knob Creek unit. Present in migration as well as summer.

\*Field Sparrow – Can be found in very small numbers year round on both units, but more numerous on the Knob Creek unit. Prefers openings and grassy areas.

Fox Sparrow – Likely an uncommon to rare migrant and winter visitor. Prefers scrubbier areas. Was not noted on the surveys but was reported by Sturgeon and Kistler.

\*Song Sparrow – Uncommon year round resident on both units. Prefers scrubbier areas.

Swamp Sparrow – Rare migrant and winter visitor. Prefers grassy areas as well as fallow fields. Species was noted in the grassy field on the Knob Creek unit.

White-throated Sparrow – Common migrant and winter resident. Most numerous in brushy areas, but present in scattered flocks wherever ground cover is thick within both units of the park.

White-crowned Sparrow – Primarily a peripheral wintering species. Prefers fencerows in farmlands. Present in small numbers in surrounding areas and may possibly occur from time to time in migration or winter within the park on the main unit.

Dark-eyed Junco – Common migrant and winter resident in the park. Flocks are easily found on both units.

\*Northern Cardinal – Common year round resident on both units of the park. Found throughout.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak – Common migrant throughout the park. Found primarily along edges and in wooded areas of both units.

\*Indigo Bunting – Abundant breeder within the park, found on every breeding point. Prefers edges and openings. Present in migration as well as summer.

Red-winged Blackbird – Common resident of surrounding areas. Individuals frequently make excursions over the park. Possible year round but least likely in winter.

Eastern Meadowlark – A species of fields. Only noted from singing individuals within earshot of the main unit. This species is primarily a peripheral species. Possible year round.

Common Grackle – Common resident of surrounding areas. This species was exceptionally numerous as a large roost of this species was present adjacent to the park. Individuals can be seen year round, but least likely in winter.

\*Brown-headed Cowbird – Nest parasite. Common species throughout both units. Prefers woodlots with openings nearby. Likely has a significant impact on breeding species within the park due to their relatively large numbers. Possible year round, but rare in winter.

\*Orchard Oriole – Primarily a peripheral species, but a single male was singing on the main unit both years. Likely an uncommon spring migrant as well.

Baltimore Oriole – Was not noted on the park during the survey period, but likely is an uncommon to rare transient in the park. Reported by Sturgeon and Kistler.

Purple Finch – Erratic migrant and winter visitor. Numbers are dependent on cone crops and other mast production. Likely uncommon to rare most winters within the park. Was found on the main unit during the survey period.

\*House Finch – Noted only from around the Visitor Center area of the main unit. This species is primarily peripheral, but likely breeds around the Visitor Center. Possible year round.

Pine Siskin – Erratic migrant and winter visitor. Abundance is dependant on cone crops. Was present on the main unit during the survey period, but may be absent most years.

\*American Goldfinch – Present throughout the park on both units in small numbers. Present year round.

Evening Grosbeak – Very rare and erratic winter species in the region. Numbers dependent on cone crops. Not reported during survey period but reported by Sturgeon and Kistler. Species is not reported in Kentucky more than a few times a decade, but can be quite widespread in invasion years.

\*House Sparrow – Introduced species. Noted from around the Visitor Center on the main unit only. This species is one of residential and urban areas and generally will not be found away from human habitation. Present year round.