# **Southern TEXAS**

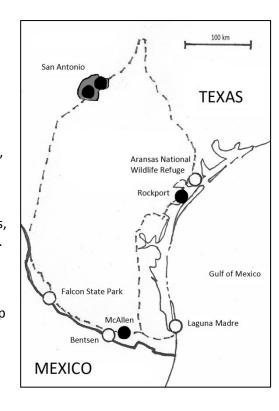
**December 2012** 



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### **ITINERARY**

3/12	Flight Copenhagen-London-Dallas (15.15-17.30)-San Antonio (18.40-). Picked up Hertz-car and drove to nearby Hill Country Inn & Suites (San Antonio).
4/12	Early morning around Hill Country Inn & Suites (San Antonio), drive to outlet S of Austin, drive to Rockport (13-19) with arrival in torrential rain. Stayed at Lighthouse Inn.
5/12	Around Lighthouse Inn 07-08.45 (Rockport), boat-trip from Rockport to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge (09.00-12.20), drive to Aransas NWR (14-15), Aransas NWR (15-17.15). Stayed at Lighthouse Inn.
6/12	Morning in Rockport, drive to Harlingen with stop at lay-by south of Sarita, drive to South Padre Island with a few stops stay at Laguna Madre and briefly at the Mexican Gulf coast. Finally a brief stop E of Laguna Vista by sunset. Visit to an outlet near McAllen. Overnight stay in 6 Motel in McAllen.
7/12	Bentsen – Rio Grande Valley State Park (08-12.30), drive with stop in Roma, Falcon State Park (15-30-16.45), drive up to Laredo (16.45-18), drive to San Antonio (after dark). Stayed at the noisy Rodeway Inn near centre.
8/12	Walk in San Antonia along river to Alamo (09-13), drive to Airport. Flight San Antonio-Dallas-London.
9/12	Flight London-Copenhagen (14-17).



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## Participants:

Birgit Saugstrup Hansen & Hans Jørgen Bruun Pedersen Lene Smith & Uffe Gjøl Sørensen



#### Introduction

This trip-report deals with observations of 11 mammals, 128 birds and one reptile from a 5-day visit to southeastern Texas. The overall aim of the trip was to have some relaxed days with time for bird-watching, sight-seeing – and shopping.

Nature-wise the main target was to see the unique Whooping Cranes on their winter-grounds in Aransas National Wildlife Refuge. With only five days available we concentrated on a couple of unique coastal-sites and a brief visit to the Rio Grande valley at the border with Mexico. As the trip for two in the group (Uffe and Lene) was the first visit ever to the States - and the Nearctic region for that matter - a general theme was a wish to see a good cross-section of characteristic Nearctic birds rather than to find as many species as possible. To this end, the trip was very successful as we did record species of all the endemic families to be found in mid-winter in this unique corner of the US. This included charismatic species like Bobwhite and Scaly Quail, the two Vultures, Crested Caracara, Aplomado Falcon, Whooping Crane, Black Skimmer, Greater Roadrunner, Great Horned Owl, Great Kiskadee, Green Jay, Blue-gray Gnatcather, some wood warblers and many more. We had cracking view of a Bobcat but also enjoyed Coyote and Racoon.

The best way to enjoy the Whooping Cranes is to take a boat-trip from Rockport. We booked this on the Inter-net and it worked very well (<a href="www.whoopingcranetours.com">www.whoopingcranetours.com</a>). The trip was relaxed with plenty of time to see both the cranes at close quarters besides enjoying many other wetland-birds and with good information from the guide.

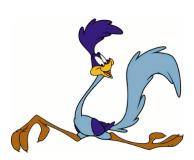
Our trip was arranged with short notice and most of our planning was based on D. Gosney (2011): *Finding Birds in Southern Texas* supplemented with various information from the internet. For a brief visit this was very useful and helped us to focus. After the trip we have seen M.Cooksey & R.Weeks (2006): *A Birder's Guide to the Texas Coast* and M.W.Lockwood et al. (2008): *A Birder's Guide to the Rio Grande Valley* – both from American Birding Association. The two books can be strongly recommended – none the least if one does have sufficient time to exploit the multiple options.

