



WORKING BIBLIOGRAPHY OF THE EASTERN BLACK  
RAIL ALONG THE ATLANTIC AND GULF COASTS OF  
NORTH AMERICA, VERSION 1.0



THE CENTER FOR CONSERVATION BIOLOGY  
COLLEGE OF WILLIAM AND MARY  
VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY

# **Working bibliography of the eastern black rail along the Atlantic and Gulf Coasts of North America, Version 1.0**

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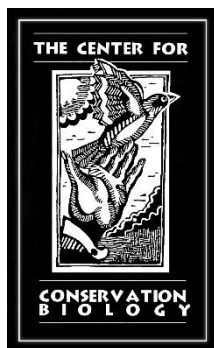
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**The Center for Conservation Biology is an organization dedicated to discovering innovative solutions to environmental problems that are both scientifically sound and practical within today's social context. Our philosophy has been to use a general systems approach to locate critical information needs and to plot a deliberate course of action to reach what we believe are essential information endpoints.**

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## Acknowledgements

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## Objective

The black rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis*) is the most secretive of the secretive marsh birds and one of the least understood bird species in North America. The eastern subspecies (*L. j. jamaicensis*) has undergone a southward range contraction over the past one hundred years and populations in the mid-Atlantic appear to have declined by as much as 90% over the past thirty years. Recent changes have led to concerns within the conservation community and urgency to learn as much as possible about the requirements of the form and its historic status and distribution. Much of the collective knowledge of the eastern black rail along the Atlantic and Gulf Coasts is scattered in bits and pieces throughout more than 100 years of literature. An identified need has been to gather available literature together to compile what is known and to identify information gaps moving forward.

The objective of this effort is to compile a bibliography of published and unpublished literature focused on the eastern black rail along the Atlantic and Gulf Coasts of North America. This effort follows previous projects that have compiled working bibliographies for the closely related California black rail (*L. j. coturniculus*) in 1980 and the mid-western or inland population of the eastern black rail in 2012.

## Geographic Coverage

The eastern black rail has a broad but poorly known breeding range that includes the Atlantic and Gulf Coasts of North America, parts of Colorado, Oklahoma and the mid-west, the West Indies including Cuba, Jamaica and historically Puerto Rico and parts of Central America from Mexico through Panama. This bibliography focuses on potential breeding areas of the eastern black rail in eastern North America including the Atlantic Coast (Maine through Florida), the Gulf Coast (Florida through Texas) and eastern inland states including Vermont, Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Tennessee.

## Source Materials

We used several approaches to locate materials to include in the bibliography. We searched more than 6,000 journal issues for primary material. We included all journals within the geographic area that we believed had the potential to publish materials of interest (Table 1). We searched breeding bird atlas treatments for states and jurisdictions within the focal geographic area and books or reports addressing bird status. We searched reports from state-level bird record committees and checklists. We searched written treatments of museum collections. We conducted an online search for government documents that might include black rails and sent letters to appropriate government biologists who might have access to unpublished reports or manuscripts. Once materials were located we examined literature cited sections for new materials.

**TABLE 1. JOURNAL TITLES AND TIME SPAN OF SYSTEMATIC COVERAGE.**

<b>JOURNAL TITLES</b>	<b>COVERAGE</b>
The Oologist	1875 to 1881
Bulletin of the Nuttall Ornithological Club	1876 to 1883
The Ornithologist and Oologist	1881 to 1893
The Auk	1884 to 2015
The Wilson Bulletin/Wilson Journal of Ornithology	1889 to 2015
Cassinia	1890 to 2015
The Nidologist	1893 to 1897
The Osprey	1896 to 1902
Bird Lore	1899 to 1945
The Condor	1899 to 2015
The Warbler	1905 to 1913
Bird-Banding	1930 to 1979
The Raven	1930 to 2015
The Migrant	1930 to 2015
The Redstart	1933 to 2015
The Chat	1935 to 2015
The Oriole	1936 to 2015
Audubon Magazine, Section II	1941 to 1945
Maryland Birdlife	1945 to 2015
The Wood Thrush	1946 to 1950
Audubon Field Notes	1946 to 1970
Atlantic Naturalist	1950 to 1990
Kingbird	1950 to 2015
Alabama Birdlife	1953 to 2015
Delmarva Ornithologist	1964 to 2015
Bulletin of Texas Ornithological Society	1967 to 2015
American Birds	1971 to 2015
Florida Field Naturalist	1973 to 2015
Bird Observer	1973 to 2015
Waterbirds	1976 to 2015
Journal of Field Ornithology	1980 to 2015
The Connecticut Warbler	1981 to 2015
New Hampshire Bird Records	1981 to 2015
Pennsylvania Birds	1987 to 2015
Virginia Birds	2004 to 2015
New Jersey Birds	2006 to 2009

