

The Nesting Season

June 1 – July 31, 1981

Abbreviations frequently used in Regional Reports

ad.: adult, Am.: American, c.: central, C: Celsius, CBC: Christmas Bird Count, Cr.: Creek, Com.: Common, Co.: County, Cos.: Counties, *et al.*: and others, E.: Eastern (bird name), Eur.: European, Eurasian, F: Fahrenheit, *fide*: reported by, F.&W.S.: Fish & Wildlife Service, Ft.: Fort, imm.: immature, I.: Island, Is.: Islands, Isles, Jct.: Junction, juv.: juvenile, L.: Lake, m.ob.: many observers, Mt.: Mountain, Mts.: Mountains, N.F.: National Forest, N.M.: National Monument, N.P.: National Park, N.W.R.: Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, N.: Northern (bird name), Par.: Parish, Pen.: Peninsula, P.P.: Provincial Park, Pt.: Point, not Port, Ref.: Refuge, Res.:

Reservoir, not Reservation, R.: River, S.P.: State Park, sp.: species, spp.: species plural, ssp.: subspecies, Twp.: Township, W.: Western (bird name), W.M.A.: Wildlife Management Area, v.o.: various observers, N,S,W,E.: direction of motion, n., s., w., e.: direction of location, >: more than, <: fewer than, ±: approximately, or estimated number, ♂: male, ♀: female, ♂: imm. or female, *: specimen, ph.: photographed, †: documented, ft: feet, mi: miles, m: meters, km: kilometers, date with a + (*e.g.*, Mar. 4+): recorded beyond that date. Editors may also abbreviate often-cited locations or organizations.

NORTHEASTERN MARITIME REGION

/Peter D. Vickery

The weather this summer was generally mild. An extended heat wave in excess of 90°F dominated early July. More significant than the temperature, however, was the extensive defoliation caused by gypsy moths. Deciduous forests in northwestern Rhode Island experienced a 75-80% leaf loss and in New Hampshire defoliation was considered severe in at least 24% of the southern two-thirds of the state. Nest predation, clearly a result of this exposure, was reported for many deciduous forest nesting species, most notably Great Crested Flycatchers, Scarlet Tanagers and Rose-breasted Grosbeaks. It will be interesting to see if there is any extended, observable change in the status of these birds.

The extensive dead softwood forests of northern New England, a result of repeated spruce budworm defoliation, may possibly have been responsible for the July incursion of Tennessee Warblers south of their normal breeding range. Many Tennessee Warblers were reported in southern New Hampshire. Males were found on territory, sometimes in atypical breeding habitat. It seems doubtful, however, that these same parameters surrounded the first Massachusetts breeding of Lincoln's Sparrows.

The discovery of Grasshopper Sparrows nesting north of their known breeding range of Kennebunk, Maine was quite unanticipated. Less surprising were the Ring-billed Gulls nesting on inland lakes in New Hampshire and Double-crested Cormorants breeding in Rhode Island. The brief appearance of a Spotted Redshank on Plum Island, a first Massachusetts occurrence, caused more consternation than excitement while in Nova Scotia, a Scarlet Ibis, although thrilling, created more puzzlement than anything else.

LOONS THROUGH CORMORANTS — Single summering Red-throated Loons were unusual in Truro, Mass., June 12 (PC), Milford, Conn., June 28 (CH) and on Richardson L., Oxford Co., Me., through June and July (*fide* MKL). At least five Horned Grebes at 4 New England localities were perhaps more than usual. Double-crested Cormorants nested in Rhode Island for the first time; 150± adults and 18 nests were observed at Sakonnet Pt. (RLF, *fide* DLE).

HERONS, IBISES — Little Blue Herons were considerably n. of their usual limits at St. John's, Nfld., in mid-May (*fide* JM) and on the French island of Miquelon May 18 (*fide* REI). Also noteworthy on these two French islands were: a Snowy Egret at Langlade May 18, another at Miquelon May 30, and a Glossy Ibis at Grand Barachois May 12 (*fide* REI). A Louisiana Heron was rare in Nova Scotia at Matthews L., June 14 (WW) and in New Hampshire a Yellow-crowned Night Heron returned for the second consecutive year to Durham in late July and early August (RAQ). Intriguing, if somewhat mystifying, was a sub-ad. Scarlet Ibis at Three Fathom Harbour (and environs), Halifax Co., N.S., June 15 (possibly since late May) through July (v.o., *fide* ELM, ph.). Not known to exist in live specimen collections anywhere in the Northeast, this bird presumably traveled a considerable distance to reach Nova Scotia,

although the possibility of ship or some other form of assisted transport cannot be dismissed. This individual may well be the species' most legitimate claim to North American avifauna.

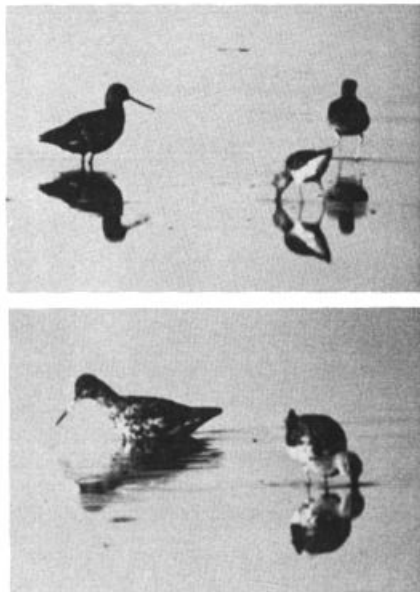
WATERFOWL, RAPTORS — In Massachusetts, a ♀ Am. Wigeon with young on Monomoy provided a first known breeding at that locality (*fide* BN). An imm. ♂ King Eider was unexpected off Martha's Vineyard June 20 (*fide* BN). At least 5 broods of Com. Mergansers, generally scarce breeders in Connecticut, were noted along the Farmington R., in the w. part of the state (RAP).

A Turkey Vulture nest with young in Antrim, N.H., constituted a first confirmed state breeding record (*fide* RAQ). The species continues to flourish throughout New England, Black Vultures were seen in Wareham, Mass., June 8 (CR) and on Nantucket I., in July (*fide* RPE). In New Brunswick, a Black Vulture occurred in and about



Midway July 2-8 (SIT *et al.*, ph.). A pair of Goshawks nested successfully in Foster, R.I. (*vide* DLE) while in New Hampshire, Cooper's Hawks bred in Eaton (*vide* RAQ). Equally interesting in New Hampshire were at least five pairs of Marsh Hawks found on territory with nesting confirmed at 3 localities (*vide* RAQ). Excluding the islands off Massachusetts, breeding Marsh Hawks in New England are few indeed. Another glimmer of hope surrounded the news of Peregrine Falcons successfully nesting near Franconia Notch, N.H. (*vide* RAQ). The female possessed bands and was believed to be of Cornell origin while the male was thought to be fully wild. Sadly, Peregrine Falcons did not return to last year's nest on Mt. Desert I., Me. (WCT).

