

THE DELAWARE 300

Colin Campbell

"Our total for the year was 280 species and we know of at least 20 species that were reported by others, but not seen by us. Therefore, in spite of 1981 not being a spectacular rarity year, it was within the realm of possibility to obtain 300 species in one year in Delaware with a lot of work and considerable luck."

Barbara and Franklin Haas, *Delmarva Ornithologist*, 1983, Vol. 16, p. 21.

"Hey, Joe, Ellen and I racked up some good species yesterday, when you were in New York."

Almost imperceptible pause. "Oh, yeah, wadya get?"

"Glossy Ibis, Great Egret, Tree Swallow for starters — not bad for January first, eh?"

Two full seconds silence. "Hmm, and what else?" Hint of suspicion.

"Oh, Great Cormorant, Loggerhead Shrike, Brewer's Blackbird, Rough-legged Hawk, Bald Eagle, Brown-headed Nuthatch" — calculated pause — "all in Delaware."

"Uh-oh." Suspicion heightens, hint of paranoia. "How many species?"

"Eighty, give or take a Purple Sandpiper."

"Hey, you b____, you two're goin' for it, aren't you?" Paranoia heightens, hint of murder.

(Innocently) "Dunno whatcha mean, Joe."

"The Big Year, you a_____!"

The chase was on. The Haases' ten-year-old record had to be broken. It had to be broken by a Delawarean. After all, not only was the Big Year record held by these northern invaders, the biggest Delaware State List was held by a Southerner from Virginia. Natives just didn't figure. It was an abominable situation and had to be corrected. By the end of January, six rampant Blue Hens were vying for the Big Year record. Ellen "Twitcher" Short, replete with new Kowa scope, declared her interest on that memorable New Year's Day. Joe "Mad Dog" Swertinski — the origin of the nickname is shrouded in Attu mist and legend — declared his hand following the pleasantries on the phone, January 2. Maurice Barnhill and Joe Russell, birding as a duo, revealed their intentions in mid-month, and a late starter, Andy Ednie, joined the record-seekers after experiencing a very exciting Delaware January. I was committed the moment those New Year bells chimed. I had already berated members of the Delmarva Ornithological Society (DOS) for having out-of-staters heading the state's birding lists, and, although I had worked out that Delaware ranked second (to Rhode Island) in species density in the country, it was obvious that the Small Wonder State needed to be put on the birding map. Competition was

inevitable, but exchange of information between the participants was essential for the main purpose — running up the Delaware flag for the Big Year!

The highlights of a heavy birding year in Delaware which follow are from my personal records. I was accompanied nearly always by one or more of the other frantic five and often by others, eager to see us do well and perhaps viewing our efforts with a mixture of incredulity and envy! Our madcap adventures were reported at regular intervals in the *Wilmington Sunday News Journal* by reporter and birder Frances Hamilton. This generated much interest in an otherwise ignorant and apathetic public and indeed led to one or two new sightings. The DOS Birdalert telephone system was invaluable in notifying both Big Year participants and local birders of unusual occurrences in the state — 66 reports were put out during 1991. Enough, enough, what about the birds?

January was an excellent month for Delaware gulls, with nine species, including Iceland, Glaucous, and Common Black-headed at the Wilmington Landfill and Sewage Treatment Plant at Cherry Island. A second-winter Little Gull was at Indian River Inlet during the month, along with King Eider and Harlequin Duck [photo: *American Birds* 45:255 (1991)]. A Ross' Goose (the first of five found in the state during the year) was picked up in flight over the Baxter Tract for a first New Castle County record. The highlight among the passerines was the large number of Black-capped Chickadees in northern Delaware during the winter months. I finished the month with 120 species in the bag.

February 9–10 was a spectacular weekend. Another trip to the dump produced Lesser Black-backed Gull (Iceland and Common Black-headed still present), while downstate produced yet another Little Gull and no less than thirteen Razorbills visible from the Fort Miles parking lot at Cape Henlopen State Park. The next day produced a "megatick." Taking a fishing boat out of Cape May — having ascertained it was mackerel-fishing in Delaware waters! — gave Ellen, Joe, and myself not only the half-expected Black-legged Kittiwakes but the magnificent bonus of two Great Skuas, the first documented record for the state. The birds, seen eighteen miles due east of Cape Henlopen, were present undoubtedly due to the presence of a Russian factory ship, around which circled a wheeling mass of Northern Gannets and large gulls. The month also produced a couple of Redhead, which took me two trips to see due to a sudden attack of myopia, and a Pine Siskin, noteworthy as the only one seen in the year. Lapland Longspurs gave me twenty (new?) species for the month — a month in which three of the Big Year participants managed to achieve a long sought-after target — 100 species in a day in February in Delaware.

