

Florida

Naturetrek Tour Report

4 – 12th February 2020



Osprey feeding chick



Nine-banded Armadillo



Eastern Meadowlark



Roseate Spoonbill

Report compiled by Toby Collett and Matthew Capper
Images by Matthew Capper, Neil Sherman and John and Hazel Millington



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Day 1

Tuesday 4th February

London Gatwick, arrive Orlando

After what seemed like forever getting fingerprints taken and eyes scanned, the group arrived. Greeted by Matthew at Orlando Airport, we split into a five and a six for the cars and headed off to the car hire company and off-site car park respectively. Our rendezvous was a SevenEleven on the outskirts of the Airport and while one group was battling with the shuttle bus, the second group were enjoying the wait. A big pond next to the freeway held swooping Forster's Terns, Bonaparte's Gulls and Ring-billed Gulls. Around the fringes, the soon to be ubiquitous quartet of White Ibis, Cattle, Great and Snowy Egrets hunted the shallows. Away from the pool and around the buildings, Tree Swallows were abundant overhead with Collared Doves, Common and Boat-tailed Grackles scattered over the trees and rooftops. We hadn't left the car and we were already having a great time!

A few backwards and forwards conversations on the walkie-talkies and both cars were together, so we tracked across Orlando to our first night's accommodation. A swampy marsh next to the car park distracted a few of us from the evening's instructions. Check-in followed some well watched Yellow-rumped Warblers and with some time to catch our breath and freshen up, we then had a short walk for our evening meal and a rundown of plans for day two.

Day 2

Wednesday 5th February

Orlando to Titusville.

With several rounds of freshly made Mickey Mouse waffles plated up, breakfast was enjoyed and the group were raring to go. Lakefront Park on the shore of Lake Tohopekaliga was our first birding destination proper and what a welcome we got. We hadn't been out of the cars for more than a minute before a bugling call drew our eyes upwards. Three Sandhill Cranes were dropping lower and lower and proceeded to land less than 20m from us. As the group walked to the viewpoint, the cranes followed us, feeding on the edge of the footpath just feet away as Common Gallinule and Tri-coloured Herons were pushed from cover. Yellow-rumped and Palm Warblers flicked and called in the trees but a darker bird caught the eye, before turning around and becoming a much brighter bird. A Yellow-throated Warbler fed on insects in the palm next to the path and was real treat for the eyes compared to the more subtle warblers we'd just been watching. Scanning the lake itself revealed mixed rafts of Double-crested Cormorant, American Coot and Pied-billed Grebes. Little Blue Heron and Purple Gallinule fed among the lettuce with Anhinga, Great Blue Heron, Black-crowned Night Heron and Belted Kingfisher on the fringes. Ospreys soared overhead and a group of 30 American White Pelicans touched down among the cormorants. If this was the starter then the group's appetites had been well and truly whetted for the next seven days.

We made our way towards Lake Kissimmee via Joe Overstreet Road. This quiet road through farmland, rough grassland and grazing pasture provided a good range of species, including several impressive flocks of Sandhill Cranes. Unfortunately our first stop, for Red-headed Woodpecker, drew a blank, although we did get a nice

Eastern Bluebird as compensation. A few hundred metres down the road and we were enjoying our first Kildeers of the tour and our only American sparrows of the week - three Savannah Sparrows on some crates. Tiny American Kestrels hovered and hunted the grassland while Loggerhead Shrikes were abundant on the overhead wires. This would be our best chance for Crested Caracara and despite scanning lots of fence lines, the best views the group had were two chasing each other over the tree tops.

Just before we got to the lake and our lunch spot, a scan of some horse paddocks pulled out one of the day's target birds with a glorious Scissor-tailed Flycatcher on the fence-line. While watching the flycatcher, a large group of Glossy Ibis were flushed behind us by an incoming Bald Eagle as it arrived on the nest to feed its young. Eyes were then back to the paddocks as a golden-yellow Eastern Meadowlark sang from a post. This theme of not knowing where to look, with good birds everywhere, was constant throughout the tour.

Arriving at our shaded lunch spot we got some excellent views of two regional specialities, Snail Kite and Limpkin, with eight of the former blogging over the lily pads looking for Apple Snails, while the Limpkin was on a bush less than five metres from the boardwalk. A couple of Eastern Phoebes were hanging around the car park and as we were watching them, a large group of Wild Turkeys were picked out under the trees in a cow field. It seemed a risky location as, while scanning, it was discovered that one of these trees hosted another Bald Eagle nest.

After lunch we tried again for the Red-headed Woodpecker and better views of Crested Caracara but had no luck with either – although we did see a couple of Bryant's Fox Squirrels. With one last woodpecker spot, this time for Red-cockaded, we chanced our arms at the Three Lakes Wildlife Management Area but, once more, didn't connect. A Yellow-bellied Sapsucker did show nicely though and Palm Warblers flicked around us. But the heat may have kept the birds away as it was a little quiet. However, it was nice to stretch our legs after lunch, especially as we had an hour's drive ahead of us to get to Titusville.