## Coverage

Although we made a significant effort to locate and include primary materials pertaining to black rails within the geographic area it is certain that some materials have been omitted. We will continue to add new materials and encourage those interested to send citations and materials that may be included in a future edition of this bibliography.

## Digital Library

We made every attempt to archive source materials within a digital library. The library contains more than 98% of the 925 citations contained in the bibliography. Source materials are stored in pdf format on a server within The Center for Conservation Biology.

## List of Citations

Included in the bibliographic table is the Citation number, the standard abbreviation for the state included in the citation and the citation. State abbreviations include "G" that indicates citations of general interest for the geographic area but not pertaining to a specific state.



LIST OF CITATIONS

CITATION NUMBER	CITATION	STATE
1	Abramson, I. J. and H. M. Stevenson. 1961. Regional reports: spring migration, April 1 - May 31, 1961: Southern Atlantic Coast region. Audubon Field Notes 15:402-405.	FL
2	Adams, M. T. and M. Hafner. 2009. Middle Atlantic. American Birds 62:541-544.	MD
3	Adams, M. T. and R. Ostrowski. 2013. Spring migration, middle Atlantic. North American Birds 66:462-465.	VA
4	Adams, M. T., A. Bose, and R. Ostrowski. 2015. Nesting season, Middle Atlantic. North American Birds 68:488-490.	VA
5	Adams, M. T., R. Ostrowski, and A. Bose. 2014. Spring migration, Middle Atlantic. North American Birds 67:425-428.	MD
6	Addy, E. 1940. Notes from Virginia. The Auk 57(3):422-223.	VA
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9	Allen, J. A. 1886. Revised list Birds of Massachusetts.	CT, MA
10	Allen, J. A. 1900. The little black rail. The Auk 27(1):1-8.	CT, PA
11	Allen, R. P. 1935. Black rail at Cape May Point, N.J. The Auk 52:446.	MA
12	Alsop, F. J., III. 1980. The season spring migration, 16 May - 15 May, 1980. The Migrant 51:59-60.	TN
13	American Ornithologists' Union. 1957. Checklist of North American Birds, 5th ed. American Ornithologists' Union, Baltimore, Washington, D.C.	G
14	American Ornithologists' Union. 1983. Checklist of North American Birds, 6th ed. American Ornithologists' Union, Baltimore, Washington, D.C.	G
15	Anderson, B. H. and A. Bankert. 2009. Spring migration, Florida region. American Birds 63:413-416.	FL
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25	Armistead, H. T. 1984. Spring migration, Middle Atlantic Coast region. American Birds 38:893-896.	MD
26	Armistead, H. T. 1985. Nesting season, Middle Atlantic Coast region. American Birds 39:895-898.	MD
27	Armistead, H. T. 1985. Spring migration, Middle Atlantic Coast region. American Birds 39:279-284.	MD
28	Armistead, H. T. 1986. Nesting season, Middle Atlantic Coast region. American Birds 40:1186-1190.	MD
29	Armistead, H. T. 1986. Spring migration, Middle Atlantic Coast region. American Birds 40:452-456.	MD, VA
30	Armistead, H. T. 1987. Spring migration, Middle Atlantic Coast region. American Birds 41:411-415.	MD, VA
31	Armistead, H. T. 1988. Spring migration, Middle Atlantic Coast region. American Birds 42:416-420.	MD, VA
32	Armistead, H. T. 1989. Nesting season, Middle Atlantic Coast region. American Birds 43:1299-1303.	MD, VA
33	Armistead, H. T. 1989. Nesting season, Middle Atlantic Coast region. American Birds 43:1299-1303.	VA
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36	Armistead, H. T. 1991. Summer season, Middle Atlantic Coast region. American Birds 45:1101-1106.	MD, VA
37	Armistead, H. T. 1992. Spring season, Middle Atlantic Coast region. American Birds 46:403-408.	MD, VA
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41	Bagg, A. C. and S. A. Eliot, Jr. 1937. Birds of the Connecticut Valley in Massachusetts. Thomas Todd Company, Boston, Massachusetts.	MA