March produced a Greater White-fronted Goose near Wilmington, followed by a completely blank pelagic on the 9th except for a Red-necked Grebe that was found as the boat approached Lewes. A Eurasian Wigeon was found the next day, and a very early Purple Martin was seen flying north up Delaware Bay. Another trip on the *Miss Chris* out of Cape May gave us a few Razorbill, but no kittiwakes or other pelagic species, proving the luck of the February 10 trip. Shorebirds started to move with good numbers of Pectoral and Stilt sandpipers, a Lesser Golden-Plover, and a Ruff all at Bombay Hook on the 29th. The last day of the month produced a magnificent drake Harlequin Duck at Indian River Inlet and signs of spring, with Royal Terns at the ocean, Northern Rough-winged Swallow at Trussom Pond, and Yellow-throated Warbler and Louisiana Waterthrush at Trap Pond State Park. Another 30 species, giving a total of 170. I was on target.

Intensive searching of massive blackbird flocks yielded no Yellow-headed, despite reports from across the bay (Salem County, N.J.) of several and indeed, a Delaware record seen by a DVO member whose name shall be kept secret for fear of retribution. Yellow-headed Blackbird was not seen in the state by any of the six in 1991. April was the time to search for early spring migrants, and although permission was obtained to work the Cypress Swamp for Swainson's Warbler, no sign of this elusive gem was found. However, Wild Turkey and a bunch of Prothonotary and Worm-eating warblers were gratefully accepted. A Black Rail was heard at Broadkill in Prime Hook on the 13th and a beautiful drake King Eider was found at Cape Henlopen. Vesper Sparrows were in song, Broad-winged Hawks passed through rapidly, and Piping Plover arrived on the southern beaches, where a Whimbrel (not an automatic "tick" in Delaware) was seen on the 26th. The month ended with Black, Yellow, Clapper, and Virginia rails all calling at Port Mahon Road. A Sharp-tailed Sparrow could occasionally be picked out amidst the ruckus. Forty-nine more for the list.

Spring passage was early and fast. Blink and you'd missed those vital species. April 26 produced seventeen year birds for me, but May 2 surpassed that with 21. White Clay Creek revealed its usual crop, including Kentucky, Hooded, and Cerulean warblers. Three days later was a Bombay Hook special — Curlew Sandpiper and White-faced Ibis. Besides the red facial skin, the latter bird showed considerable glossy iridescence over the rear third of its folded wings, a feature not shown by any of the 300 Glossy Ibis at the Hook, nor mentioned in the common field guides, but shown nicely in the photographic comparison between the two species in *American Birds* 45:512 (1991). May 10 yielded another goodie, if not so spectacular, with Wilson's Warbler at Gunning Bedford School near Delaware City, the same site as one found in 1990. The Delaware City Warbling Vireo was vociferous and Port Mahon produced the unusual combination of Least Bittern, Sedge Wren, and Iceland Gull! A

telescopic sweep of Rehoboth Bay showed 31 Ospreys on the 11th. Two days later, good numbers of Yellow-billed and Black-billed cuckoos were at Nanticoke State Wildlife Area in the southwestern corner of the state, and two rare Red-headed Woodpeckers were seen near Milton. Much rarer, however, was the Red Phalarope found at Broadkill Beach on a Spring Roundup on May 20. The DOS annual pelagic out of Lewes on May 25 produced three shearwaters, Red-necked Phalarope, and Parasitic Jaeger. Another Curlew Sandpiper was at the Hook on the 27th, and the last new bird of the month was Yellow-crowned Night-Heron, flying over Reedy Point to its nest site on Pea Patch Island. The month's total was 52, for a year's list of 271. Nine to go.

