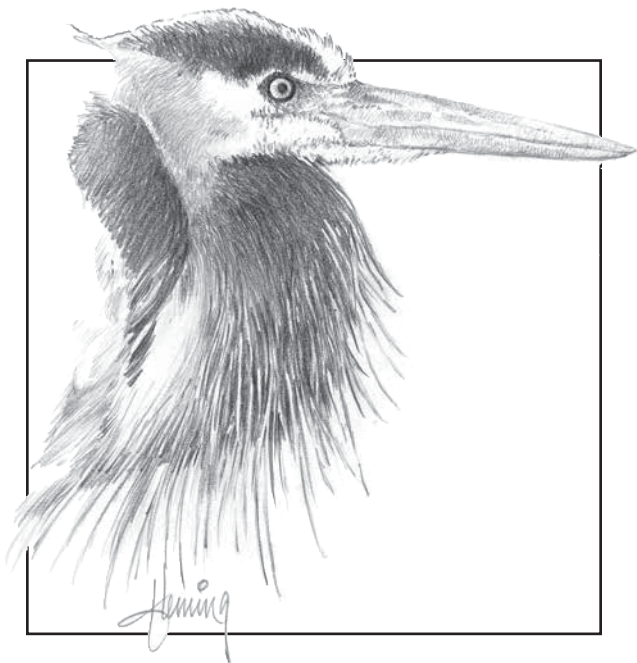


TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE

BIRDS

OF

LAKE BROWNWOOD STATE PARK



A FIELD CHECKLIST

2017

Cover: Illustration of Great Blue Heron by Rob Fleming.

INTRODUCTION

Lake Brownwood consists of the impounded waters of two of the main tributaries of the Colorado River — Pecan Bayou and Jim Ned Creek. Lake Brownwood State Park occupies 538 acres of a peninsula formed near the confluence of these two streams.

Lake Brownwood State Park is near the geographical center of Texas and occurs in the vegetational area known as the Cross Timbers and Prairies. It has a strong influence from the adjacent Rolling Plains and Edwards Plateau. There is some diversity of habitat — lots of shoreline and much woodland. Most of the shoreline is rocky or sandy, with no mud flats, although there are some to be found on the lake away from the park.

Live oak motts and mixed mesquite, post oak, cedar elm woods comprise the timbered areas. Tall native grasses grow luxuriantly along the hillsides. The steep-banked hilly promontories are thick with skunk-bush sumac, buckeye and catclaw, but there are frequent limestone outcroppings which have separated to form rock crevasses wide enough to walk through.

There are several miles of hiking trails in the park — many leading through the picturesque limestone formations — with a chance to see Carolina Wrens, Hermit Thrushes, both Ruby-crowned and Golden-crowned Kinglets, as well as the almost-sure look at Northern Mockingbirds, Mourning Doves, Bewick's Wrens, Northern Cardinals, Black-crested Titmice, and Carolina Chickadees. One note of caution — watch for poison oak and poison ivy!

Winter is a good time to see sparrows. Fourteen sparrow species have been recorded, with the most common being White-crowned, Harris's, Field, Chipping, Song, Rufous-crowned, and Dark-eyed Junco. Spotted Towhees, American Goldfinches, and Cedar Waxwings are also plentiful.

The high promontories on the peninsula offer long vistas of water and land beyond the confines of the park itself and for this reason, species are included that were observed within the park, overhead, or within three miles of the park headquarters.

This checklist is the result of visual records, mist-netting and bird-banding over a period of twenty-four months. Two people worked three days each month for the period of this study. The list should be considered preliminary for lack of complete data and because the area has been birded so little in the past. Few other records are available.

It is recognized that additional birds will be seen from time-to-time, therefore it is requested that you report birds seen, but not on this list, on a BIRD SIGHTING REPORT form available at the park office. Return the completed forms to the park office or mail them to Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Natural Resources Program, 4200 Smith School Road, Austin,

TX 78744. Nomenclature and organization used in this list follow the latest edition of the American Ornithologists' Union *Check-list of North American Birds*, as supplemented.

The database that comprises this checklist was compiled by Gordon and Mary Creel, with assistance by Ross Dawkins, Delbert Tarter, and Lorie Black.

This checklist was developed by Mary Creel and Sue Oliver with updates by Mark Lockwood in 2017.

Please help us protect the natural avian communities in our parks by not using playback tapes of bird songs. Frequent use of these tapes disrupts essential territorial behavior and may lead to nest failure. Thank you for your cooperation.

LEGEND

C = common, easy to find most days.

U = uncommon, usually present, not easy to find.

R = rare, not expected every year. Low numbers.

X = one or two occurrences, not expected.