We had planned a one-day visit to Mexico but following local advice we decided not to take the risk.

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#### **MAMMALS**

We managed to get photos of 8 mammal-species during the trip. This is marked by an \* in front of the species name.

- 1. Virginia Opossum Didelphis virginiana. 4/12 road kill drive S of Austin to Rockport
- 2. \*Eastern Cottontail Sylvilagus floridanus. 7/12 1 (see left photo below) Falcon State Park.





- 3. **Black-tailed Jackrabbit** *Lepus californicus*. 7/12 1 road kill (was likely this species) drive Falcon State Park to Laredo.
- 4. \*Eastern Fox Squirrel Sciurus niger. 4/12 10+ Hill Country Inn & Suites (San Antonio), 5/12 5
  Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 7/12 10+ (see right photo above) Bentsen, 8/12 20 San Antonio.
- 5. **Unidentified Bat**. 3/12 at least two species noticed by use of bat-detector Hill Country Inn & Suites (San Antonio).
- 6. \*Bobcat Lynx rufus. 7/12 1 Bentsen. The bobcat crossed the road right in front of us near one of the feeding-stations. According to local birders this was not an unusual behavior of this individual. One of the absolute highlights of the trip.







- 7. \*Coyote Canis latrans. 4/12 1 road kill drive S of Austin to Rockport, 5/12 1 Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 6/12 1 Aplamado Falcon-site (E of Laguna Vista), 7/12 1 Bentsen.
- 8. \*Raccoon Procyon lotor. 5/12 1 Aransas National Wildlife Refuge.
- 9. \*Wild Boar Sus scrofa. 5/12 1 Aransas National Wildlife Refuge. Feral population.
- 10. \*White-tailed Deer Odocoileus virginianus. 5/12 1 Aransas National Wildlife Refuge.
- 11. \*Atlantic Bottle-nosed Dolphin *Turniops truncates*. 5/12 3x (see photo below) boat-trip to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 6/12 3 drive Harlingen to South Padre.











#### **BIRDS**

During the trip we managed to get photos of 76 bird-species. This is marked by an \* in front of the species name.

- 1. \*Plain Chachalaca Ortalis vetula. 7/12 15+ (see left photo above) Bentsen.
- 2. Scaled Quail Callipepla squamata. 7/12 3 Falcon State Park.
- 3. \*Northern Bobwhite Colinus virginianus. 7/12 8 (see central photo above) Falcon State Park.
- 4. Black-bellied Whistling-Duck Dendrocygna autumnalis. 4/12 6 around Lighthouse Inn (Rockport).
- 5. **Snow Goose** Chen caerulescens. 4/12 100+ drive S of Austin to Rockport, 5/12 6 adult 1 juvenile Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 6/12 200+ drive Rockport to Harlingen.
- 6. **Gadwall** Anas strepera. 5/12 10 Aransas National Wildlife Refuge.
- 7. \*American Wigeon Anas americana. 5/12 5 Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 6/12 + (see right photo above) Laguna Madre.
- 8. \*Mallard Anas platyrhynchos. 8/12 20+ San Antonio. Undoubtedly domestic origin.
- 9. \*Mottled Duck Anas fulvigula. 6/12 2 drive Harlingen to South Padre, 6 (see left photo below) Laguna Madre.
- 10. Northern Shoveler Anas clypeata. 4/12 3 drive S of Austin to Rockport.
- 11. \*Northern Pintail Anas acuta. 5/12 50 boat-trip to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, + Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 6/12 + Laguna Madre.
- 12. \*Redhead Aythya americana. 5/12 200 boat-trip to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 500+ Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 6/12 + (see central photo below) Laguna Madre.
- 13. Ring-necked Duck Aythya collaris. 5/12 1 male Aransas National Wildlife Refuge.
- 14. \*Lesser Scaup Aythya affinis. 5/12 30+ Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 6/12 + (see central photo below) Laguna Madre.
- 15. \*Bufflehead Bucephala albeola. 5/12 40+ boat-trip to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge.
- 16. Common Goldeneye Bucephala clangula. 5/12 30+ boat-trip to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge,
- 17. Hooded Merganser Lophodytes cucullatus. 5/12 3 boat-trip to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge,
- 18. Red-breasted Merganser Mergus serrator. 5/12 2 boat-trip to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge,
- 19. \*Common Loon Gavia immer. 5/12 2 around Lighthouse Inn (Rockport), 12 boat-trip to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 6/12 1 around Lighthouse Inn (Rockport).
- 20. \*Pied-billed Grebe Podilymbus podiceps. 5/12 1 Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 6/12 15 (see right photo below) Laguna Madre, 7/12 1 Bentsen.
- 21. Black-necked Grebe Podiceps nigricollis. 5/12 4 Aransas National Wildlife Refuge.
- 22. \*White Ibis Eudocimus albus. 5/12 8 boat-trip to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 2 Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 6/12 3 Laguna Madre.
- 23. Roseate Spoonbill Platalea ajaja. 5/12 10 boat-trip to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge.

