GALLINULES, SHOREBIRDS — A Com. Gallinule with young in Germantown, N.B., provided a first positive provincial nesting record (*vide* DSC). In the same province, Piping Plovers nested for the first time along the Bay of Fundy at Waterside, Albert Co. (*vide* DSC). In Newfoundland, a pair of territorial Piping Plovers was of particular interest as far n. and e. as Lumsden Beach (*vide* RB). A flock of 30 Semipalmated Plovers was very unusual inland in w. Massachusetts at Longmeadow July 27 (*vide* SK). A Greater Golden Plover (*Pluvialis apricaria*) at Cape St. Mary's, Nfld., in mid-June provided the first island occurrence in several years (*vide* PDV). No doubt local Massachusetts birders rued the brevity of the appearance of the Spotted Redshank on Plum I., July 28 (JC, *vide* RAF, ph.) for a first state



Spotted Redshank, Parker River N.W.R., (Plum I.) Mass., July 28, 1981. Photo/Joyce Cloughly.

record. An interesting collection of shorebirds on Monomoy I., June 13 included two Pectoral and nine White-rumped sandpipers and a Marbled Godwit (CR). Five Long-billed Dowitchers were earlier than usual at Plum I., July 10 (*vide* RPE). An ad. Curlew Sandpiper was apparently unique this season at Mary's Pt., N.B., July 26-29 (DSC *et al.*). Four Ruffs were reported from e. Massachusetts in July (*vide* RPE).

JAEGERS THROUGH ALCIDS — Inexplicably, skuas—or sightings of them—have decreased notably. The season's only report involved a dark skua sp. at Cox's Ledge, R.I., June 6 (SS). South of Newfoundland, a Lesser Black-backed Gull on St. Pierre Apr. 15 provided a first island record (*vide* RET). In New Hampshire, Ring-billed Gulls reported nesting with Herring Gulls on Squam L., and L. Umbagog established apparently first state breeding records of this increasingly common summer resident (*vide* RAQ). Four Black-headed Gulls at 3 Connecticut localities provided unusual summer occurrences (CH *et al.*) while 21 sub-ad. Black-legged Kittiwakes were of interest on Monomoy I., June 13 (CR).

A Gull-billed Tern was a rare find on Plum I., July 14 (*vide* RPE). Least Terns experienced a very poor breeding season at their n. limit in Maine but apparently fared better along coastal Rhode Island where numbers have increased recently (*vide* DLE). Royal Terns were generally scarce with no reports n. of Cape Cod. However, on Martha's Vineyard Royal Terns were observed almost daily with a maximum of four individuals (*vide* BN). Three Black Skimmers were reported from e. Massachusetts (*vide* BN). A Thick-billed Murre was unique off Cape Elizabeth, Me., July 4 (JB). Of particular interest was a breeding-plumaged Black Guillemot off Pt. Judith, R.I., June 5-7 (RLF, *vide* DLE).

OWLS THROUGH WRENS — In New Hampshire, a (road-killed) Barn Owl was unusual in Winchester, as was a vocal Screech Owl at Center Sandwich (*vide* RAQ). As many as three Boreal Owls were heard calling in Terra Nova N.P., Nfld. (v.o., *vide* RB). Four ♂ Chuck-will's-widows were calling again this summer on Martha's Vineyard where breeding is strongly suspected but as yet remains unproved (*vide* BN).

An E. Phoebe was well n. of its usual limits on St. Pierre Apr. 14-21 (*vide* RET). Acadian Flycatchers continued to thrive in w. Massachusetts, with as many as 9-11 known pairs (PY *et al.*). Similarly, Willow Flycatchers seemed to extend their range N. In Maine they are now quite regular n. to at least Augusta in wet alder thickets. Not surprisingly, Willow Flycatcher was recorded in New Brunswick at Mary's Pt., July 2 for a first provincial record (DSC *et al.*). Not noted in the spring report was a Carolina Wren in song in Falmouth, Me., May 2 (RRE *et al.*).

THRUSHES THROUGH WARBLERS — A Wheatear at Boothbay Harbor, Me., June 5 was unique this spring but appeared to be among a growing number of spring records (BT). Last spring no fewer than four Wheatears were observed in the Region (AB 34:756). A White-eyed Vireo was unusual in Richmond, Me., July 31 (PDV). Two ♂ Cerulean Warblers in song in Candia, N.H., May 26 (*vide* RAQ) may possibly presage a continued N expansion for this species.

FRINGILLIDS — As many as six House Finches were found coming to a St. John, N.B. feeder this summer (*vide* DSC). Completely unexpected was the discovery of at least six pairs of Grasshopper Sparrows breeding in a blueberry barren in Ken-

nebunk, Me. Adults were subsequently found feeding young for a first modern state nesting record; R.S. Palmer (1949) notes that these sparrows historically bred in small numbers in Berwick, Me. (PA, JF *et al.*). A ♂ Clay-colored Sparrow was found in full song in Plymouth, N.H., June 10-12 (*vide* RAQ). Of particular interest was an obviously territorial ♂ Fox Sparrow in n. Somerset County, Me., throughout June. A thorough search revealed no nest or mate and the bird was presumed unpaired (PA, JC *et al.*). In Massachusetts, the state's first Lincoln's Sparrow nest was found in boggy habitat in Florida S.F. (DS *et al.*). Summering Lincoln's Sparrows were previously recorded nearby in Savoy in the 1920s and 1978 but breeding, until this year, was never confirmed.

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QUEBEC REGION

/Michel Gosselin and Normand David

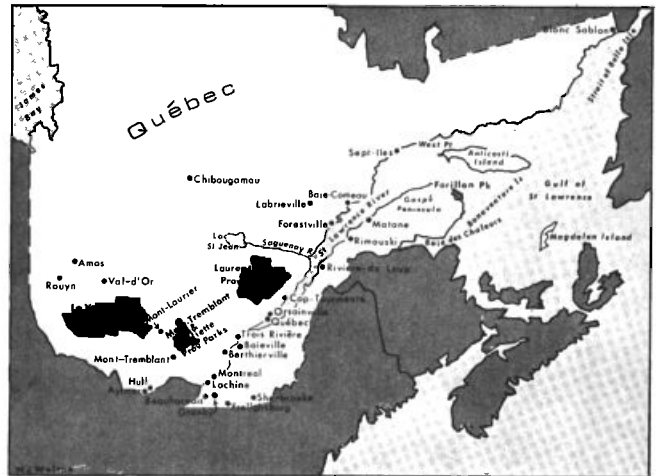
The summer weather of 1981 was close to average; precipitation however, was markedly above the mean in June, at least in southern Quebec.

TUBENOSES THROUGH WATER-FOWL — Two Manx Shearwaters off Baie Johan-Beetz and a Sooty Shearwater off Aguanish July 30 (JH *et al.*) were far from their usual concentration areas of Belle-Isle Strait. A Great Blue Heron unsuccessfully occupied a nest at Eastmain June 7-July 21 (YA, DB), a northernmost regional record. Among rarer waders, a Little Blue Heron visited Trois-Pistoles June 7-8 (GG, LH), a Louisiana Heron was at Pointe-au-Père in late June (PJ), and single Great Egrets were noted at Dundee June 26 (JH *et al.*) and Hudson in July (WG). An isolated sighting of Whistling Swan was reported from 100± km up the Opinaca R., June 7 (YA). A lingering Snow Goose was in Hull June 21-27 (SG) and a White-fronted Goose (*A. a. flavirostris*) was recorded near Barachois June 17-18 (ST *et al.*). The first nest of N. Shoveler in Gaspésie was found in June at Carleton but destroyed shortly after discovery (*vide* RB). At Baieville, a family of Ruddy Ducks was discovered in late July (DSH), for a second regional breeding record.