SPG = Spring (March, April, May)

SUM = Summer (June, July, August)

FAL = Fall (September, October, November)

WIN = Winter (December, January, February)

CHECKLIST

		SPG	SUM	FAL	WIN
_____	Snow Goose.....	U			
_____	Canada Goose.....	R			U
_____	Gadwall	C		C	C
_____	American Wigeon	C		U	C
_____	Mallard.....	C	C	C	C
_____	Blue-winged Teal.....	C		C	
_____	Cinnamon Teal.....				R
_____	Northern Shoveler	C		U	C
_____	Northern Pintail.....	R			C
_____	Green-winged Teal.....	U		R	C
_____	Canvasback.....	R			
_____	Redhead.....	R			C
_____	Ring-necked Duck.....	U			C
_____	Lesser Scaup.....	C		C	C
_____	Surf Scoter.....	X			
_____	Bufflehead.....	U		U	U
_____	Ruddy Duck.....	C		C	R
_____	Northern Bobwhite.....	C	C	C	C
_____	Wild Turkey	U	U	U	U
_____	Pied-billed Grebe.....	U		U	U
_____	Horned Grebe.....	U		U	U
_____	Eared Grebe				R
_____	Rock Pigeon.....	R		R	
_____	Eurasian Collared-Dove.....	R	R	R	R
_____	Inca Dove.....	U	U	U	U
_____	White-winged Dove.....	C	C	C	C
_____	Mourning Dove.....	C	C	C	C
_____	Yellow-billed Cuckoo.....	C	C		

		SPG	SUM	FAL	WIN
_____	Greater Roadrunner	U	U	U	U
_____	Common Nighthawk	R	U		
_____	Chimney Swift	C	C	U	
_____	Broad-billed Hummingbird	X			
_____	Black-chinned Hummingbird	C	C	U	
_____	American Coot.....	C		C	C
_____	Sandhill Crane	U		U	U
_____	American Avocet.....	R		R	
_____	Snowy Plover	X			
_____	Semipalmated Plover	R			
_____	Killdeer.....	C	C	C	C
_____	Least Sandpiper			R	
_____	Western Sandpiper			R	
_____	Long-billed Dowitcher	R			
_____	Wilson's Snipe	U		R	C
_____	Spotted Sandpiper	C		C	C
_____	Greater Yellowlegs.....	U		U	U
_____	Willet.....	?			
_____	Lesser Yellowlegs.....	R			
_____	Wilson's Phalarope	R			
_____	Bonaparte's Gull.....	R			
_____	Franklin's Gull	C		C	C
_____	Ring-billed Gull	C		C	C
_____	Least Tern.....			X	
_____	Black Tern.....	R		U	
_____	Forster's Tern	R			R
_____	Pacific Loon.....				X
_____	Common Loon.....				R
_____	Neotropic Cormorant.....	R		R	
_____	Double-crested Cormorant	C	R	C	C

	SPG	SUM	FAL	WIN
_____ American White Pelican.....	R			
_____ Least Bittern		X		
_____ Great Blue Heron.....	C	C	C	C
_____ Great Egret	R	R	R	
_____ Snowy Egret.....	R	R	R	
_____ Little Blue Heron		X		
_____ Cattle Egret	R			
_____ Green Heron.....	U	U	R	
_____ Black-crowned Night-Heron	R			
_____ White-faced Ibis.....			R	
_____ Black Vulture.....	C	C	C	C
_____ Turkey Vulture	C	C	C	C
_____ Osprey.....	R		U	R
_____ Bald Eagle	R			R
_____ Mississippi Kite.....		R	U	
_____ Northern Harrier	R		R	R
_____ Sharp-shinned Hawk	R		R	R
_____ Cooper's Hawk	R		R	R
_____ Red-shouldered Hawk.....	R			
_____ Swainson's Hawk.....	R		R	
_____ Zone-tailed Hawk		X		
_____ Red-tailed Hawk.....	C	R	C	C
_____ Barn Owl.....	X			
_____ Eastern Screech-Owl.....	U	U	U	U
_____ Great Horned Owl.....	U	U	U	U
_____ Belted Kingfisher	U	U	U	U
_____ Golden-fronted Woodpecker			R	R
_____ Yellow-bellied Sapsucker.....	R		R	U
_____ Ladder-backed Woodpecker	C	C	C	C
_____ Downy Woodpecker	R			