- 24. \*Great Blue Heron Ardea herodias. 5/12 2 around Lighthouse Inn (Rockport), 50 Left photo above) boat-trip to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, + Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 6/12 10 Laguna Madre, 7/12 1 drive Bentsen to Falcon State Park.
- 25. \*(American) Great Egret Ardea [alba] egretta. 5/12 1 around Lighthouse Inn (Rockport), 15 boat-trip to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, + Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 6/12 10 Laguna Madre, 7/12 1 Bentsen.
- **26. Snowy Egret** *Egretta thula*. 5/12 5 boat-trip to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, + Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 6/12 5 Laguna Madre.
- 27. **Little Blue Heron** *Egretta caerulea*. 5/12 1 boat-trip to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 1 Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 6/12 2 Laguna Madre.
- 28. \*Tricolored Heron Egretta tricolor. 5/12 5 boat-trip to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 6/12 8 Laguna Madre.
- 29. \*Reddish Egret Egretta rufescens. 5/12 2 boat-trip to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 6/12 1 Laguna Madre.
- 30. \*Black-crowned Night-Heron Nycticorax nycticorax. 5/12 3 boat-trip to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge.
- 31. \*Yellow-crowned Night-Heron Nyctanassa violacea. 8/12 4 San Antonio.
- 32. \*American White Pelican Pelecanus erythrorhynchos. 5/12 2 around Lighthouse Inn (Rockport), 100+ boat-trip to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, + Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 6/12 35+ Laguna Madre.
- 33. \*Brown Pelican Pelecanus occidentalis. 5/12 25+ around Lighthouse Inn (Rockport), 50+ boat-trip to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, + Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 6/12 + drive Harlingen to South Padre, 120+ Laguna Madre, 50+ Mexican Gulf coast.
- 34. \*Neotropic Cormorant Phalacrocorax brasilianus. 5/12 10 around Lighthouse Inn (Rockport), 10 boat-trip to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 6/12 +, 8/12 2 San Antonio.
- 35. \*Double-crested Cormorant Phalacrocorax auritus. 4/12 1 ? drive S of Austin to Rockport, 5/12 5 around Lighthouse Inn (Rockport), 50+ boat-trip to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, + Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 6/12 +, 7/12 + Falcon State Park.
- 36. Anhinga Anhinga anhinga. 6/12 2 drive Harlingen to South Padre, 7/12 1 Bentsen. Un-identified Vultures. 4/12 150+ drive S of Austin to Rockport, 75+ Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 6/12 common as soon as the fog vanished.
- 37. \*Black Vulture Coragyps atratus. 4/12 Hill Country Inn & Suites (San Antonio), 2 drive S of Austin to Rockport, 5/12 1 boat-trip to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, + Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 6/12 +, 7/12 2 Bentsen, 5 (incl. 3 over Mexico) drive Bentsen to Falcon State Park,
- 38. \*Turkey Vulture Cathartes aura. 4/12 8 drive S of Austin to Rockport, 5/12 5 around Lighthouse Inn (Rockport), 40+ boat-trip to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, + Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 6/12 ++, 7/12 2 Bentsen, + drive Bentsen to Falcon State Park, + Falcon State Park, + drive Falcon State Park to Laredo, 8/12 1 San Antonio.