After a seafood supper, the log was called and we all reflected on a bird-filled belter of a first full day.

Day 3

Thursday 6th February

Merritt Island to West Palm Beach

A dawn breakfast gave us as much time as possible on the brilliant Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge. A quick 15-minute drive saw us across the Indian River and onto the beachfront to watch diving Ospreys and scan the water for wildfowl. A group of Laughing Gulls, Caspian Terns and a Common Loon were our best finds with the rafts of sea duck unusually absent. We moved on to the main visitor centre to look for one of THE target species for the tour. Painted Buntings are known to frequent the feeding station here, so it was with quite a bit of dismay that we arrived to find empty feeders..... rats, literally. The team had recently stopped feeding due to increased rodent numbers which meant our canvas was pointless. We got lucky with a single female in the area but this wasn't the vibrant male we were looking forward to. So, instead, we headed out to explore the area and give ourselves time to return for another look later in the day.

Florida Scrub Jay is the only endemic bird of the State and we knew just where to find them - the Canaveral National Seashore. They are regularly found around the toll booth entrance and all eyes were scanning the buildings and tree tops as we approached. 'What's that on the grass?' had us all turning expecting to see our first

jay only to be elated to see it was a Nine-banded Armadillo feeding right next to the road. We parked up and hurried back to this usually shy and nocturnal mammal as it rummaged around our feet, oblivious to our presence. The four jays around us seemed to be jealous as they came closer and closer to us, wanting some of our attention, which we did all give them in the end.

Black Point Wildlife Drive was our next destination and somewhere for us to find a lunch spot. On route, a few quick stops meant we managed to get everyone onto the huge and distinctive Pileated Woodpecker that teased us along the road and tree tops. Differing from the previous day, we were now at a coastal wetland and the ducks were abundant. Hooded Merganser, Blue-winged Teal, Pintail, American Black Duck and Shoveler made up the bulk with a few American Wigeon and Green-winged Teal in among them. Hiding among the Shoveler was a Cinnamon Teal, an extremely rare duck in this area. They should be in Mexico at this time of year so it was a real treat and surprise for the group. Herons, egrets and ibis were abundant and waves of American Robins seemed to be moving round the reserve. Our lunch spot gave us some shelter and our first good look at an Alligator below one of the viewpoints.

As we made our way through the final sections of the wildlife drive we came across a couple of Roseate Spoonbill in a pool right next to the road. As the group enjoyed these pinky posers, some baby alligators were found in the creek behind us as well as couple of close Green Herons. A party of 16 Ring-necked Ducks at the end of the drive would be our only ones of the trip.

We had a few options next but chose to head up to the Manatee Observation Deck. A quick scan on arrival found no Manatees present although a couple of dorsal fins breaking the surface gave away the presence of two Bottle-nosed Dolphins. A handful of Brown Pelicans and a Belted Kingfisher fished beneath the road bridge but with not much more, we headed back to the visitor centre for another Painted Bunting check. And what a good decision that was - three males and two females were hanging around the feeding station providing wonderful views for all.

What a way to end the day and with lots of birds, and mammals, seen it was a lively discussion about what was the moment of the day. By the time we got to our hotel, had supper and had completed the log, the debate had still not been resolved.

Day 4

Friday 7th February

West Palm Beach to Fort Myers

A wet start to Day Four saw us all huddled in the vehicles at our first destination of Wakodahatchee Wetlands. As it poured down we all waited in vain for a pause in the rain but it never came. Waterproofs on, we braved it, and wished we had been much braver, much sooner. This place was amazing. A boardwalk runs through and over several interconnected wetland areas as part of the water treatment for the area. Herons, Wood Storks, ibis, egrets, cormorants and Anhingas were on every tree, sometimes only a few metres from where we were standing. Alongside the expected Double-crested Cormorants was the subtly different Neotropical Cormorant, another stray that we'd found far from home. Among the trees we saw a few Green Iguanas draped over branches and the temperature was so low, we even saw one fall out of a tree and into the water. The open aspect of the site gave us our first good views of a wider variety of passerines including Northern Parula, Common Yellowthroat, American Redstart, Black and White Warbler, Blue-grey Gnatcatcher, Yellow-throated and Blue-headed Vireo.

Dropping in behind one of the viewpoints were a couple of Black-bellied Whistling Ducks, with a few more seen later in the day, taking the tally to 16.

We passed another couple who had waited until the rain had stopped and were asked what the brown bird we had been looking at was? We told them they were the whistling ducks but were surprised to hear their description of something that clearly wasn't a duck. Matthew headed back and soon called us all over to see an American Bittern that was too close to use a telescope on. We are so used in the UK to scanning the mid-distance that we don't really think to look down at our feet for birds. In America, this seems to be the norm!

Among the more familiar Tree Swallows were a handful of Northern Rough-winged Swallows and Purple Martins. And as we left we picked out both Yellow-crowned and Black-crowned Night Herons, with individuals either side of the boardwalk, perfect to compare the differing ID features.