RAPTORS THROUGH SHOREBIRDS — An ad. Golden Eagle was observed at Grondines July 25 (PLt), and the species again nested in Gaspésie this summer (GD). The northernmost nesting record of Am. Coot in Quebec came from Cap-Tourmente July 19 when a brood of five young was observed (JPB). Sandhill Cranes are now well established in the James Bay lowlands: two birds were found near LG2 dam June 3 (YA, DB), with 30 in Cabbage Willows Bay June 21 (MG *et al.*) and 15 between Fort-Rupert and Eastmain July 18, among which a downy young **Sandhill Crane** in Boatswain Bay provided the first provincial breeding record (YA, DB). Two Piping Plovers were discovered at Havre Saint-Pierre July 22 (PLn); it is heartening to learn that half a dozen of these birds had been observed on a nearby island in July 1979 (CS). The invasion on beaches by motorized vehicles is increasingly threatening this plover, even on the n. shore where the stretch Pointe des Monts-Natashquan would be suitable for the species. Another hint at the colonization of interior Quebec by Killdeers was provided by the sighting of a bird at LG4 dam June 2 (YA). Two Solitary Sandpipers displayed as if on territory at Dozois Res., June 25 (DSH), far s. of their normal range. A Willet was at Grosse-Ile, Madeleine Is., July 27 (GD), a Marbled Godwit was at Saint-Fulgence June 5-8, and an **American Avocet** was also there June 5 (MB). A Wilson's Phalarope at Eastmain June 13 (DB), along with a pair at Cap-d'Espoir the same day (*vide* RB) and two pairs at Saint-Siméon, Bonaventure Co., June 20 (ST) were possible colonizers of new territories.

GULLS THROUGH DOVES — Five Glaucous Gulls at the LG2 dump June 3 (DB) were probably on a regular but little known migration path. However, two ad. Great Black-backed Gulls at Caniapiscau July 7 (YA) suggested a possible range extension. The nesting of Ring-billed Gulls was confirmed at Baskatong L., in June by the discovery of 6 nests (PH) and at Magog by the sighting of a chick (PRo). Other signs of increasing gull populations were the growing numbers in species almost unknown in Quebec 10 years ago: a Black-headed Gull at Havre Saint-Pierre July 22+ (PLn), single Laughing Gulls at Trois-Pistoles June 9 (JH) and at Natashquan June 8-15 (LG), four

Franklin's Gulls at Lachine June 13-16 (BB), two on L. Baskatong June 16 (PH, DP) and one in Hull June 27 (BD), as well as a Little Gull in Chandler June 20 (ST). **Roseate Terns** are still present in the Madeleine Is., where two were sighted at the Pointe-au-Loup colony Aug. 1 (YA, GD). Single Mourning Doves were reported from Sept-Iles June 21 (LG) and Eastmain Camp July 7 (YA).



FLYCATCHERS THROUGH VIEROS — Mascouche and Saint-Hubert were added to the summer range of Willow Flycatcher June 9 & 24 respectively (JGG,ND). The sighting of four Com. Crows at Nouveau-Comptoir July 23 (YA,DB) was indicative of distribution on the e. coast of James Bay similar to that known for the w. coast. A Carolina Wren was discovered at Saint-Lambert July 12-13 (JB) as were single Mockingbirds at Pointe-à-la-Frégate June 12 (WCW) and Mingan Aug. 2 (DSH). A Brown Thrasher at Villemontel June 27 (YA) was probably a first for Abitibi. Six Gray-cheeked Thrushes were observed in June on top of Mt. Sir-Wilfrid, Labelle Co., at a height of 780 m (DSH); as for the birds of the Charlevoix area, it is not yet known to which subspecies they belong. There are higher summits in the area that could support the species. The E. Bluebird nested at Lac-des-Ecorces, Labelle Co. (EB), and a bird visited Fatima, Madeleine Is., ca. June 8 (FL, *vide* PBo). Apparently a first record for Gaspésie was that of a Warbling Vireo at Carleton July 12 (*vide* RB).

WARBLERS THROUGH SPARROWS — At Kingsmere, Gatineau P.P., a **Louisiana Waterthrush** was on territory July 4-9 in ideal habitat for the species: a mature deciduous forest cut by a small stream (PBI *et al.*). The first Quebec record for this waterthrush had also been from Gatineau P.P., in 1974. In Lévis a Yellow-breasted Chat was spotted in late July (PT) while at Natashquan, two ♂ Bobolinks appeared June 3 (LG). Three Sharp-tailed Sparrows spent the season at

Saint-Fulgence, Saguenay Co. (MB); surprisingly, the species was again noted on Ile du Moine where five singing birds were seen and heard July 18+ (MM *et al.*). In each case one wonders which subspecies is involved. Two Sharp-tailed Sparrows were also heard at Pointe-à-la-Garde June 9 (ST). Following the discovery of a pair of Clay-colored Sparrows in N. Hatley July 4, an adult was observed feeding two young July 29 (PBo), supplying a first for the area. Field Sparrow was recorded at Lac-des-Ecorces (EB) while the first nesting record of this bird in the Quebec City area stems from the observation of two adults feeding two young at Beauport July 27 (PP,AD). Lincoln's Sparrows are increasingly occupying suitable habitat in the St. Lawrence Valley, as shown by the discovery of 15 ± birds near Saint-Chrysostome July 1 (ND).

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HUDSON-DELAWARE REGION /William J. Boyle, Jr., Robert O. Paxton and David A. Cutler

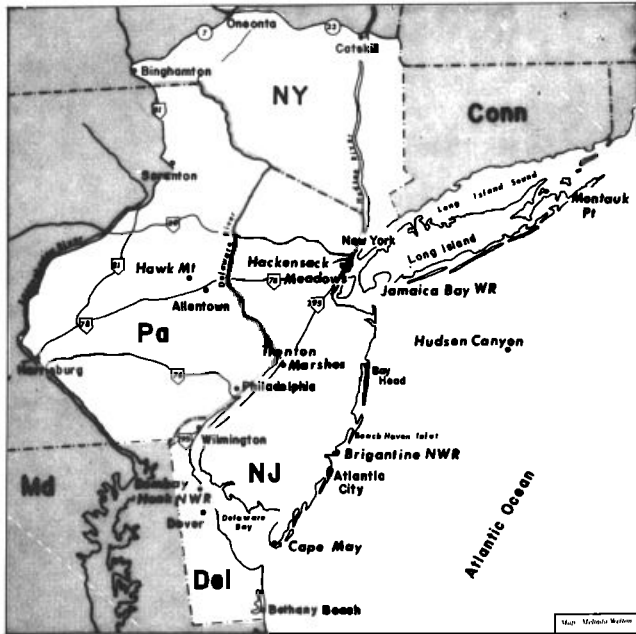
The highlights of the nesting season were the establishment of two first nesting records for New York and the first confirmed occurrence of a very rare shorebird. Otherwise, the period was very ordinary with near average weather, although July was much wetter than normal, and a generally successful breeding season for most species. Many observers commented on the effects of the gypsy moth infestation, which was the worst ever over

much of the Region. Hundreds of square miles of forest were totally defoliated by early June, and visitors to these hard hit areas noted substantially reduced numbers of birds and a strikingly diminished volume of bird song. While undoubtedly a short-term phenomenon which depends on the fortunes of this introduced pest, the impact was impressive, as was the consensus of the comments it elicited from all quarters.