At the end of May a "break" was taken to go for Kirtland's Warbler in Michigan. Birding Delaware isn't everything, you see. After a relaxing 2200-mile three-day trip (which included additional life species Henslow's Sparrow, Mourning Warbler, and Gray Jay), I was ready to get back into hard Delaware birding. June birds were getting thin — Brown Pelican, Tricolored Heron in Rehoboth Bay, a nicely exposed pair of King Rails at Assawoman State Wildlife Area and, at the same location, the year's only sighting of Gull-billed Tern. Only three added.

July opened with a "crippler." The first time I birded alone, and I found a Reddish Egret at Little Creek on the 2nd — Delaware's first record. My photograph appears in *American Birds* 45:1098 (1991). Bombay Hook's Wilson's Phalarope count rose to 41 the same day. A badly-needed Sora was found, and yet another Curlew Sandpiper was at the Hook on the 6th. The expected Black Tern arrived there three days later, with more arriving at Logan Lane Track on the 13th. More Whimbrel were seen at Port Mahon (13th) and Logan Lane Tract (20th) and another Ruff at Bombay Hook on the 20th. Only four added in July, bringing the total to 278, tantalizingly close to the record. At this stage I went on a ten day DOS trip to Arizona with Hart Rufe as leader. This was practice for the continuance of the Big Year. Nice to get Berylline Hummingbird and Five-striped Sparrow, but what am I missing in Delaware?

A Marbled Godwit arrived in Bombay Hook on August 6, and a singing immature male Painted Bunting there on August 9 gave me 280 for the year. Are there Painted Buntings in Delaware every year? This was the third consecutive year for this species, which can be remarkably elusive (and there's another in February 1992). The bird to break the old record was, wait for it — Eastern Screech-Owl! One of those birds you expect to pick up as you go along, this took 8½ months of "going along." More exciting was the Sandwich Tern at Cape Henlopen on August 24 — a day which also produced Alder and Least flycatchers and Baird's Sandpiper. The month ended with a much sought-after Cliff Swallow over Bombay Hook. Total 286.

September roared in with a Yellow-bellied Flycatcher on the 1st, but the 7th proved decisive. A mopping up job of warblers at Brandywine Creek State Park produced Philadelphia Vireo and Connecticut Warbler, the latter a life species for me. A Lark Sparrow at Bombay Hook later in the day was the fifth year bird in a day, and neon lights were flashing, bells were ringing behind my red eyes — the Delaware 300 was on. The next few days reinforced the possibility, with Nashville Warbler followed by Buff-breasted Sandpiper in unprecedented numbers compared to recent years. As in New Jersey, these birds were to be found on recently plowed potato fields rather than on the "traditional" sod farm sites. Another of the spectacular year's rarities, a Franklin's Gull, was found by a group of Swedish twitchers at the Hook — the state's second record. Unbelievably, but I suppose inevitably, I couldn't find a Tennessee Warbler! "Oh, you just missed one half an hour ago." "You should've been here at nine." — you know, the usual gripping-off lingo. 295 and nerves were tingling.

A couple of weeks in Europe on business cost me a Fork-tailed Flycatcher (fortunately in N.J.!) but got me a Red-breasted Goose in Scotland.

October proved the going was getting very difficult, but a couple of thrushes helped. Gray-cheeked was found on the 13th after patiently waiting at Cape Henlopen, and the last of my saved "bankers" (*i.e.*, birds I'd missed earlier in the year), Hermit Thrush, was found, with some relief after the Tennessee saga.

Another gem on November 2. Although the bird had been visiting a feeder for "weeks," the word got out slowly by tortuous routes and hey, presto — a Rufous Hummingbird at a backyard full of Bee Balm, Red Cardinal Flower, and honeysuckle in New Castle. A week later, the gap in the duck list was filled with Common Eider at Cape Henlopen. Lots of good birds around but I had to wait until the 24th when an Orange-crowned Warbler was discovered at Reedy Point while I was looking for signs of Saw-whets. The 300 had arrived. Time to put feet up? Self-congratulatory relaxation? Not on your life! Not with reports of an "interesting" flycatcher at Cape Henlopen coming in. The Gray Flycatcher, a state first and an extremely rare bird east of the Mississippi, was an incredible find by Bill Frech of Lewes. Another trip on the *Miss Chris* into Delaware waters produced Manx Shearwater on the 29th.