Reluctantly, we departed and started our journey west towards the Gulf of Mexico. This would see us leave the densely populated east coast and head across the open flatlands of central Florida. We had two stops planned. The first was a lunch break at a Storm Water Treatment Area - one of several enormous wetlands designed to ensure water is suitably filtered of pollutants and fertilizing agents before it can go into the Everglades water system. The second was a rice plant, locally known to turn up some quality birds. After being used to the intense urban networks of the built-up areas, it was amazing to see the huge expanse of fields and farms that dominate central Florida. Northern Harriers quartered along ditches and over fields while shrikes, hawks and kestrels were dotted along roadside posts and wires. The Storm Water Treatment Area gave us some good, but distant views, of species similar to those on Merritt Island, whereas the Sem-Chi rice factory offered something different entirely. The place was heaving with Brown-headed Cowbirds and Red-winged Blackbirds, totalling well over 500 among the silos. A scarce Shiny Cowbird was eventually picked out but the target Yellow-headed Blackbird eluded us. A quick look over the bank onto a flooded field provided American Golden Plover, Greater Yellowlegs, Black Skimmer, Short-billed Dowitcher, Caspian Tern and a single Gull-billed Tern.

We arrived in good time at our coastal accommodation and set our alarms for another dawn breakfast to make the most of the tides to see some waders in the morning.

Day 5

Saturday 8th February

Fort Myers to Corkscrew Swamp and JN Ding Darling reserve

On arrival at Bunche Beach, we soon found we hadn't been the only ones making plans for an early morning birding. The large group congregating on the sand near the car park were the local Sanibel Audubon Group, gearing up for a walk. We thought it might be a good idea to tag along with the locals and pick up some knowledge.... not so much! Birding etiquette and behaviour is a bit different Stateside so we hung back and let the large (30+) group wander after the wader flocks and push them all our way. The smallest waders were the boldest with Least and Western Sandpipers coming in very close while Semipalmated Plovers lingered behind. Scanning through them we were able to pick out Piping Plovers and the odd Wilson's Plover. Scanning around we found Short-billed Dowitchers, Knot, Dunlin, Sanderling and Grey Plover feeding along the tideline. Tricoloured Heron's fished in the breakers and Cabot's, Caspian, Royal and Forster's Terns were all feeding offshore. Not a bad spot just five minutes from the hotel.

Our main site visit today would be National Audubon's Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary. And what a place it was; we almost had to push several of the party back to the car when it was time to go. It did get off to a rocky start though when we saw a load of Wild Turkeys just before the entrance. Unfortunately, the homeowner wasn't as pleased to see us looking into her yard as we were to see the turkeys, so we hastily moved on! We parked underneath the glare of a juvenile Red-shouldered Hawk and had a Red-bellied Woodpecker fly over our heads as we made our way to the entrance. An impressive visitor centre got even better when we had more bonus Painted Buntings on the feeders, along with Northern Cardinal and Blue Jay. A colourful trio indeed. The Indigo Bunting would have been another bright addition, but our only one of the trip would be this muted female.

We headed out to start our two mile stroll along the boardwalk. A few Raccoon's were found feeding below us but gave us the slip by running under the boardwalk. Warblers flicked overhead with a stunning Prairie Warbler the best of the first wave. A dark morph Florida Water Snake was curled up in a sun trap but we didn't linger too long as word reached us of a showy Barred Owl up ahead. When we arrived at the spot, it felt like showy was a bit of an understatement! Sitting under a low canopy it was right out in the open and oblivious to its admirers. Some of the tour with longer lenses were having to move back a little to get it all in the frame. What a treat. As we neared the end of the trail we caught up with a long staying Hammond's Flycatcher, another State rarity that should have been in Central America at this time of year. A Northern Waterthrush flicked up briefly but was only seen by a handful of us as we headed back for lunch in the cafe.

J N Ding Darling Wildlife refuge on Sanibel Island would be our afternoon site and a nice drive after the woodland stroll this morning. Shallow pools held lots of waders, egrets and ducks including the ever-active Reddish Egret, Spotted Sandpiper and Mottled Duck – which were all new for the group. Just past the observation tower were some stunning Roseate Spoonbills in nice and close. To finish, we had a chance to soak in the last few days as we watched the sun sink into the Gulf, while strolling on the Beach on Captiva Island (while also getting everyone on Lesser Black-backed Gull!). Another delicious supper was had and we agreed to an optional dawn walk to Bunche Beach or a lie in for those that wanted to catch a few more zees.

Day 6

Sunday 9th February

Cape Coral and Fort Myers to Homestead

The pre-breakfast return trip to Bunche Beach was enjoyed by a few of us just as dawn broke. The magnificent sight of several waves of both White and Brown Pelicans rising and falling in single file over the sea was amazing. We didn't add anything new to the trip list but did get some better views of the waders, with fewer people around. Four Common Loons in the bay were the only things of note on the sea.

