

IVORY-BILLED WOODPECKER IN FLORIDA: 1969

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Because of a very creditable descriptive report of an Ivory-billed Woodpecker (*Campephilus principalis*) in central Florida early in 1965, we have made numerous trips into the area during the winter and spring months of each succeeding year through 1970. The results are as follows:

An Ivory-bill was heard and/or seen on eleven occasions from 1967 through 1969.

From a blow-down roost or nest tree, we recovered an entire nest hole. Its measurements exactly fit those given by Tanner for the Ivory-bill. Also we recovered a feather which Dr. Alexander Wetmore has verified as the innermost secondary (white) of an Ivory-bill.

After the spring of 1968 no "two-way conversation" was heard. This led us to assume that only one bird remained. The last sight record (in flight) was on March 2, 1969.

No calls have been heard, nor have there been any sightings or feeding signs since the spring of 1969. This has resulted in our decision to make this information public. Previously it has been divulged to Whitney Eastman, Paul Sykes (Endangered Species) and a very few others.

The area is close to where the species was seen in the 1930's. No purpose can be served by revealing the location. Nothing whatsoever could have been done to "protect" the birds since the area is deep inside locked gates and is seldom frequented.

Our purpose in publishing this note is merely to let the birding community know of the recent existence of the Ivory-billed Woodpecker in south central Florida. The Florida Naturalist is publishing our full account.

IVORY-BILLS REPORTED IN SOUTH CAROLINA & TEXAS

Very recent reports (1971) cause hopes to soar as to the actual presence of Ivory-billed Woodpeckers in the Big Thicket area of Texas as well as in a large, state-owned preserve in South Carolina. The problems with both of these areas, however, is that a person or persons can spend weeks or even months in the region without ever seeing the bird due to the vastness of the habitat and the extensive ranging of the bird. We will have more information on these two areas when there is something more definite to report.