And that was it. 302 species. "What happened in December?," I hear you cry, thirsting for more. Well, nothing. I birded and birded and birded. I missed, dipped out, and was gripped off. I failed to see, hear, or even catch the scent of Sandhill Crane, Northern Goshawk, Long-eared and Saw-whet owls, Eared

Grebe, Golden Eagle, Common Murre — all seen by one or more of the other contenders. I just don't want to discuss December. It's a mental blackout.

My list follows. I was not the champion, just runner-up. Joe Swertinski (with whom I am still good friends) finished with an amazing 311. His story is told in the *Wilmington Sunday News Journal*, January 26, 1992. The picture accompanying the article suggests the origin of the "Mad Dog" epithet. The other four contenders all broke the old 280 record substantially. The final order probably reflects accurately the number of hours put into the fieldwork.

Was 1991 particularly good for rarities in the state? It certainly had its share, including four new state records. But was it because it was intensively birded throughout the year? Personally, I go for the latter — I believe 300 is possible in the state virtually any year. After all, 323 species were reported by reliable birders (whatever that means) during 1991.

The Delaware 300 is achievable. We have proved it. Go for it. Bird the Small Wonder. You won't be disappointed.

— 1206 Quincy Drive, Wilmington, DE 19803

MY 1991 DELAWARE YEAR LIST, COLIN CAMPBELL

Species	Location	Date
1. Red-throated Loon	IRI	January 1
2. Common Loon	IRI	January 1
3. Pied-billed Grebe	Indian River Bay	January 1
4. Horned Grebe	IRI	January 1
5. Red-necked Grebe	Delaware Bay	March 9
6. Cory's Shearwater	DWP	May 25
7. Greater Shearwater	DWP	May 25
8. Sooty Shearwater	DWP	May 25
9. Manx Shearwater	DWFP	November 29
10. Wilson's Storm-Petrel	DWP	May 25
11. Northern Gannet	IRI	January 6
12. Brown Pelican	IRI	June 8
13. Great Cormorant	IRI	January 1
14. Double-crested Cormorant	IRI	January 1
15. American Bittern	DSSP	January 20
16. Least Bittern	LC	May 10
17. Great Blue Heron	ANG	January 1
18. Great Egret	PH	January 1
19. Snowy Egret	BH	March 29
20. Little Blue Heron	LLT	March 29
21. Tricolored Heron	Rehoboth Bay	June 8
22. Reddish Egret	LC	July 2

Species	Location	Date
23. Cattle Egret	Ellendale	January 20
24. Green-backed Heron	IRI	April 26
25. Black-crowned Night-Heron	PH	April 13
26. Yellow-crowned Night-Heron	RP	May 29
27. Glossy Ibis	PH	January 1
28. White-faced Ibis	BH	May 5
29. Tundra Swan	PH	January 6
30. Mute Swan	GP	February 9
31. Greater White-fronted Goose	Centerville	January 1
32. Snow Goose	PH	January 1
33. Ross' Goose	BT	January 26
34. Brant	IRI	January 1
35. Canada Goose	GP	January 1
36. Wood Duck	BH	February 24
37. Green-winged Teal	GP	January 1
38. American Black Duck	GP	January 1
39. Mallard	GP	January 1
40. Northern Pintail	BH	January 1
41. Blue-winged Teal	BH	March 23
42. Northern Shoveler	PH	January 1
43. Gadwall	GP	January 1
44. Eurasian Wigeon	LC	March 10
45. American Wigeon	GP	February 9
46. Canvasback	Silver Lake, Rehoboth	January 1
47. Redhead	Silver Lake, Rehoboth	February 16
48. Ring-necked Duck	Burton Pond	January 6
49. Greater Scaup	KH	March 10
50. Lesser Scaup	CI	January 26
51. Common Eider	CH	November 9
52. King Eider	IRI	January 20
53. Harlequin Duck	IRI	January 20
54. Oldsquaw	IRI	January 1
55. Black Scoter	IRI	January 1
56. Surf Scoter	IRI	January 1
57. White-winged Scoter	IRI	January 1
58. Common Goldeneye	IRI	January 1
59. Bufflehead	IRI	January 1
60. Hooded Merganser	GP	January 1
61. Common Merganser	BH	January 1
62. Red-breasted Merganser	IRI	January 1
63. Ruddy Duck	GP	January 1
64. Black Vulture	ANG	January 1
65. Turkey Vulture	ANG	January 1
66. Osprey	CH	March 16
67. Bald Eagle	BH	January 1
68. Northern Harrier	PH	January 1
69. Sharp-shinned Hawk	CH	January 1
70. Cooper's Hawk	CH	January 1
71. Red-shouldered Hawk	Grubb Road, Wilmington	February 17
72. Broad-winged Hawk	Newport	April 23
73. Red-tailed Hawk	ANG	January 1