After breakfast, we had our sights set on two targets to enjoy before we headed back east. The first was to be found on roadsides and at junctions next to churches, takeaways and houses and is the official bird of Cape Coral.... any ideas? The first spot to look for them was about 100m off the major road bridge linking Cape Coral and Fort Myers. Surely a Chamber of Commerce grounds right next to a six-lane highway can't be right? Wrong. Several white pipes were in the ground in a rough 4m diameter circle, and bang in the middle, a pair of yellow eyes. Burrowing Owls occur in higher densities here than anywhere else in the State but that doesn't make them any less special. Our first bird was soon joined by its mate but with the vegetation being long we moved off to

find other more photogenic opportunities, and we certainly did. Once our eyes were tuned in we could see these white pipe circles all over the place. And after a few blank scans we found a pair that were both showy and approachable and the group loved spending time with them.

Alas, time is not something we had a lot of, so we upped sticks and headed to our second destination and target number two. We had tried for this Florida speciality on the east coast, but low water temperatures meant they hadn't been seen for a few weeks. In Fort Myers there is an outlet from a power station that keeps the water warm all year round, so an ideal place to come and enjoy Manatees. And there were several to enjoy. We counted just over 20 in the water in front of the main viewpoint. What a pleasure to see that many together. The final treat before we made our way south and then east on the big drive, was a flock of Cedar Waxwings trilling over the car park. With both Burrowing Owl and Manatee seen and enjoyed, we made our move to our lunch spot at the Big Cypress Preserve. Here, there is a little visitor centre with a nice boardwalk just off the main route. However, while we were enjoying lunch we became aware of several police, sheriffs, highway patrolmen and ambulances all speeding past the centre, in the direction we were heading. While this didn't look good, we didn't have much of an option as there are no alternative routes and to go back the way we had come would add a couple of hours to an already long drive. Sadly, there had been a very serious accident so inevitably, we did have to do the detour which in turn, impacted upon our plans for the reptile night-drive that evening.

After checking into the accommodation, we were back in the cars and armed with torches. Florida is a great place to spot snakes, lizards and amphibians due to both high temperatures and loads of habitat. There are plenty of native 'herps' to find and identify but also some non-natives too. We headed into the Everglades and up to a viewpoint to see what we could pick out as dusk fell. A Barred Owl flew in and showed well, though briefly, and several Black-crowned Night Herons were on the prowl. With the earlier detour knocking our timings off, it was a bit of a tricky run back and our 'herp' search didn't come up trumps. On the plus side, the later finish meant a later start the next morning, about which there were definitely no complaints.

Day 7

Monday 10th February

Everglades National Park

The Everglades National Park is one of the most famous in the world and for good reason. It is a vital natural system, draining the State and filtering water into the Gulf of Mexico. We devoted a day to spend here and just about did it justice. We started at Frog Pond or Lucky Hammock as local birders have nicknamed it due to the variety of birds found here. We did pretty well with a trio of flycatchers. The expected Great Crested, occasional Least and much rarer Brown Crested. Black and Turkey Vultures had been a constant sight all through the tour but seeing an empty sky slowly filling and then never stopping as birds moved away from their roosts was incredible. Among them was a single Short-tailed Hawk, which became two a little later. A Yellow Rat Snake just off the path was a good find and the grassland around the hammock had butterflies flitting all over. A few Yellowthroats, Blue-grey Gnatcatchers and Eastern Phoebes kept our attention as we walked round the small copse but with nothing new to see we headed further into the Park.

The Anhinga trail is the first formal access area of the Everglades. A visitor centre and shop were full of school children when we arrived so we didn't hang around and headed out to the trail. A trio of Double-crested Cormorants were drying themselves on the path side, literally feet from passers-by. Alligators were more prolific

with a handful seen as we walked around. Both Green and Brown Anoles were scuttling along the wooden boardwalk with a good variety of fish in the clear water below. Anhingas were easy to see on trees as they spread their wings to dry while several could also be seen fishing in the water. An alligator close to the path was very photogenic and just as close a little further along was an Everglades Racer, hunting lizards. We headed south to Flamingo, both the southernmost point of the Everglades and the whole of the USA. We had lunch overlooking the bay with several Yellow-crowned Night Herons and a Red-shouldered Hawk to keep us company. A quick check for stilts and American Avocet only produced Spotted Sandpiper so we went looking for something a little more guaranteed..... ice-creams. Past hurricanes have reduced the old visitor centre to a shell but the shop at the marina was still up and running. A couple of Manatees were in the marina basin while on the far side of the creek two American Crocodiles were picked up in the mangroves. Overhead, another Short-tailed Hawk drifted through but the big draw was an active Osprey nest with three chicks being fed by mum. In the UK we are often kept well back from nesting birds of prey due to their precarious status but here they were unperturbed by cameras clicking just a few metres below them.