Again this year there were no comprehensive colonial waterbird surveys conducted along the coasts of New York and New Jersey, but what information that we have indicates that these birds had a generally

good nesting season and that populations of most species are either stable or increasing. Five Summer Bird Counts (hereafter, S.B.C.) were received, all of which have been in existence for at least three years: Southern Lancaster County, Pa., and Cumberland County, N.J. (June 6), Boonton, N.J. (June 14), Central Suffolk County, N.Y. (June 20) and Greenwich-Stamford, Conn. (June 21), part of which is in Westchester County, N.Y.

Frequently cited locations are abbreviated as follows: B. Hook (Bombay Hook N.W.R., Del.), Brig. (Brigantine N.W.R., N.J.), J.B.W.R. (Jamaica Bay W.R., N.Y.C.).



LOONS THROUGH IBISES—The usual scattering of non-breeding Com. Loons was well distributed, including one at Conowingo Pond in the lower Susquehanna R., Pa. (RMS), but the only unusual grebe report was of a breeding-plumaged Horned at Mannington Marsh, Salem Co., N.J., June 21 (JKM). Nearby Pedricktown, N.J., had an ad. Pied-billed Grebe with three young July 12 (JKM). Elsewhere in New Jersey, there were pairs at Brig., and Trenton Marsh plus 16 families at Kearny Marsh July 6 (RK). Rockland County, N.Y., had its first breeding record with 4-5 young at W. Haverstraw June 6 (RFD) and one or two pairs nested at J.B.W.R., for the second year in a row following a long absence (THD), but observers in Delaware found none at traditional locations. This species appears to be in serious trouble as a breeder in the Region and reports of its occurrence during the nesting season would be appreciated.

A Cory's Shearwater 15 mi e. of Indian River Inlet, Del., June 29 furnished a good local record (BH, FH). Farther n., an early July storm brought 20+ Greater Shearwaters and 10 Wilson's Storm-Petrels close to shore at Long Beach I., N.J. (M. Reese). Manx Shearwaters were reported from the Cape May-Lewes Ferry June 17 (RK), and off Montauk June 7 (BSp, DC). Ever increasing numbers of Double-crested Cormorants summer in the bays and estuaries of Long Island and New Jersey. Breeding has occurred at Fisher's I., L.I., but in New Jersey where 1000+ were present during June there is still no nesting record. A bird carrying nesting material at Island Beach S.P., July 2, suggests that this momentous event may have already transpired but escaped detection (RK, RR, JBr).

The number of Great Blue Heron colonies has shown a modest decline in recent years, so the appearance of a new one with 7 nests at Wyalusing, Pa., was gratifying (WR). Cattle Egrets on the other hand, show no signs of abating their dramatic increase, as evidenced by the post-nesting count of 7500 at Rookery

I., Washington Boro, Pa., Aug. 8, where last year there were 4700 (RMS). Nesting of Black-crowned Night Heron at Rye, N.Y., was finally confirmed this year with the presence of several young birds (TWB), but 2 long-standing colonies in Pennsylvania were abandoned: one at Exeter owing to Great Horned Owl presence (WR) and the other in Bucks County due to habitat disturbance (AM, JM). The possible Yellow-crowned Night Heron colony at McCormick's I., Harrisburg, Pa., mentioned last year, was visited June 21 and confirmed to be that and more. In addition

to 10 nests of Yellow-crowns, there were 50 of Black-crowned Night Herons and 5 of Great Egret (C. Jones, R.B. Edminston). This appears to be the only sizable inland colony of Yellow-crowns in the Northeast. An Am. Bittern at W. Haverstraw, Rockland Co., N.Y., in May and June may have nested and represented the first summer record for the county in 20 years (RFD). Least Bitterns were widely reported in good numbers and seem to have done well at Cape May Pt. S.P. and at Kearny Marsh, N.J., while a pair with a fledgling at J.B. W.R., July 23, provided the first confirmed nesting there in 10+ years (P. Didion *et al.*). The ad. White Ibis reported at Stone Harbor, N.J., in the spring was last seen June 15 (*vide* PD).

WATERFOWL—Small numbers of summering Brant and Snow Geese were normal, but a Greater White-fronted Goose consorting with the local Canada Geese at Ocatararo Res., Pa., through the period was quite unusual. Although it was believed to be wild, its behavior made its origins highly suspect (RMS). A pair of Gadwall raised three young at Piermont Pier, Rockland Co., for the first nesting record for the Hudson Valley of New York (RFD, VS). All previous state breeding records have come from Long Island or n.w. New York State. Green-winged Teal are increasing as nesters on e. Long Island, with three or more pairs in the Manorville area and 2 broods on Plum I. (GSR). An estimated 2500 Wood Ducks nested at Great Swamp N.W.R., N.J., mostly in boxes, an incredible concentration for a 6000 acre refuge.

A ♂ Harlequin Duck at Montauk Pt., June 7 was a rare summer visitor, but less surprising was a second-year ♂ Com. Eider at Holgate, N.J., June 27 (PWS *et al.*), the only eider of the season. The Region's dwindling nesting population of Ruddy Ducks was represented by 3 families at Kearny Marsh July 6 (RK); there was a straggler on the Cumberland County S.B.C., and six at B. Hook July 6 (JMA). The latter showed no signs of nesting although Ruddies have bred there in the

past. At J.B.W.R., the once flourishing colony was down to a couple of pairs (D. Riepe). A ♀ Hooded Merganser was at the E. Orange Water Reserve, Essex Co., N.J., site of last year's nesting record, June 14 but had no young (RR). We belatedly learned of a female with young at Paulinskill L., Sussex Co., N.J., last summer (C. Decker); this year a female and a flightless young were seen at a beaver pond elsewhere in Sussex County (W. Lehn) for the state's seventh breeding record. Common Mergansers were less in evidence this year along the upper Susquehanna and Delaware rivers, but six on the S. Lancaster County S.B.C., two remaining all summer, were unusual.

RAPTORS—Following the first nesting record for Black Vulture in New Jersey (see AB 35:805-6) and the many birds present during that period, the species went nearly unreported from the state this summer. This is, we suspect, because it is no longer such a great rarity, so is not searched for and not reported when seen. In Pennsylvania the increase continues with 133 on the S. Lancaster County S.B.C., including 97 in one roost. There were at least 2 Goshawk nests in New Jersey this year; both of the nests known to us were robbed of one chick by falconers. Falconry is newly legal in the state, and it remains to be seen what the impact will be on marginal breeding species such as Goshawk. Cooper's Hawk, another marginal nesting species in New Jersey, was also represented by at least 2 nests. Unlike Goshawk, Cooper's Hawk is protected as an Endangered Species in the state. In n.e. Pennsylvania Reid finds this species to be slowly increasing from the lows of the 1970s. For the third year of the last 4 the S. Lancaster County S.B.C., turned up a Sharp-shinned Hawk, but there is no evidence of local breeding.