Species	Location	Date
74. Rough-legged Hawk	BH	January 1
75. American Kestrel	CH	January 1
76. Merlin	ANG	January 6
77. Peregrine Falcon	CH	February 9
78. Ring-necked Pheasant	BH	March 29
79. Wild Turkey	CS	April 6
80. Northern Bobwhite	PH	April 13
81. Yellow Rail	LC	April 30
82. Black Rail	PH	April 13
83. Clapper Rail	PH	April 13
84. King Rail	LLT	May 25
85. Virginia Rail	PH	April 6
86. Sora	Augustine WMA	July 6
87. Common Moorhen	DC	May 2
88. American Coot	GP	February 9
89. Black-bellied Plover	IRI	February 9
90. Lesser Golden-Plover	BH	March 29
91. Semipalmated Plover	BH	May 2
92. Piping Plover	DSSP	April 26
93. Killdeer	CH	January 27
94. American Oystercatcher	IRI	March 2
95. Black-necked Stilt	LC	April 28
96. American Avocet	BH	March 16
97. Greater Yellowlegs	BH	March 10
98. Lesser Yellowlegs	PH	January 1
99. Solitary Sandpiper	Taylor's Bridge	May 2
100. Willet	PH	April 13
101. Spotted Sandpiper	LC	April 28
102. Upland Sandpiper	Wilmington Airport	April 8
103. Whimbrel	DSSP	April 26
104. Hudsonian Godwit	BH	July 13
105. Marbled Godwit	BH	August 6
106. Ruddy Turnstone	IRI	January 6
107. Red Knot	Port Mahon	May 5
108. Sanderling	IRI	January 1
109. Semipalmated Sandpiper	BH	April 28
110. Western Sandpiper	PH	January 20
111. Least Sandpiper	IRI	March 31
112. White-rumped Sandpiper	BH	April 28
113. Baird's Sandpiper	BH	August 24
114. Pectoral Sandpiper	BH	March 29
115. Purple Sandpiper	IRI	January 1
116. Dunlin	IRI	January 1
117. Curlew Sandpiper	BH	May 5
118. Stilt Sandpiper	BH	March 29
119. Buff-breasted Sandpiper	LP	September 10
120. Ruff	BH	March 29
121. Short-billed Dowitcher	BH	April 2
122. Long-billed Dowitcher	BH	March 23
123. Common Snipe	PH	January 20
124. American Woodcock	CS	April 13

Species	Location	Date
125. Wilson's Phalarope	BH	May 2
126. Red-necked Phalarope	DWP	May 25
127. Red Phalarope	PH	May 20
128. Parasitic Jaeger	DWP	May 25
129. Great Skua	DWP	February 10
130. Laughing Gull	IRI	January 6
131. Franklin's Gull	BH	September 10
132. Little Gull	IRI	January 6
133. Common Black-headed Gull	CI	January 22
134. Bonaparte's Gull	IRI	January 1
135. Ring-billed Gull	IRI	January 1
136. Herring Gull	IRI	January 1
137. Iceland Gull	CI	January 26
138. Lesser Black-backed Gull	CI	February 9
139. Glaucous Gull	CI	January 26
140. Great Black-backed Gull	IRI	January 1
141. Black-legged Kittiwake	DWFB	February 10
142. Gull-billed Tern	Assawoman WMA	June 8
143. Caspian Tern	BH	April 28
144. Royal Tern	FISP	March 31
145. Sandwich Tern	CH	August 24
146. Common Tern	CH	April 13
147. Forster's Tern	IRI	January 1
148. Least Tern	PH	May 10
149. Black Tern	BH	July 9
150. Black Skimmer	LC	April 30
151. Razorbill	DWFB	February 10
152. Rock Dove	ANG	January 1
153. Mourning Dove	ANG	January 1
154. Black-billed Cuckoo	NSWA	May 13
155. Yellow-billed Cuckoo	NSWA	May 13
156. Barn Owl	BH	March 10
157. Eastern Screech-Owl	BCSP	August 17
158. Great Horned Owl	GR	April 9
159. Barred Owl	Sandtown	March 2
160. Short-eared Owl	PH	January 20
161. Common Nighthawk	DSSP	May 10
162. Chuck-will's-widow	CH	April 26
163. Whip-poor-will	CH	April 26
164. Chimney Swift	NSWA	April 26
165. Ruby-throated Hummingbird	WCC	May 2
166. Rufous Hummingbird	New Castle	November 2
167. Belted Kingfisher	IRI	January 1
168. Red-headed Woodpecker	Milton	May 13
169. Red-bellied Woodpecker	JT	January 6
170. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	MC	January 26
171. Downy Woodpecker	CH	January 1
172. Hairy Woodpecker	BH	April 2
173. Northern Flicker	CH	January 1
174. Pileated Woodpecker	BCSP	February 17
175. Eastern Wood-Pewee	GBS	May 10