We made our way slowly back, drinking in the landscape. At home you struggle to gaze across a flat landscape without seeing any human interference so to look for miles and miles and just see grass, trees, water and nothing else was refreshing. We stretched our legs at Mahogany Hammock which has a small boardwalk running through it. Great Crested Flycatchers, Red-headed Woodpecker and a small warbler flock keep us entertained as we peered through the dense vegetation.

We had booked an earlier supper at a pretty unique restaurant (there were 13 of us, it seats 17) that would only keep our tables for 5 minutes after our booking time so we made sure we were back in plenty of time to pack and get ready for our final day, before heading out to eat.

Day 8

Tuesday 11th February

Homestead to Miami Airport

The south-eastern coast of Florida is a hive of activity, both with the bustle of Miami and the varied flora and fauna. Among the wonderful native wildlife, this is the corner of the State where there are plenty of exotic species, both escaped and introduced. Our first stop was therefore Pinewoods Park, a strip of land between houses that had been left to scrub over. We found a Monk Parakeet nest and as the vegetation thinned out towards a grassy edge, we picked out a pair of Red-whiskered Bulbuls. These quickly moved off and while looking at what we thought from a distance was a mango tree, it became clear on approach that these double fist sized fruits were in fact avocados! "All the squirrels round here are obese.." remarked a passing dog walker when he saw us examine the oversize fruit.

With the bulbuls not playing ball we made our way to the beach at Matheson Hammock Park. Views of downtown Miami and houses on stilts could be seen and our second Yellow-throated Warbler of the trip was very approachable in the mangroves. Red-headed Agamas chased each other over buildings but with the temperature rising, it felt like bird activity was dropping. We moved back to the wooded part of the Park for lunch and in the shade of the trees it was very pleasant. Brown Anoles were everywhere, with quite a few Iguanas on the grass. We timed our arrival perfectly with that of a mobile warbler flock. Nothing new but great to get a

last day look at Black and White Warbler, Northern Parula, Yellow-rumped Warbler, American Redstart, Yellow-throated and Blue-headed Vireo.

With our flight departing that evening we could just about squeeze a couple more sites in. A D Barnes Park was next with another little woodland walk and then onto a lookout over a small pond. The pond held about 200 White Ibis feeding in the mud alongside a Green Heron and just above the car park, a Raccoon was scratching and lounging in the crook of a tree.

Our final stop of the day, and of the trip, would be Kendall Baptist Hospital. This is known to host both numbers and varieties of parakeets and we had good views of 20+ Mitred Parakeets flying in and around the upper floors of the hospital; their screeching calls cutting through the sound of the late afternoon traffic. Just as we got into the cars to leave, four Yellow-chevrons Parakeets swung through, though only a few of the group got onto them. A pair of Canada Geese on the ornamental pond was a final, though debatably welcome, tour tick for several before we headed to the Airport, rental returns and our journey home.

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Barred Owl



Alligator

Species Lists

Birds (✓=recorded but not counted; H = heard only)

	Common name	Scientific name	February 2020							
			4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1	Gt. Northern Diver (Common Loon)	<i>Gavia immer</i>			1		1	4		
2	Pied-billed Grebe	<i>Poilymbus podiceps</i>		40+	50+	100+	50+		6	
3	American White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus erythrorhynchos</i>		30+	3	7	40+	200	2	
4	Brown Pelican	<i>P. occidentalis</i>			7	1	30+	10	4	10
5	Anhinga	<i>Anhinga anhinga</i>	2	10+	30+	✓	✓	✓	✓	
6	Double-crested Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax auritus</i>	2	200+	80	✓	100	✓	✓	✓
7	Neotropic Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax brasilianus</i>				1				
8	American Bittern	<i>Botarus lentiginosus</i>				1				
9	Great Blue Heron	<i>Ardea herodias</i>	1	4	5	30+	20+	20+	20+	
10	Great Egret	<i>Egretta alba</i>	2	10+	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
11	Snowy Egret	<i>E. thula</i>	3	10+	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
12	Little Blue Heron	<i>E. caerulea</i>		6	8	7	30+	✓	✓	✓
13	Tricoloured Heron	<i>E. tricolor</i>		4	20+	8+	30+	✓	✓	✓
14	Reddish Egret	<i>E. rufescens</i>			1		2	1		
15	Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	5	50+	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
16	Green Heron	<i>Butorides virescens</i>		4	20+	4	1	1		1
17	Black-crowned Night-Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>		1	1	3		2		
18	Yellow-crowned Night-Heron	<i>N. violacea</i>			2	2	1	3		
19	White Ibis	<i>Eudocimus albus</i>	30+	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
20	Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>		150+	✓	80+	10+	2		
21	Roseate Spoonbill	<i>Ajaia ajaja</i>			30+	2	4		3	
22	Wood Stork	<i>Mycteria americana</i>			10+	70+	4	3	1	
23	Black-bellied Whistling Duck	<i>Dendrocygna autumnalis</i>				16				
24	Canada Goose	<i>Branta canadensis</i>		2						2
25	Egyptian Goose	<i>Alopochen aegyptiaca</i>				2				4
26	Muscovy Duck	<i>Cairina moschata</i>		2			5	20+	20+	50+
27	Northern Shoveler	<i>Spatula clypeata</i>			✓					
28	Blue-winged Teal	<i>S. discors</i>			200+	✓				
29	Cinnamon Teal	<i>S. cyanoptera</i>			1					
30	American Wigeon	<i>Mareca americana</i>			4					
31	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>		4		2				
32	Mottled Duck	<i>A. fulvigula</i>					4	2		
33	American Black Duck	<i>A. rubripes</i>		2	2			2		
34	Northern Pintail	<i>A. acuta</i>			300+					
35	Green-winged Teal	<i>A. carolinensis</i>			2	4				
36	Ruddy Duck	<i>Oxyura jamaicensis</i>				20+				
37	Ring-necked Duck	<i>A. collaris</i>			16					
38	Hooded Merganser	<i>Lophodytes cucullatus</i>			30					
39	Red-breasted Merganser	<i>Mergus serrator</i>			6		4			
40	Turkey Vulture	<i>Cathartes aura</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