Only 2 reports of wandering imm. Bald Eagles were received for the summer. As reported in the Spring column, 2 of the 4 nests in Delaware produced a total of three young; the other two and the one New Jersey nest failed. Too little information was received on Marsh Hawks to allow any conclusions to be drawn following last summer's encouraging reports, but Ospreys seem to be holding their own. A survey of the s.e. Delaware coast June 13 found 31 nests, up from 25 last year (PJ); there are also about 25 nests elsewhere in the state. In New Jersey, 87 nests (vs. 86 in 1980) produced 89 young (98 in 1980), while on Long Island a similar number of nests yielded 125 fledglings (up from 101 last year, *vide* D. Puleston). In New Jersey, where there are now four pairs of introduced Peregrine Falcons, three pairs attempted to nest. Two of them raised a total of six young (five hatched plus one transplanted), while the third pair lost its chicks to a raccoon (*vide* JG). Four young Peregrines released in downtown Philadelphia July 4 were soon joined by a fifth bird of unknown origin (DAC). Two observers reported interesting concentrations of nesting Am. Kestrels. In Hackettstown, N.J., six pairs nested in less than a mile along a stretch of railroad track (SH), while in suburban Queens County, N.Y., Davis found five pairs in a 3-mile radius of Woodhaven (THD).

BOBWHITE THROUGH RAILS — The Bobwhite has undergone a steady, drastic decline over much of the Region in recent years and has disappeared completely from some areas where it was formerly common. In Pennsylvania the species has been declared off-limits for the 1981-82 hunting season for the first time since 1953. One widely suspected, but unproven, reason for the decline is the continued restocking with birds derived from more southerly and presumably less hardy ancestors. From seven to eleven Black Rails were discovered calling in the marshes of the lower Tuckahoe R., and Great Egg Harbor, N.J., during early June (RM). Although none was seen, the birds were heard on several occasions through at least June 15. Interestingly, this area lies just w. of Beesley's Pt., where Thomas Beesley found the first New Jersey nest of Black Rail in 1844 (see Witmer Stone, *Bird Studies at Old Cape May*). A single Black Rail was at Turkey Pt., Cumberland Co., N.J., June 6 (D. Kunkle) and the three or so birds at B. Hook reported in the Spring column were present during the summer (BH, FH). The Purple Gallinule reported at Cape May Pt. S.P. in May lingered at least June 21 while another made a brief appearance at Montauk July 17 (BSP).

SHOREBIRDS — American Oystercatchers seemed to be in high numbers everywhere this season, with a maximum of 100+ at Holgate during July and 125 at the Line Is., Nassau Co., N.Y., Aug. 1 (GD, MD, RDi). Our appeal for information on the Upland Sandpiper resulted in some response this year, but very little of it was positive. A new location at the Chukar Valley Country Club, Montgomery Co., Pa., brings to 5 the number of known Pennsylvania sites used in the past 2 years, all in s.e. Pennsylvania. In New Jersey, 1-3 pairs were at 4 locations, but 5 recently used sites were not visited. The Warren Sod Farm, Orange Co., N.Y., held 14 young of the year in early July which suggested a significant local population (FA, WA). One on the Loop Causeway, s. Nassau Co., L.I., June 14 (PAB, W. Sedwitz), and two on the C. Suffolk County S.B.C. may have been local breeders. At Kennedy Internat'l Airport, Chevalier banded 57 young (56 in June, one July 27), his biggest year ever, suggesting that this isolated (and hence protected) population is secure (S. Chevalier). Another local breeder, the Willet, was present in excellent numbers, with 130 at the Line Is., Aug. 1 (GD, MD, RDi) and 2 flocks totalling 350 birds heading out over the ocean at Stone Harbor Pt., N.J., July 6 (PD).

The beginning of an exceptional fall shorebird migration was ushered in by the arrival of three southbound Short-billed Dowitchers at Brig., June 21 (PD). The outstanding representative of the family was a beautifully-plumaged ad. **Sharp-tailed Sandpiper** discovered by Davis at J.B.W.R., July 18 (THD, TWB, R. Lewis, SD *et al.*, ph.R. Lewis). This cooperative bird was seen by many before it departed July 24; it represents the first confirmed record for New York State and for the Region, although there have been 3 sight reports of possible Sharp-taileds (AB 28:29; AB 35:135-6; one unpublished). Except for the Massachusetts specimen and last fall's report, all of the other 10 reports for

e North America have been of juveniles in the fall. The many disappointed birders who gathered to search for the bird July 26 had to settle for a breeding-plumaged Curlew Sandpiper, one of four reported during July, one in each state of the Region. The Pennsylvania bird, at Tinicum Nat'l Environmental Center July 12-14 (FH, BH), represented only the third state record. It was an especially good season for Stilt Sandpipers with up to 435 at Brig., in late July (JBU, JD) and 369 at B. Hook July 29, the highest ever for the refuge (JMA). Three reports of Marbled Godwit included a rare inland sighting at Phila. Internat'l Airport Aug. 4 (A. Guarenti, GH, FH), while the biggest count of Hudsonian Godwits was of 22 at the Line Is., Aug. 1 (GD, MD, RDi). Five Ruffs were distributed among the 4 states of the Region, the most unusual being a male at Sunbury, Pa., near the confluence of the E. and W. Branches of the Susquehanna R. (S. Stahl). A breeding-plumaged ♀ Wilson's Phalarope lingered at Kearny Marsh May 24 to the tantalizingly late date of June 12, but no male was seen. The first fall migrant was at Cape May July 7 (PD). A N. Phalarope in breeding plumage was at Brig., on the late date of June 6 (B. Tannery).

GULLS, TERNS — The recently established colony of **Laughing Gulls** at J.B.W.R., after a century of absence from Long Island, increased again from 235 nests in 1980 to 325 nests in 1981 (FGB, PAB). A Laughing Gull at Muddy Run W.M.A., Lancaster Co., Pa., July 21, was the first adult seen there in over 8 years (RMS). An equally unusual find was an imm. Bonaparte's Gull at Blue Marsh Res., near Reading, Pa., July 1 (GH). Pairs of Gull-billed Terns were found at 3 different Com. Tern colonies on Long Island (FGB, PAB), while a post-nesting count of 15 was at Brig., July 18 (WJB *et al.*). For the second year in a row large numbers of post-breeding Gull-billeds gathered at Whitesbog in the New Jersey Pine Barrens, more than 20 mi from salt water. From an initial pair July 14, numbers built to 30 at month's end and to an incredible 70 Aug. 10, certainly the largest number ever recorded in the state. The birds took advantage of the lowered water levels in the bog ponds to hunt for frogs and tadpoles (L. Little, *vide* JKM).

The first New York State breeding record of **Forster's Tern** was established with the discovery of a nesting pair in June at Hewlett Hassock, Nassau Co., L.I. (JZ, MG, JBr), while the previously reported pair in sub-adult plumage lingered at Shinnecock Inlet to June 5 (PAB). Common Terns were doing well at their Oak Beach, L.I., colony with 5000± pairs present (*vide* MG). Wandering Commons showed up in a number of unusual places this summer including 3 different reports totalling six birds along the Susquehanna R., and a single up the Hudson R., at Kingston in June and July (FM). The previously reported sub-adult Arctic Tern was still at Shinnecock Inlet June 5 (PAB). At present Roseate Terns are rarely seen in New Jersey but following the sighting of six last spring, a total of five was noted in Cape May at various times during July (PD, JD, RM).

