

Feb. 10, 1979

Mason
Dear Nicholas,

Winter Report---Due to the extreme weather condition, most of my birding was done at a feeding station. The side roads were in to poor of condition for much birding from car.

Mallards were still in Saylorville Lake area into late Dec. 75 to 100 was seen Dec. 26.

Raptors seemed to be about the same as last Winter. Only exception was Bald Eagle sighting at Saylorville Dam in Dec.

I did have a Sharp-shinned Hawk at my bird feeder on Dec. 8. Also a Loggerhead Shrike was seen at least everyweek at feeder.

Winter Wren seen Dec. 11 and 26. Eastern Bluebirds were seen as late as Dec. 3

No Red-headed Woodpeckers Wintering. Meadowlarks were seen less this past Winter.

I guess only thing that was a big change from last Winter, was the absents of Northern Finches. I have only seen Purple Finch 4 days at my feeder. Last Winter I had large numbers of them. Pine Siskins only seen on two days Dec. 21 and 24. I do have large numbers of American Goldfinch at feeders. I have reports of Goldfinch almost absent at feeders, where they had lots of them in past. No Redpolls seen.

I do have a Rufous-sided Towhee coming to my feeder everyday since Jan. 26.

I don't have quite as many Harris Sparrows coming to feeders this Winter. But I have at least 50 with 47 banded and some Band returns from

last Winter.

Dark-eyed Juncos seem to be up from last Winter. Snow Buntings were first seen Dec. 9. Only large flock was seen on Jan. 12 with 100 plus. Also two flocks of Longspurs with 50 or more seen Jan. 12. Horned-Larks were in large numbers same day.

Sincerely,



Dean Mosman
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