41	Black Vulture	<i>Coragyps atratus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
42	Northern Harrier	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>			7	40+				
43	Snail Kite	<i>Rostrhamus sociabilis</i>		10+						
44	Sharp-shinned Hawk	<i>Accipiter striatus</i>							1	
45	Cooper's Hawk	<i>A. cooperii</i>				2				3
46	Red-shouldered Hawk	<i>Buteo lineatus</i>		10+		4	6	5	4	1
47	Red-tailed Hawk	<i>B. jamaicensis</i>		2						
48	Short-tailed Hawk	<i>B. platypterus</i>							6	
49	Bald Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>		12+	3	5	1		4	
50	Western Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>		6	50+	✓	10+	✓	✓	2
51	Northern (Crested) Caracara	<i>Caracara cheriway</i>		5		3				
52	American Kestrel	<i>Falco sparverius</i>		20+	2	18+		2	4	1
53	Merlin	<i>Falco columbarius</i>				1				
54	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>					1		1	
55	Wild Turkey	<i>Meleagris gallopavo</i>		20			30+			
56	Virginia Rail	<i>Rallus limicola</i>						H		
57	Grey-headed Swamphen	<i>Porphyrio poliocephalus</i>				10+				
58	Purple Gallinule	<i>Porphyryla martinica</i>		4		6+	2		2	2
59	Common Gallinule	<i>Gallinula galeata</i>		10+	10+	✓	1			
60	American Coot	<i>Fulica americana</i>		500+	200+	200+				
61	Limpkin	<i>Aramus guarauna</i>		8		3	1			
62	Sandhill Crane	<i>Grus canadensis</i>		400+	2	2	2			
63	Black-bellied (Grey) Plover	<i>Pluvialis squaterola</i>			1		40	30	10	
64	American Golden Plover	<i>P. dominica</i>				30				
65	Piping Plover	<i>Charadrius nivosus</i>					6	8		
66	Wilson's Plover	<i>C. wilsonia</i>					1	2		
67	Semipalmated Plover	<i>C. semipalmatus</i>					30	20		
68	Killdeer	<i>C. vociferus</i>		12+	20+	20+	3	2	1	1
69	Greater Yellowlegs	<i>Tringa melanoleuca</i>			10	2	10+			
70	Lesser Yellowlegs	<i>T. flavipes</i>			7					
71	Willet	<i>Catoptrophorus semipalmatus</i>			1		70+		10	1
72	Spotted Sandpiper	<i>Actitis macularia</i>					2		1	
73	Marbled Godwit	<i>Limosa fedoa</i>			80+				5	
74	Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>			20+		5	4		20
75	Red Knot	<i>Calidris canutus</i>					1	1		
76	Dunlin	<i>C. alpina</i>					100+	30+		
77	Sanderling	<i>C. alba</i>					20+	20+		
78	Western Sandpiper	<i>C. mauri</i>					100+	100+		
79	Least Sandpiper	<i>C. minutilla</i>			9		30+	40+		
80	Short-billed Dowitcher	<i>Limnodromus griseus</i>			70+		30+	60+		
81	Wilson's Snipe	<i>Gallinago delicata</i>			4					
82	Bonaparte's Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus philadelphia</i>	2		1			1		
83	Laughing Gull	<i>Leucophaeus atricilla</i>			5		20+	7		1
84	Ring-billed Gull	<i>Larus delawarensis</i>	20+	60+	30+	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
85	American Herring Gull	<i>L. argentatus smithsonianus</i>			1		1			
86	Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>L. fuscus</i>					1			