- 39. \*Osprey Pandion haliaetus. 5/12 5 boat-trip to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, + Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 6/12 1 drive Rockport to Harlingen, 2 Laguna Madre, 20 Aplamado Falcon-site (E of Laguna Vista).
- 40. White-tailed Kite Elanus leucurus. 4/12 2 drive S of Austin to Rockport.
- 41. \*Northern Harrier Circus [cyaneus] hudsonius. 4/12 1 drive S of Austin to Rockport, 5/12 2 males 2 females/juvenile boat-trip to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 1 Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 6/12 2 drive Harlingen to South Padre, 1 Laguna Madre, 7/12 2 drive Bentsen to Falcon State Park, 2 Falcon State Park, 3 drive Falcon State Park to Laredo.
- 42. Sharp-shinned Hawk Accipiter striatus. 5/12 1 Aransas National Wildlife Refuge.
- 43. **Cooper's Hawk** *Accipiter cooperii*. 4/12 1 Hill Country Inn & Suites (San Antonio), 1 drive S of Austin to Rockport, 6/12 1 juvenile Laguna Madre, 7/12 2 Bentsen, 8/12 1 San Antonio.
- 44. \*Harris's Hawk Parabuteo unicinctus. 6/12 3 Aplamado Falcon-site (E of Laguna Vista), 7/12 3 Falcon State Park, 2 drive Falcon State Park to Laredo.
- 45. **Red-shouldered Hawk** Buteo lineatus. 4/12 1 drive San Antonio to S of Austin, 6/12 1? drive Rockport to Harlingen.
- 46. \*White-tailed Hawk Buteo albicaudatus. 5/12 1 Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 6/12 1 drive Rockport to Harlingen, 3 drive Harlingen to South Padre Island.
- 47. **Red-tailed Hawk** Buteo jamaicensis. 4/12 2+ drive S of Austin to Rockport, 5/12 1 boat-trip to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 1+ Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 6/12 3 drive Rockport to Harlingen, 7/12 + drive Bentsen to Falcon State Park, + drive Falcon State Park to Laredo.
- 48. \*Crested Caracara Caracara cheriway. 4/12 8 drive S of Austin to Rockport, 5/12 6 boat-trip to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 5 Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 6/12 1 drive Rockport to Harlingen, 2 Aplamado Falcon-site (E of Laguna Vista), 7/12 2 Falcon State Park, 8 drive Falcon State Park to Laredo.
- 49. American Kestrel Falco sparverius. 4/12 3 drive S of Austin to Rockport, 5/12 1 male boat-trip to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 4 Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 12 drive to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 6/12 5 drive Rockport to Harlingen, 5 drive Harlingen to South Padre, 2 Laguna Madre, 7/12 2 drive Bentsen to Falcon State Park, 2 Falcon State Park.
- 50. \*Aplomado Falcon Falco femoralis. 6/12 2 drive Harlingen to South Padre. A pair attending a nest on one of the roadside pylons.
- 51. \*Peregrine Falco peregrines. 5/12 1 female boat-trip to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge.
- 52. Clapper Rail Rallus longirostris. 6/12 1 heard Laguna Madre.
- 53. \*Common Gallinule Gallinula galeata. 6/12 1 drive Harlingen to South Padre, 10+ Laguna Madre.
- 54. \*American Coot Fulica americana. 5/12 2 Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 1 drive to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 6/12 30 Laguna Madre.
- 55. \*Sandhill Crane Grus canadensis. 5/12 3 adult 1 juvenile + 15 Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 6/12 25 drive Rockport to Harlingen.
- 56. \*Whooping Crane Grus americana. 5/12 9 pairs (2x one juvenile) boat-trip to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 2 adult Aransas National Wildlife Refuge.













