I have been working on the Annual Bird Report, and in the highlights section I was looking to see how significant was the increase in Eastern Koel sightings inrecent years. Since we get data via several channels for the general surveys, and via the weekly collection of data for the GBS surveys I though a view of the reporting rate for the general surveys and the A value for the GBS. While these metrics are not identical they are similar (ish). I had not made this comparison before, despite editing the ABR for a number of years. To my surprise, the two graphs appear to be identical.



The two graphs of Eastern Koel presence and abundance above are really quite remarkable. They paint an almost identical picture, despite the fact that the underlying data has been collected using differing methodologies and from quite different sets of sites. On first glance one might comment along the lines that of course they should be the same because they deal with the same population of birds in the same general locality. What they do show is that the summer migrant population is increasing at a significant rate. The similarity of the two graphs may also demonstrate the general validity of the approach that COG (and other agencies like BLA and eBird) have taken in designing and implementing the data collection methods.

I will try a few more comparisons in the future of other species to see what comes up.