87	Great Black-backed Gull	<i>L. marinus</i>				1				
88	Gull-billed Tern	<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>					1			
89	Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>					40	1		
90	Royal Tern	<i>Thalasseus maximus</i>			5		20+	7		1
91	Cabot's Tern	<i>T. acufavidus</i>						4		
92	Forster's Tern	<i>Sterna forsteri</i>	5	3	9	8	4			
93	Black Skimmer	<i>Rhynchops niger</i>		2		20+			200+	
94	Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia (feral)</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
95	Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
96	Mourning Dove	<i>Zenaida macroura</i>		50+	20+	20+	30+	✓	✓	✓
97	White-winged Dove	<i>Z. asiatica</i>		2		6			2	
98	Common Ground-Dove	<i>Columbina passerina</i>			2	1	2		3	1
99	Burrowing Owl	<i>Athene cunicularia</i>						6		
100	Barred Owl	<i>Strix varia</i>					1	1+H		
101	Belted Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle alcyon</i>		2	4	4	2	1		
102	Red-bellied Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes carolinus</i>			1		2	2	3	10
103	Northern Flicker	<i>Colaptes auratus</i>			1		1			
104	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	<i>Sphyrapicus varius</i>		1			1		1	3
105	Downy Woodpecker	<i>Dryobates pubescens</i>					2			
106	Pileated Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus pileatus</i>			1	1	2			
107	Mitred Parakeet	<i>Psittacara mitrata</i>								20+
108	Yellow-chevroned Parakeet	<i>Brotogeris chiriri</i>								4
109	Monk Parakeet	<i>Myiopsitta monachus</i>								2
110	Least Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax minimus</i>							1	
111	Hammond's Flycatcher	<i>Empidomax hammondii</i>					1			
112	Eastern Phoebe	<i>Sayornis phoebe</i>		4	1	5	1	1	6	2
113	Great Crested Flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus crinitus</i>							4	
114	Brown-crested Flycatcher	<i>M. tyrannulus</i>							1	
115	Scissor-tailed Flycatcher	<i>Tyrannus forficatus</i>		1						
116	Loggerhead Shrike	<i>Lanius ludovicianus</i>		20+	1	1	2	3	4	2
117	Blue-headed (Solitary) Vireo	<i>Vireo solitarius</i>				1	1			3
118	Yellow-throated Vireo	<i>Vireo flavifrons</i>				1				1
119	Blue Jay	<i>Cyanocitta cristata</i>		6		1	6			6
120	Florida Scrub Jay	<i>Aphelocoma coerulescens</i>			8					
121	American Crow	<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
122	Fish Crow	<i>C. ossifragus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
123	Tufted Titmouse	<i>Baeolophus bicolor</i>					H			
124	Purple Martin	<i>Progne subis</i>				4		1		
125	Northern Rough-winged Swallow	<i>Stelgidopteryx serripennis</i>				30+				
126	Tree Swallow	<i>Tachycineta bicolor</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
127	Red-whiskered /bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus jocosus</i>								2
128	Carolina Wren	<i>Thryothorus ludovicianus</i>					H			
129	Blue-grey Gnatcatcher	<i>Polioptila caerulea</i>				3	2	3	4	7+
130	Eastern Bluebird	<i>Sialia sialis</i>		2						
131	American Robin	<i>Turdus migratorius</i>		8	500+		1			
132	Grey Catbird	<i>Dumetella carolinensis</i>		1	1	2	4+	✓	✓	✓
133	Northern Mockingbird	<i>Mimus polyglottos</i>		20+	20+	2	2	✓	✓	✓
134	Eurasian Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

135	Common Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>						2	4	3
136	Cedar Waxwing	<i>Bombycilla cedrorum</i>					40	30		20
137	Brown-headed Cowbird	<i>Molothrus ater</i>		30+		200+	1		4	
138	Shiny Cowbird	<i>M. bonariensis</i>				1				
139	Northern Waterthrush	<i>Parkesia noveboracensis</i>					1			
140	Northern Parula	<i>Parula americana</i>				2	2			2
141	American Redstart	<i>Setophaga ruticilla</i>			1					1
142	Yellow-rumped (Myrtle) Warbler	<i>S. coronata</i>	20+	30+	20+	40+	✓	✓	✓	20+
143	Pine Warbler	<i>S. pinus</i>		1		2	4			
144	Palm Warbler	<i>S. palmarum</i>		30+	1	20+	✓	✓	✓	4
145	Prairie Warbler	<i>S. discolor</i>				1	1			
146	Yellow-throated Warbler	<i>S. dominica</i>		1						1
147	Black and White Warbler	<i>Mniotilta varia</i>		2		1	2			3
148	Common Yellowthroat	<i>Geothlypis trichas</i>			2	4	H		5	
149	Northern Cardinal	<i>Cardinalis cardinalis</i>		3	2		2	4	H	H
150	Indigo Bunting	<i>Passerina cyraea</i>					1			
151	Painted Bunting	<i>P. ciris</i>			5		3			
152	Savannah Sparrow	<i>Passerculus sandwichensis</i>		20+						
153	Eastern Meadowlark	<i>Sturnella magna</i>		10+					1	
154	Red-winged Blackbird	<i>Agelaius phoeniceus</i>		200+	5	300+			100+	10
155	Common Grackle	<i>Quiscalus quiscula</i>	✓	✓	5+	✓	✓	✓	✓	
156	Boat-tailed Grackle	<i>Q. major</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
157	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>		10+	10+	20+		✓	✓	✓