- 57. \*American Oystercatcher Haematopus palliates. 5/12 60+ boat-trip to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge.
- 58. Black-necked Stilt Himantopus mexicanus. 6/12 1 Laguna Madre.
- 59. \*American Avocet Recurvirostra americana. 5/12 10 boat-trip to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge.
- 60. **Black-bellied Plover** *Pluvialis squatarola*. 5/12 5, 6/12 5 Laguna Madre, 1 coast Mexican Gulf (N of Laguna Madre).
- 61. **Semipalmated Plover** *Charadrius semipalmatus*. 6/12 15 Laguna Madre.
- 62. Piping Plover Charadrius melodus. 6/12 3 Laguna Madre.
- 63. Killdeer Charadrius vociferous. 6/12 6 Laguna Madre.
- 64. **Spotted Sandpiper** *Actitis macularius*. 5/12 1 around Lighthouse Inn (Rockport), 2 boat-trip to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 7/12 1 drive Bentsen to Falcon State Park.
- 65. Greater Yellowlegs Tringa melanoleuca. 5/12 3 drive to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge.
- 66. \*(Western) Willet *Tringa semipalmata inornata*. 5/12 50+ boat-trip to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 6/12 25 Laguna Madre, 5 coast Mexican Gulf (N of Laguna Madre).
- 67. Lesser Yellowlegs Tringa flavipes. 5/12 1 boat-trip to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge.
- 68. \*Long-billed Curlew Numenius americanus. 5/12 2 boat-trip to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 6/12 2 Laguna Madre.
- 69. \*Marbled Godwit Limosa fedoa. 5/12 10 boat-trip to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge.
- 70. **Ruddy Turnstone** Arenaria interpres. 5/12 5 around Lighthouse Inn (Rockport), 15 boat-trip to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 6/12 2 around Lighthouse Inn (Rockport), 5 coast Mexican Gulf (N of Laguna Madre).
- 71. **Sanderling** *Calidris alba*. 5/12 155 boat-trip to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 6/12 5 Laguna Madre, 2 coast Mexican Gulf (N of Laguna Madre).
- 72. Western Sandpiper Calidris mauri. 6/12 15 Laguna Madre.
- 73. Least Sandpiper Calidris minutilla. 6/12 15 Laguna Madre.
- 74. **Dunlin** Calidris alpine. 5/12 1 boat-trip to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 6/12 10 Laguna Madre.
- 75. Stilt Sandpiper Calidris himantopus. 6/12 30 Laguna Madre.
- 76. **Short/Long-billed Dowitcher** *Limnodromus griseus/scolopaceus*. 6/12 50 Laguna Madre. We didn't have the time to try to have these dowitchers finally identified. Short-billed perhaps the most likely?
- 77. \*Laughing Gull Leucophaeus atricilla. 5/12 50+ around Lighthouse Inn (Rockport), 30+ boat-trip to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, + Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 6/12 + Laguna Madre, + coast Mexican Gulf (N of Laguna Madre).
- 78. \*Ring-billed Gull Larus delawarensis. 5/12 2 around Lighthouse Inn (Rockport), 2 boat-trip to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 1 Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 6/12 2 coast Mexican Gulf (N of Laguna Madre).
- 79. \*American Herring Gull Larus smithsonianus. 5/12 2 around Lighthouse Inn (Rockport), 5 boattrip to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 6/12 3 coast Mexican Gulf (N of Laguna Madre).