Species	Location	Date
176. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	BCSP	September 1
177. Acadian Flycatcher	BH	May 5
178. Alder Flycatcher	BCSP	August 24
179. Willow Flycatcher	RP	May 27
180. Least Flycatcher	BCSP	August 24
181. Gray Flycatcher	CH	November 26
182. Eastern Phoebe	CV	January 27
183. Great Crested Flycatcher	TP	April 26
184. Eastern Kingbird	TI	April 26
185. Horned Lark	CH	January 27
186. Purple Martin	KH	March 10
187. Tree Swallow	PH	January 1
188. Northern Rough-winged Swallow	Trussom Pond	March 31
189. Bank Swallow	BH	May 2
190. Cliff Swallow	BH	August 31
191. Barn Swallow	BH	March 29
192. Blue Jay	ANG	January 1
193. American Crow	ANG	January 1
194. Fish Crow	CI	January 26
195. Black-capped Chickadee	MC	January 26
196. Carolina Chickadee	ANG	January 1
197. Tufted Titmouse	ANG	January 6
198. Red-breasted Nuthatch	BCSP	February 17
199. White-breasted Nuthatch	MC	January 26
200. Brown-headed Nuthatch	ANG	January 1
201. Brown Creeper	MC	January 26
202. Carolina Wren	ANG	January 1
203. House Wren	WCC	May 2
204. Winter Wren	BCSP	February 17
205. Sedge Wren	LC	May 10
206. Marsh Wren	BH	March 29
207. Golden-crowned Kinglet	JT	January 6
208. Ruby-crowned Kinglet	CS	April 13
209. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	TP	March 31
210. Eastern Bluebird	ANG	January 6
211. Veery	WCC	May 2
212. Gray-cheeked Thrush	CH	October 12
213. Swainson's Thrush	Greenacres	May 12
214. Hermit Thrush	BT	October 13
215. Wood Thrush	TP	April 26
216. American Robin	ANG	January 1
217. Gray Catbird	BT	January 26
218. Northern Mockingbird	ANG	January 1
219. Brown Thrasher	GR	April 9
220. American Pipit	BH	March 23
221. Cedar Waxwing	JT	January 6
222. Loggerhead Shrike	PH	January 1
223. European Starling	ANG	January 1
224. White-eyed Vireo	TP	April 26
225. Solitary Vireo	TI	April 26
226. Yellow-throated Vireo	WCC	May 2