Mammals

			February 2020							
	Common name	Scientific name	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1	Nine-banded Armadillo	<i>Dasyops novemcinctus</i>			1					
2	Marsh Rabbit	<i>Sylvilagus palustris</i>				1	2			
3	House Rat	<i>Rattus rattus</i>			2			1		
4	Grey Squirrel	<i>Sciurus carolinensis</i>		8	10		4			4
5	Bryant's Fox Squirrel	<i>S. niger</i>		3						
6	Northern Raccoon	<i>Procyon lotor</i>			1		2			1
7	White-tailed Deer	<i>Odocoileus virginianus</i>					3			
8	Common Bottle-nosed Dolphin	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>			2					
9	West Indian Manatee	<i>Trichechus manatus</i>						20+	3	

Reptiles

1	Florida Red-bellied Turtle	<i>Pseudemys nelsoni</i>						3		
2	Florida Cooter	<i>P. floridana</i>			1	1	2		3	
3	Florida Gopher Tortoise	<i>Gopherus polyphemus</i>						1		
4	Florida Softshell Turtle	<i>Apalone ferox</i>			1				1	
5	Common Agama	<i>Agama agama</i>								15+
6	Green Anole	<i>Anolis carolinensis</i>							10+	10+
7	Cuban Brown Anole	<i>A. sagrei</i>				3			30+	70+
8	Indo-Pacific House Gecko	<i>Hemidactylus garnotii</i>	4		3					
9	Green Iguana	<i>Iguana iguana</i>			20+					20+
10	Florida Banded Water Snake	<i>Nerodia fasciata pictiventris</i>					1			

11	Yellow Rat Snake	<i>Pantherophis alleghaniensis</i>								1	
12	Everglades Racer	<i>Coluber constrictor paludicola</i>								1	
13	Brahminy Blind Snake	<i>Rhamphotyphlops braminus</i>							1		
14	American Alligator	<i>Alligator mississippiensis</i>			30+	10+	✓	✓	✓		
15	American Crocodile	<i>Crocodylus acutus</i>								1	

Butterflies

			February 2020							
	Common name	Scientific name	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1	Monarch	<i>Danaus plexippus</i>				3	2			7
2	Zebra Longwing	<i>Heliconius charithonia</i>				3+	✓			✓
3	Gulf Fritillary	<i>Agraulis vanillae</i>			✓	1	1			
4	Black Swallowtail	<i>Papilio polyxenes</i>		3+						
5	Eastern Tiger Swallowtail	<i>P. glaucus</i>		6						
6	Giant Swallowtail	<i>P. cresphontes</i>								4
7	Ruddy Daggerwing	<i>Marpesia petreus</i>					1			
8	Pearl Crescent	<i>Phyciodes tharos</i>		✓						✓
9	White Peacock	<i>Anartia jatrophae</i>							✓	✓
10	Ceraunus Blue	<i>Hemiargus ceraunus</i>							✓	✓
11	Julia	<i>Dryas iulia</i>				1	1		2	3
12	Cloudless Sulphur	<i>Phoebis sennae</i>		1						
13	Great Southern White	<i>Ascia monuste</i>		1	1	1	1			
14	Viceroy	<i>Limnitis archippus</i>		1		1	1			
15	Eastern Pygmy Blue	<i>Brephidium pseudofea</i>							✓	✓
16	Barred Yellow	<i>Eurema daira</i>							✓	✓
17	The Queen	<i>Danaus gilippus</i>							✓	
18	Rattle Box Moth	<i>Utetheisa ornatrix</i>		✓						✓
19	Long-tailed Skipper	<i>Urbanus proteus</i>							✓	✓
20	Clouded Skipper	<i>Lerema accius</i>							✓	✓
21	Fufala Skipper	<i>Lerodea eufala</i>							✓	
22	Monk Skipper	<i>Asbolis capucinus</i>								✓
23	Tropical Chequered Skipper	<i>Pyrgus oileus</i>							✓	
24	Fiery Skipper	<i>Hylephila phyleus</i>								✓
25	Horace's Duskywing	<i>Erynnis horatius</i>								✓
26	Phaon Crescent	<i>Phyciodes phaon</i>						✓		

Dragonflies

1	Halloween Pennant	<i>Celithemis eponina</i>						2+		
2	Carolina Saddlebags	<i>Tramea carolina</i>							✓	
3	Scarlet Skimmer	<i>Crocothemis servilia</i>								✓
4	Great Pondhawk	<i>Erythemis vesiculosa</i>								3
5	Purple Skimmer	<i>Libellula jesseana</i>							✓	
6	Band-winged Dragonlet	<i>Erythrodiplax umbrata</i>				✓				✓