The Delaware Least Tern Census June 13 located 1346 adults in the 7 colonies along the

s.e. Delaware coast, a 44% increase over 1980 (PJ). New Jersey's 20 colonies held 1600 adults (JG), including an impressive 350 pairs at Corson's Inlet, Ocean City (DW). There were some minor flooding problems, but the nesting season was generally successful. A new colony at a sand spit on the Jersey City-Bayonne border held 30 birds including several young Aug. 8 (DR, RR); this is an unusual urban location. Small numbers of Royal Terns were reported throughout June from all coastal parts of the Region. Three were in the Cape May Pt. Least Tern colony all summer, but no evidence of nesting was observed (PD). This species breeds just to the s. of us in Maryland, but there is as yet no nesting record for the Region. Two ad. Sandwich Terns were in s. New Jersey during July (BR, DW); records of this tern are also increasing as its breeding population increases in the Middle Atlantic Coast Region. Scattered reports of Caspian Terns in s. New Jersey during June and early July suggested that this species too may soon attempt to nest here, as it has been suspected to do on occasion in the past (RK, RB). Three Caspians were on the Susquehanna R., at Muddy Run July 27 (RMS).

An unusual coincidence was the appearance of Black Terns in 3 different New Jersey locations in early June. Five (four in breeding plumage) were in the Ocean City Least Tern colony June 11 (DW), one in the Cape May Pt. Least Tern colony June 12 (PD), and one at Kearny Marsh June 1-12 (RK, DR), the latter in potential nesting habitat. The 1300 ad. Black Skimmers in New Jersey's several colonies produced at least 495 young, but the coastal Delaware population was down to one nest plus a 12± non-breeders (PJ, BF)

CUCKOOS THROUGH FLYCATCHERS — Many observers commented on the continuing increase in numbers of cuckoos, presumably in response to the infestations of tent caterpillars and gypsy moths. It was not a particularly good year for Barn Owls in central New Jersey, where Soucy found 30 active nests, only 20 of which produced young (70 fledged), below the norm of previous years (LS). A half-dozen reports of Short-eared Owl included definite breeding at Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn (R&J Bourque) and Barnegat Bay, N.J. (*vide* RK), plus one at Dragon Run, Del. (GKH), a state where it formerly bred but has become rare in summer. A pair of Saw-whet Owls was at Locust Valley, L.I., until mid-June and its behavior suggested breeding (BSp). There are 3 nesting records for Long Island. Common Nighthawks have disappeared from most of their former breeding locations in the Region, so receipt of a report of 25+ summing birds in a relatively small area of the Wharton State Forest in New Jersey's Pine Barrens was most welcome (TP). A pair raised at least one young at Stuyvesant Oval, Manhattan (S. Madden *et al.*), but they are no longer reported from the cities of n.e. New Jersey or from s. Westchester County, N.Y. (TWB, BW).

A request for information on Red-headed Woodpeckers brought forth evidence that they are quite uncommon, but very widespread nesters within the Region. We received reports of 2 locations in Delaware and

5 in s.e. Pennsylvania, but none elsewhere in Pennsylvania. There were at least 5 pairs in s.w. Orange County, N.Y., during June (FA, WA) and several in n.w. New Jersey. The greatest number of reports came from the New Jersey Pine Barrens, where the woodpecker appears to be generally distributed and seems to have benefitted from forestry practices and actually increased during the present century (cf. Wander, W.; Brady S. 1980. *N.J. Audubon, Records of N.J. Birds* 6:34-37). A Yellow-bellied Sapsucker at White Twp., Warren Co., N.J., July 8 provided a rare summer record of a species which has never bred in the state (J. Ebner).

A Scissor-tailed Flycatcher was observed at length at Sharptown, Salem Co., N.J., June 5 (F. Woessner, *vide* B. Middleton), but could not be relocated later that day or thereafter. Acadian Flycatchers were thought to be down a bit in the n. part of the Region, where they have been increasing at the expense of the Least, but this was certainly not true in the s. part where there were 43 on the Cumberland County S.B.C., and 110 on the S. Lancaster County S.B.C. Two males at Upton, L.I., during June and July were noteworthy (GSR). Willow Flycatchers were considered common almost everywhere, but Alders only in the n. areas. Alders appear to have largely retreated from the n. part of New Jersey, where only 5 years ago they were rapidly expanding. The story on Least Flycatchers was mixed again this year, with some observers reporting increases and others declines. Most unusual was a singing male at B. Hook June 7 and again in July (AE, J. Citron).

LARKS THROUGH VIREOS — The same sand spit at Jersey City-Bayonne, N.J., that had breeding Least Terns also supported at least 100 adult and young Horned Larks Aug. 8 (DR), likely the largest colony in the Region. Relatively few reports of Bank Swallow colonies were received, but a large migratory flock of 3000 at B. Hook July 31 had apparently just arrived, as the birds were exhausted and suffered many road kills (K. Grim). Enough records of nesting Cliff Swallows were noted from Pennsylvania, n. New Jersey and s. New York, to suggest that this regionally threatened species may be undergoing a significant increase in numbers. As noted in the Spring column, Com. Ravens nested this year in Sullivan County, Pa. (D. Dowling), and others were present elsewhere in n.e. Pennsylvania (*vide* WR). One was at West Point, N.Y., June 27 and another near Roscoe, Sullivan Co., N.Y., July 30 (JT), while just to the w. of the Region a group of 10 was at Reynolds Springs Natural Area, Tioga Co., Pa., in late June-early July (AH, SS).

Red-breasted Nuthatches were reported nesting from a variety of different locations, including n.e. Pennsylvania, n. New Jersey, s. New York and Long Island. Brown Creepers have now spread throughout New Jersey as breeding birds, but they are still scarce in s.e. Pennsylvania. A nest in Lehigh County June 13 (F. Brock), provided a first for the county, but birds that nested again this year at Revere, Bucks Co., were unsuccessful when rain washed away the nest (SF). Winter Wrens went unreported this season, but Carolina Wrens continue to slowly recover



Abandoned Com. Raven's nest, September, 1981, Castle Rock, Sullivan Co., up sheer cliff face. Photo/Dan Dowling.

from the lows of several years ago. No Short-billed Marsh Wrens could be found in n.e. Pennsylvania (WR), but the small B. Hook colony held at least three pairs July 4. These appear to be the sole remnants of the once common and widespread coastal population in the Region.

One of the highlights of the breeding season was the discovery by Proctor of a previously unknown population of Hermit Thrushes nesting in the Pine Barrens of s. New Jersey. A total of about $25 \pm$ singing males was found at 3 different locations in Wharton State Forest, Burlington Co., during June, in habitat roughly comparable to the breeding areas of the Long Island Pine Barrens (TP). Observers in all areas commented on the increased numbers of E. Bluebirds, mainly a consequence of nesting box trails. In Dutchess County, N.Y., 400+ young were fledged from 171 boxes along trails maintained by F. Germond, while in N.J., 16 pairs raised 99 young at Collier's Mills W.M.A. (JG *et al.*), and in Pennsylvania 80 were fledged along a trail in upper Bucks County (SF). A ♂ Wheatear was present for one day only at Thompson's Beach, Cumberland Co., N.J., June 1 (WW, PD *et*



Male Wheatear, Thompson's Beach, N.J., June 1, 1981. Photo/Peter Dunne.

al., ph.PD). Many observers commented on the abundance of Blue-gray Gnatcatchers, which are increasing in the n. part of the Region, and of Cedar Waxwings, which were common even in the s. parts of New Jersey and Pennsylvania. A newly disclosed nesting site for Solitary Vireo in n.e. Northampton County, Pa. (WC), is the most southerly we know of e. of the main Appalachian chain in the Region.