	SPG	SUM	FAL	WIN
_____ Northern Flicker	R		U	U
_____ American Kestrel	R		U	C
_____ Merlin	R			
_____ Peregrine Falcon	R			
_____ Eastern Wood-Pewee	R			
_____ Least Flycatcher	R		R	
_____ Eastern Phoebe.....	C	C	C	C
_____ Ash-throated Flycatcher	U	U		
_____ Western Kingbird.....	U	U		
_____ Eastern Kingbird.....			R	
_____ Scissor-tailed Flycatcher	C	C	U	
_____ Loggerhead Shrike.....	U	U	U	U
_____ White-eyed Vireo	R		R	
_____ Black-capped Vireo			X	
_____ Warbling Vireo			R	
_____ Blue Jay	C	C	C	C
_____ American Crow.....				U
_____ Purple Martin	C	C	U	
_____ No. Rough-winged Swallow.....			R	
_____ Cliff Swallow	U	U	U	
_____ Cave Swallow	R	R		
_____ Barn Swallow.....	C	C	C	
_____ Carolina Chickadee.....	C	C	C	C
_____ Black-crested Titmouse	C	C	C	C
_____ Verdin	R	R	R	R
_____ White-breasted Nuthatch.....				X
_____ Brown Creeper			R	R
_____ Cactus Wren	C	C	C	C
_____ Rock Wren	R	R	R	R
_____ Canyon Wren	R	R	R	R

	SPG	SUM	FAL	WIN
_____ House Wren.....	R		R	
_____ Carolina Wren	U	U	U	U
_____ Bewick's Wren.....	C	C	C	C
_____ Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	R	R	R	
_____ Golden-crowned Kinglet			R	U
_____ Ruby-crowned Kinglet.....	C		C	C
_____ Eastern Bluebird.....	C	C	C	C
_____ Hermit Thrush.....				R
_____ American Robin.....	C	U		C
_____ Gray Catbird	R			
_____ Northern Mockingbird.....	C	C	C	C
_____ Curve-billed Thrasher.....		?		
_____ European Starling.....	C	C	C	C
_____ Cedar Waxwing.....	C			C
_____ House Sparrow.....	C	C	C	C
_____ American Pipit.....	R		R	R
_____ House Finch		R		R
_____ Pine Siskin.....	U			R
_____ American Goldfinch.....	U		U	C
_____ Black-and-white Warbler.....	R			
_____ Prothonotary Warbler.....	X			
_____ Tennessee Warbler	X			
_____ Orange-crowned Warbler	R	U		U
_____ Nashville Warbler	R		R	R
_____ Yellow Warbler	U			
_____ Yellow-rumped Warbler.....	C		C	C
_____ Wilson's Warbler	R			
_____ Green-tailed Towhee.....				?
_____ Spotted Towhee	C		C	C
_____ Rufous-crowned Sparrow	C	C	C	C

	SPG	SUM	FAL	WIN
_____ Canyon Towhee.....	C	C	C	C
_____ Chipping Sparrow.....	C		U	C
_____ Clay-colored Sparrow	U			
_____ Field Sparrow	C		C	C
_____ Vesper Sparrow	C		R	C
_____ Lark Sparrow.....	C	C	R	C
_____ Black-throated Sparrow.....			R	
_____ Lark Bunting.....	C			C
_____ Savannah Sparrow	R			U
_____ Le Conte's Sparrow				X
_____ Fox Sparrow			X	
_____ Song Sparrow	C		R	C
_____ Lincoln's Sparrow.....	U			C
_____ White-throated Sparrow.....	R		R	U
_____ Harris's Sparrow.....	U			C
_____ White-crowned Sparrow	C		C	C
_____ Dark-eyed Junco.....	C		C	C
_____ Northern Cardinal.....	C	C	C	C
_____ Pyrrhuloxia.....	R		R	R
_____ Painted Bunting	U	C		
_____ Red-winged Blackbird	C	C	C	C
_____ Eastern Meadowlark.....	U	R	R	C
_____ Western Meadowlark.....	U			R
_____ Yellow-headed Blackbird.....	R			
_____ Brewer's Blackbird.....	R		R	
_____ Common Grackle.....	C	C	C	
_____ Great-tailed Grackle.....	R			
_____ Brown-headed Cowbird.....	C	C	C	C
_____ Bullock's Oriole.....			?	

CITATION

Creel, Mary and Sue Oliver. May 2017. Birds of Lake Brownwood State Park: a field checklist. Natural Resources Program, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

In 1983, the Texas Legislature created the Special Nongame and Endangered Species Conservation Fund. This fund may be used for nongame wildlife and endangered species research and conservation, habitat acquisition and development and dissemination of information pertaining to nongame management. Money for this fund is obtained through private donations and sale of nongame wildlife art prints and stamps. This fund now gives Texans a unique opportunity to help support this state's valuable and sensitive nongame resources. Your individual contributions and purchases of nongame art prints and stamps will help determine the level of nongame conservation activities in Texas. For more information call toll-free (1-800-792-1112) or contact: **Nongame and Endangered Species Program, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, 4200 Smith School Road, Austin, Texas 78744.**



Natural Resources Program
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