- 80. \*Caspian Tern Hydroprogne caspia. 5/12 15 boat-trip to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 2 Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 6/12 10 Laguna Madre.
- 81. \*Forster's Tern Sterna forsteri. 5/12 10 boat-trip to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 6/12 25 coast Mexican Gulf (N of Laguna Madre).
- 82. \*Royal Tern Thalasseus maximus. 5/12 3 boat-trip to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 6/12 40 Laguna Madre.
- 83. \*Black Skimmer Rynchops niger. 5/12 1 boat-trip to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge.
- 84. Rock Pigeon Columba livia. Seen daily in cities.
- 85. **Eurasian Collared-Dove** Streptopelia decaocto. 5/12 10 around Lighthouse Inn (Rockport), 6/12 40+ around Lighthouse Inn (Rockport), 7/12 3 drive Falcon State Park to Laredo.
- 86. Mourning Dove Zenaida macroura. 4/12 5 drive S of Austin to Rockport, 5/12 2 around Lighthouse Inn (Rockport), 10 Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 6/12 1 around Lighthouse Inn (Rockport).
- 87. \*White-winged Dove Zenaida asiatica. 4/12 50 Hill Country Inn & Suites (San Antonio), + drive S of Austin to Rockport, 5/12 15 boat-trip to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 6/12 + around Lighthouse Inn (Rockport), 7/12 5 Bentsen.
- 88. \*Inca Dove Scardafella inca. 6/12 10 Rockport, 7/12 1 Bentsen, 5 Falcon State Park.
- 89. \*White-tipped Dove Leptotila verreauxi. 7/12 15 Bentsen.
- 90. Green Parakeet Aratinga holochlora. 7/12 300+ N of Bentsen.
- 91. \*Greater Roadrunner Geococcyx californianus. 6/12 1 drive Rockport to Harlingen, 7/12 1 Bentsen, 1 Falcon State Park.
- 92. Barn Owl Tyto alba. 6/12 1 road kill drive Harlingen to South Padre.
- 93. \*Eastern Screech-Owl Megascops asio. 7/12 1 Bentsen.
- 94. \*Great Horned Owl Bubo virginianus. 4/12 2+1 drive S of Austin to Rockport, 5/12 1 heard Aransas National Wildlife Refuge.
- 95. **Unidentified Hummingbird** *Trochilidae sp.* 6/12 1 around Lighthouse Inn (Rockport). No feeders and no hummingbirds at Bentsen were disappointing.
- 96. \*Ringed Kingfisher Megaceryle torquatus. 7/12 1 Bentsen, 1 Roma.
- 97. **Belted Kingfisher** *Megaceryle alcyon*. 5/12 1 boat-trip to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 1 drive to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 6/12 3 Laguna Madre.
- 98. \*Golden-fronted Woodpecker Melanerpes aurifrons. 4/12 1 Hill Country Inn & Suites (San Antonio), 6/12 1 drive Rockport to Harlingen, 7/12 10 Bentsen, 5 Falcon State Park.
- 99. \*Yellow-bellied Sapsucker Sphyrapicus varius. 6/12 1 female Rockport.
- 100. Ladder-backed Woodpecker Picoides scalaris. 7/12 1 Bentsen.
- 101. \*Eastern Phoebe Sayornis phoebe. 5/12 10 Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 6/12 1 around Lighthouse Inn (Rockport), 2 drive Rockport to Harlingen.
- 102. \*Great Kiskadee Pitangus sulphuratus. 7/12 20+ Bentsen.
- 103. Loggerhead Shrike Lanius Iudovicianus. 4/12 6+ drive S of Austin to Rockport, 5/12 2 around Lighthouse Inn (Rockport), 5 Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 6/12 +.
- 104. **Green Jay** Cyanocorax yncas. 6/12 10+ roadside park S of Sarita, 7/12 50+ Bentsen, 10 Falcon State Park.
- 105. Blue Jay Cyanocitta cristata. 4/12 1+4 Hill Country Inn & Suites (San Antonio).



