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51	Barnes, S. 2007. Summer Field Notes, region 3. <i>New Jersey Birds</i> 33:47-50.	NJ
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53	Bell, M. K. 1999. From the Field June - July 1999. <i>The Oriole</i> 64:68-73.	GA
54	Bell, M. K. 1999. From the Field March - May 1999. <i>The Oriole</i> 64:58-67.	GA
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70	Boyle, W. J. Jr., R. O. Paxton, and D. A. Cutler. 1988. Spring season, Hudson-Delaware region. American Birds 42:413-416.	NJ, DE
71	Boyle, W. J. Jr., R. O. Paxton, and D. A. Cutler. 1989. Spring season, Hudson-Delaware region. American Birds 43:454-458.	NJ, DE
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82	Boyle, W. J., Jr., R. O. Paxton and D. A. Cutler. 1985. Spring migration, Hudson-Delaware region. American Birds 39:276-279.	DE, NJ, PA
83	Boyle, W. J., Jr., R. O. Paxton and D. A. Cutler. 1986. Spring migration, Hudson-Delaware region. American Birds 40:448-451.	NY, NJ, DE
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87	Boyle, W. J., Jr, R. O. Paxton and D. A. Cutler. 1990. Spring migration, Hudson-Delaware region. <i>American Birds</i> 44:400-406.	NJ, DE
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89	Boyle, W. J., Jr, R. O. Paxton and D. A. Cutler. 1992. Spring migration, Hudson-Delaware region. <i>American Birds</i> 46:397-402.	NY
90	Boyle, W. J., Jr, R. O. Paxton and D. A. Cutler. 1993. Spring migration, Hudson-Delaware region. <i>American Birds</i> 47:397-400.	NJ, DE
91	Boyle, W. J., Jr, R. O. Paxton and D. A. Cutler. 1994. Spring season, Hudson-Delaware region. <i>American Birds</i> 48:279-283.	NY, NJ, DE
92	Boyle, W. J., Jr, R. O. Paxton and D. A. Cutler. 1995. Spring season, Hudson-Delaware region. <i>American Birds</i> 49:230-234.	DE
93	Boyle, W. J., Jr, R. O. Paxton and D. A. Cutler. 1998. Spring season, Hudson-Delaware region. <i>American Birds</i> 52:308-310.	DE
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102	Brinker, D. F., G. D. Therres, P. J. Tango, M. O'Brien, E. A. T. Blom and H. L. Wierenga. 2002. Distribution and relative abundance of breeding rails and other marshbirds in Maryland's tidal marshes. Manuscript for <i>Maryland Birdlife</i> .	MD
103	Brinkley, E. S. 2000. The 1999 Northampton County Foray (Part 2). <i>Raven</i> 71(2):48-70.	VA
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106	Brisse, P. 1989. From the Field December 1988-May 1989. <i>The Oriole</i> 54:31-36.	GA
107	Brisse, P. 1989. From the Field March - May 1988. <i>The Oriole</i> 54:8-12.	GA
108	Britt, M. 2006. Spring Field Notes, region 2. <i>New Jersey Birds</i> 32:84-88.	NJ
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110	Buchanan, C.M. 1956. 1955 County Bird Lists. <i>Maryland Birdlife</i> 12:57-59.	MD
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129	Cardiff, S. W. 2008. Spring season, Louisiana region. <i>North American Birds</i> 62:425-430.	LA
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