WARBLERS — A count of 38 Prothonotary Warblers on the Cumberland County S.B.C., 29 of them in the Bear Swamp, easily surpasses any other area in the Region for this species whose breeding limit along the Atlantic Seaboard is n. New Jersey. More "Brewster's" (5) and "Lawrence's" (3) hybrid warblers were reported than usual as Blue-winged Warblers continue to increase at the expense of Golden-wingeds, Five singing Nashville Warblers were in High Point S.P., N.J., in June (RK) and one was at Wild Creek Res., Carbon Co., Pa., June 14 along with two Cape May Warblers (BSI). These latter were presumably non-breeding wanderers as the Cape May is a rare breeder even in the Adirondack Mts., of upstate New York. A N. Waterthrush at Bear Swamp on the Cumberland County S.B.C., may well have been nesting, although it was over 60 mi s. of last year's most southerly bird at Colliers Mills W.M.A. (PD, CS). A ♂ Hooded Warbler in Connetquot River S.P., June 6 (ROP) was in good nesting habitat, but there are no breeding records for Long Island. Three families of Hoodeds near Westtown and the Bashakill provided the first confirmed nestings for the w. part of Orange County, N.Y. (FA, WA).

BLACKBIRDS THROUGH SPARROWS — Bobolinks were reported as nesting in excellent and encouraging numbers from most parts of the Region, except for Delaware and Long Island. In addition to being widely distributed in the more n. areas, they were even extending S into new areas such as Sharptown, Salem Co., N.J. (JKM) and S. Cape May, where they probably bred (PD). Eastern Meadowlark is still the most widely distributed of the grassland birds of the Region, although it has declined markedly in numbers and certainly bears watching. It had a better than average year in Dutchess County, N.Y. (R.T.W.), about average in s. Lancaster County, Pa. (RMS) and was commonly noted except for some disturbing absences during a survey of grassland nesting species in New Jersey (WW). An interesting observation was of two or more pairs nesting along the Belt Parkway near Fountain Ave., Brooklyn during July (THD). Three reports of Yellow-headed

Blackbirds were about average. Numerous observers commented on the increasing numbers of Orchard Orioles, as this species, like many others, seems to be flourishing and expanding into new areas.

After several years of summer records and much speculation, **Boat-tailed Grackles** were finally confirmed nesting on Long Island when an ad. female was found feeding two young at Black Bank Hassock, Nassau Co., June 23 (JZ, MG, JBr). This is the first breeding record for New York State and occurred not far from the previously mentioned first nesting of Forster's Tern. Only a few weeks later evidence of a second breeding record was obtained with the presence of a female and two juveniles at J.B.W.R. (THD *et al.*). Summer Tanagers were found again in the Pine Barrens of New Jersey, and although of very spotty distribution they appear to be locally common. As suggested last year, Blue Grosbeaks are undergoing a rapid population increase and range expansion. In Delaware, s. Pennsylvania and s. and c. New Jersey they are widespread and common. A pair that bred at Green Lane Res., Montgomery Co., Pa. (GLF, AM, JM, BLM), established a new n. outpost in that state. Males were found singing on most farm roads in Somerset County, n.c. New Jersey (WW), and at least three pairs nested in the Hackensack meadows of n.e. New Jersey (RK). Perhaps a portent of things to come was the presence of a male at Orange County P., Orange Co., N.Y., June 15-19, a first county record (JT).

A singing ♂ Dickcissel just w. of our Region near Tioga, Tioga Co., Pa., provided a rare find (SS *elat.*) Following the good winter invasion of Pine Siskins, there were numerous reports of birds lingering into the summer, some of which nested or at least attempted to do so. A pair attempted to nest at Hellertown, Northampton Co., Pa., but was unsuccessful (D&E Mease). At Marlton, N.J., H. Spendelow had a total of up to six birds come to his feeder from the last week of June to mid-July and was able to capture and band all of them. Of four banded on June 28, two had fully ossified skulls and two had unossified skulls; one of the birds was seen feeding another. The presumption is very strong that these birds nested nearby; if so this would establish the third New Jersey breeding record (cf. AB 26:840; AB 32:987). A single was at Makepeace L., Atlantic Co., July 11 (B. Augustine), and others were seen in s. New York (JT, RTW).

Wander's survey of grassland nesting

species in New Jersey found Savannah Sparrow to be the least common of the widely distributed species. Grasshopper Sparrow, on the other hand, was both widely distributed and relatively common in selected habitat, a situation which seems to prevail in other parts of the Region as well. Large numbers were at the F.A.A. Tech Center in Atlantic Co., N.J. (30+ pairs), Assunpink W.M.A. (20+ pairs) and C. Suffolk S.B.C. (24).

S.A.

The big surprise of the season was the discovery of some significant inland colonies of Henslow's Sparrow. None was found this year at Broadkill Beach, Del., so the once regular coastal population has been completely extirpated, but at Harvey's L., Luzerne Co., Pa., where he discovered two birds last year Reid found as many as five singing males in June. Not far away at Dallas he located another group of four singing males, then another later at Wyalusing, Bradford Co. The Luzerne County birds were seen by many observers during July and there were several other scattered reports from the area. A completely new discovery was of a group of 10+ singing birds at the Galeville Airport, Ulster Co., N.Y., found by B. Seguin and seen by many throughout June.

Vesper Sparrows were found to be fairly widely distributed but not at all common in farmland, mostly in the n. and w. sections of the Region. White-throated Sparrows nested successfully and were reported to be regular breeders in n.e. Northampton County, Pa. (WC), somewhat to the s. of their known Pocono Mts. range.

ADDENDUM — A Sandhill Crane was observed at Green Lane Res., Montgomery Co., Pa., Nov. 3, 1980, providing a first county record (R. Wiltraut).

CORRIGENDUM — The ♂ White-headed Duck reported under Exotics in the winter season report was probably an aberrant Ruddy Duck. Ryan informs us that White-headed Ducks are very rare in captivity and that aberrant ♂ Ruddies have been confused with them in the past (RR). The

observer agrees that this is a likely possibility.

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MIDDLE ATLANTIC COAST REGION

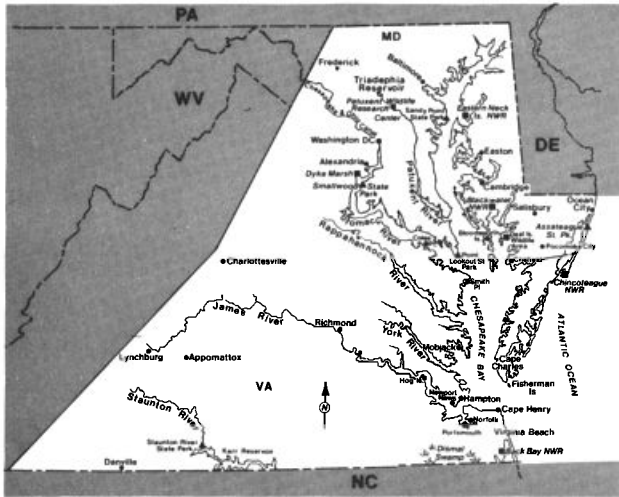
/Henry T. Armistead

Go right to the birds. The summer was rather uneventful meteorologically and ornithologically making an overview difficult. Suffice to say that June and July were hot, averaging 3.1°F and 1.2° above normal respectively at the six regional stations which issue monthly "local climatological data" sheets (Baltimore, Md.; Lynchburg, Va.; Norfolk, Va.; Richmond, Va.; Wallop's I., Va.; Washington, D.C.). Precipitation was

only slightly above normal with readings of 0.65 and 0.11 inches over the norm for June and July, enough to spell some relief of the year-long drought, at least at the level of surface water. Chesapeake Bay remains saltier than normal and records of Osprey, Laughing Gull, Royal Tern and perhaps some other species farther up some of the Bay's rivers than normal may be the result. Marsh and beach-nesting birds were harried by at least two very high tides with a tremendous loss in eggs and young. Herons and their allies seemed to do well on the coast but were down in central Chesapeake Bay. Shorebirds at Chincoteague Refuge received

possibly their best coverage ever for the summer season. The vast majority of widespread, common or pedestrian landbirds were not at all well reported, as usual, making the results of the Breeding Bird Survey increasingly important, but of course these are not available in time for use here. Chronic caterpillar defoliation locally and in new areas must be having some effects on birds but this drew little comment. The level of reporting, usually low in summer, was lower than usual this summer. Rarities were rare