- 106. American Crow Corvus brachyrhynchos. 4/12 25+ drive S of Austin to Rockport, 5/12 2 Aransas National Wildlife Refuge.
- 107. \*Chihuahuan Raven Corvus cryptoleucus. 6/12 2 drive Harlingen to South Padre.
- 108. Black-crested Titmouse Baeolophus atricristatus. 4/12 2 Hill Country Inn & Suites (San Antonio), 7/12 4 Bentsen.
- *109.* **Tree Swallow** *Tachycineta bicolor*. 7/12 30 Bentsen.
- 110. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher Polioptila caerulea. 7/12 1 Bentsen.
- 111. \*Carolina Wren Thryothorus Iudovicianus. 4/12 1 Hill Country Inn & Suites (San Antonio), 8/12 1 San Antonio.
- 112. \*Cactus Wren Campylorhynchus brunneicapillus. 7/12 1 Falcon State Park.
- 113. Ruby-crowned Kinglet Regulus calendula. 6/12 3 Rockport.
- 114. \*Northern Mockingbird Mimus polyglottos . 4/12 12 Hill Country Inn & Suites (San Antonio), 2 drive S of Austin to Rockport, 5 Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 6/12 2 drive Harlingen to South Padre, 2 Laguna Madre, 7/12 5 Bentsen.
- 115. \*Long-billed Thrasher Toxostoma longirostre. 7/12 1 Bentsen.
- 116. \*European Starling (I) Sturnus vulgaris. Widely distributed.
- 117. \*House Sparrow Passer domesticus. 4/12 + Hill Country Inn & Suites (San Antonio), 30+ Victoria, 5/12 + around Lighthouse Inn (Rockport), 6/12 + around Lighthouse Inn (Rockport), + drive Rockport to Harlingen, + Laguna Madre, 7/12 + Bentsen, 8/12 + San Antonio.
- 118. House Finch Carpodacus mexicanus. 4/12 1 pair Hill Country Inn & Suites (San Antonio).
- 119. **Orange-crowned Warbler** *Vermivora celata*. 4/12 1 Hill Country Inn & Suites (San Antonio), 7/12 2 Bentsen, 1 Falcon State Park, 8/12 2 San Antonio.
- 120. \*Yellow-rumped Warbler Dendroica coronate. 4/12 5+ Hill Country Inn & Suites (San Antonio), 5/12 100+ Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 7/12 5 Bentsen, 8/12 1 San Antonio.
- 121. \*Altamira Oriole Icterus gularis. 7/12 2 Bentsen.
- *\*Brown-headed Cowbird Molothrus ater.* 4/12 300? Drive S of Austin to Rockport, 6/12 6 drive Rockport to Harlingen.
- 123. \*Red-winged Blackbird Agelaius phoeniceus. 5/12 8 Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 6/12 15 Laguna Madre, 7/12 30 Bentsen, 50 Falcon State Park.
- 124. \*Brewer's Blackbird Euphagus cyanocephalus. 6/12 50 drive Rockport to Harlingen.
- 125. \*Great-tailed Grackle Quiscalus mexicanus. 3/12 20+ Dallas Airport, 4/12 50+ Hill Country Inn & Suites (San Antonio), + drive San Antonio to S of Austin, 5/12 20 around Lighthouse Inn (Rockport), 6/12 + around Lighthouse Inn (Rockport), + Laguna Madre, 6 coast Mexican Gulf (N of Laguna Madre), 7/12 + Bentsen, 300 Falcon State Park, 8/12 25 San Antonio.
- 126. **Eastern Meadowlark** Sturnella magna. 4/12 25+ drive S of Austin to Rockport, 5/12 2 drive to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge.
- 127. \*Northern Cardinal Cardinalis cardinalis. 4/12 5 Hill Country Inn & Suites (San Antonio), 7/12 5 Bentsen, 1 Falcon State Park.
- 128. \*Pyrrhuloxia Cardinalis sinuatus. 7/12 2 Falcon State Park.

#### **REPTILES**

\*Alligator Alligator mississippiensis. 5/12 1 (see photo)
 Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, 6/12 1 Laguna Madre.