Species	Location	Date
227. Warbling Vireo	DC	May 10
228. Philadelphia Vireo	BCSP	September 7
229. Red-eyed Vireo	TP	April 26
230. Blue-winged Warbler	WCC	May 2
231. Orange-crowned Warbler	RP	November 24
232. Nashville Warbler	WCC	September 8
233. Northern Parula	NSWA	April 13
234. Yellow Warbler	BH	April 28
235. Chestnut-sided Warbler	WCC	May 2
236. Magnolia Warbler	WCC	May 2
237. Cape May Warbler	BCSP	September 7
238. Black-throated Blue Warbler	TI	April 26
239. Yellow-rumped Warbler	IRI	January 1
240. Black-throated Green Warbler	WCC	May 2
241. Blackburnian Warbler	GBS	May 10
242. Yellow-throated Warbler	TP	March 31
243. Pine Warbler	TP	March 31
244. Prairie Warbler	TI	April 26
245. Palm Warbler	CV	January 27
246. Bay-breasted Warbler	BCSP	September 7
247. Blackpoll Warbler	NSWA	April 26
248. Cerulean Warbler	WCC	May 2
249. Black-and-white Warbler	CS	April 6
250. American Redstart	WCC	May 2
251. Prothonotary Warbler	CS	April 13
252. Worm-eating Warbler	CS	April 13
253. Ovenbird	CS	April 13
254. Northern Waterthrush	BH	May 5
255. Louisiana Waterthrush	TP	March 31
256. Kentucky Warbler	WCC	May 2
257. Connecticut Warbler	BCSP	September 7
258. Common Yellowthroat	BH	March 29
259. Hooded Warbler	WCC	May 2
260. Wilson's Warbler	GBS	May 10
261. Canada Warbler	WCC	May 2
262. Yellow-breasted Chat	WCC	May 2
263. Summer Tanager	TP	May 11
264. Scarlet Tanager	TP	April 26
265. Northern Cardinal	ANG	January 1
266. Rose-breasted Grosbeak	WCC	May 8
267. Blue Grosbeak	BH	May 5
268. Indigo Bunting	WCC	May 2
269. Painted Bunting	BH	August 9
270. Rufous-sided Towhee	ANG	January 1
271. American Tree Sparrow	BT	January 26
272. Chipping Sparrow	ANG	January 1
273. Field Sparrow	ANG	January 1
274. Vesper Sparrow	TP	April 13
275. Lark Sparrow	BH	September 7
276. Savannah Sparrow	BH	January 1
277. Grasshopper Sparrow	Millsboro	May 13

Species	Location	Date
278. Sharp-tailed Sparrow	LC	April 30
279. Seaside Sparrow	LC	May 2
280. Fox Sparrow	BT	February 9
281. Song Sparrow	ANG	January 1
282. Swamp Sparrow	IRI	January 20
283. White-throated Sparrow	ANG	January 1
284. White-crowned Sparrow	near Port Penn	January 26
285. Dark-eyed Junco	ANG	January 6
286. Lapland Longspur	Serverson Neck	February 24
287. Snow Bunting	RP	February 9
288. Bobolink	BH	May 2
289. Red-winged Blackbird	ANG	January 1
290. Eastern Meadowlark	ANG	January 1
291. Rusty Blackbird	Smyrna	February 16
292. Brewer's Blackbird	LP	January 1
293. Boat-tailed Grackle	BH	January 1
294. Common Grackle	ANG	January 1
295. Brown-headed Cowbird	ANG	January 1
296. Orchard Oriole	TP	April 26
297. Northern Oriole	WCC	May 2
298. Purple Finch	MC	January 26
299. House Finch	ANG	January 1
300. Pine Siskin	Milton	February 16
301. American Goldfinch	ANG	January 1
302. House Sparrow	ANG	January 1

Other birds reported in Delaware in 1991:

Eared Grebe	Common Murre	Tennessee Warbler
Northern Fulmar	Thick-billed Murre	Mourning Warbler
White Ibis	Long-eared Owl	Black-headed Grosbeak
Northern Goshawk	Northern Saw-whet Owl	Dickcissel
Golden Eagle	Olive-sided Flycatcher	Yellow-headed Blackbird
Sandhill Crane	Sprague's Pipit	Red Crossbill
Pomarine Jaeger	Golden-winged Warbler	Evening Grosbeak

Location Key

ANG - Angola	GBS - Gunning Bedford School	LP - Leipsic
BH - Bombay Hook NWR	GP - Gordon Pond	MC - Mt. Cuba
BT - Baxter Tract	GR - Granogue	NSWA - Nanticoke SWA
CH - Cape Henlopen	IRI-Indian River Inlet	PH - Prime Hook NWR
CI - Cherry Island	JT - Jimtown	RP - Reedy Point
CS - Cypress Swamp	KH - Kitts Hummock	TI - Thompson's Island
CV - Clarksville	LC - Little Creek	TPSP - Trap Pond State Park
DC - Delaware City	LLT - Logan Lane Tract	WCC - White Clay Creek
DSPP - Delaware Seashore State Park		
DWFB - Delaware waters fishing boat trip		
DWP - Delaware waters Pelagic Trip		
FISP - Fenwick Island State Park		