LOONS THROUGH IBISES — Late migrant Com. Loons were four on L. Anna June



2 (JBB) and one was flying N at Assateague I., Md. (hereafter, Assat.) June 7 (SHD). Summering birds were seen at Washington, D.C., June 21 (DC), an unusual location, and Chincoteague N.W.R. (hereafter, Chinc.) June 29-July 22 (CPW), while two were in Gargathy Inlet, Metomkin I., Va., June 27 (BW). No reports of regional pelagic trips were received. White Pelican has become almost regular in this area. One was near Metomkin I., July 29 (JHB, GJH, BT). Double-crested Cormorant continues to summer in numbers in the Chesapeake Bay with 45 at Barren I., June 6 (HTA) and 56 near Bloodsworth I., June 20 (CP, HTA)—both in Dorchester Co., Md. At Hunting Cr., Va., 13 were seen July 24 and up to eight immatures summered there for the first time (JMA). Near Hopewell, Va., 45 flushed from the trees of a Cattle Egret colony July 20 (FRS, HO), a site where they bred in 1978. "While these birds did not nest here this year, this strange influx in mid-summer well before the start of the fall migration makes one think that they may have nested somewhere nearby" (FRS). One was at Sandy Pt. S.P., Md. (hereafter, S.P.S.P.) June 23+ (HW).

For the seventh consecutive summer Williams *et al.* surveyed breeding colonial waterbirds plus oystercatchers, plovers and nighthawks on the Virginia Eastern Shore barrier islands from Assawoman I., s. to Fisherman Island N.W.R. Their 1981 survey was conducted June 24-27. Totals of adult birds (not pairs) seen included Green Heron 80, Little Blue Heron 206, Cattle Egret 306, Great Egret 406, Snowy Egret 722, Louisiana Heron 700, Black-crowned Night Heron 840, Yellow-crowned Night Heron 113, Glossy Ibis 705, and White Ibis 2. The numbers of Green Heron, Great Egret and Yellow-crowned Night Heron were the highest ever. Single White Ibises were at Hog I., and Fisherman I., where breeding has been respectively suspected and proven previously. Snowy Egret and Louisiana Heron were in their best numbers since 1977 and Glossy Ibis best since 1976. "Herons, etc. seemed to be doing very well. Lots of young" (BW). As usual no Great Blue Heron breeders were found on these coastal islands. Large mixed heronries were on Metomkin, Hog, Cobb, Wreck and Fisherman Is. On the c. Chesapeake Bay in Dorchester Co., Md., numbers of breeding herons were the lowest

since surveys began in 1972—this on the heels of 1980's poor showing—with Glossy Ibis absent for the first time and only Great Blue Heron and Black-crowned Night Heron maintaining steady populations (HTA).

At Chinc., the highest counts included 55 Great Egrets June 18-19 and 69 Little Blue Herons, 165 Cattle Egrets, 289 Snowy Egrets, and 431 Glossy Ibises July 13-22 (CPW). At Bozman, Md., Reese saw 250 Cattle Egrets June

8, no doubt from the big egret-Great Blue Heron colony on Poplar I. Inland a Yellow-crowned Night Heron was at Finksburg, Carroll Co., Md., June 28 (RFR). An ad. White Ibis with 60 Glossy Ibises was at Wallop's I., Va., June 20 (BM). A Cattle Egret colony near Hopewell, Va., was reactivated after skipping 2 years and contained 70 pairs July 20 (FRS, HO). The first postbreeding wanderers included three Great Egrets in Baltimore July 18 (RFR) and single Great and Snowy egrets and 15 Great Blue Herons at S.P.S.P., July 19 plus a Little Blue Heron there July 21 (HW).

WATERFOWL — At Chinc., their southern outpost, 26 Mute Swans were seen June 5 (FRS, JWD). Summering Whistling Swans included two at Kent I., Md., June 5 (JMA) and two at Hooper's I., Md., June 6 (HTA). Feral Canada Geese continue to spread and increase in the Region. A dozen pairs were in the Dyke, Va., area where they are a newly established permanent resident (JMA). On L. Anna 33 were seen June 2 including six downy young (*vide* JBB). Broods of four and five young were at Liberty Res, w. of Baltimore June 6 (RFR). At Blackwater N.W.R., where they have long been breeders, broods of 2-6 were present June 6 (HTA) with 87 birds overall (EMW). Puzzling was the presence of one adult and two immature Snow Geese at Hillsboro, Caroline Co., Md., until June 19 (immature until June 21—EE, *vide* RBF) and an ad. Snow Goose (blue form) at Dyke through the summer (JMA, JBB). A Gadwall nest with eight eggs was found on Spring I., Dorchester Co., Md., June 20 (CP, HTA), the n. limit of its known Bay breeding range, which probably extends farther n. a few miles. Unique was a Green-winged Teal at Curles Neck, in s.e. Henrico Co., Va., July 19 (FRS, JWD *et al.*). Summer Canvasbacks were at Elliott I., Md., June 7 (EMW *et al.*) and two were in Baltimore July 18 (RFR, JS). A Lesser Scaup was also in Baltimore June 7 (RFR). On June 26 a Black Scoter was on Parramore I., Va. (TW, *vide* BW) and one at Assat. (MR). Ruddy Ducks were reported from Baltimore June 7 (RFR), Chinc., 2-4 June 18-July 19 (DFA, RJA, DC, CPW), and Caledon S.P., King George Co., Va., six July 21 (FRS *et al.*). A Com. Merganser at Richmond July 26-Aug. 1 (FRS, JWD, DP) was an odd duck but a pair had been seen there on

the late date of May 7 (CRB). This is the second summer it has occurred here. There are three Virginia breeding records. On June 26 single Red-breasted Mergansers were seen at Myrtle I., Va. (BW) and Assat. (MR).

RAPTORS THROUGH RAILS — At Lily Pons, Frederick Co., Md., 85 Black Vultures was an impressive count July 19 (DHW). An immature and an ad. Broad-winged Hawk were seen 7 mi s. of Salisbury, Md., July 23-Aug. 8 where breeding was suspected (DM), unusual for this species on the Delmarva Pen. A major concentration area for Bald Eagles has been discovered at undeveloped Caledon S.P., Va. In this area up to 100 eagles have been seen during a 2-day period (MAB, *vide* FRS) along a 5-mi stretch of the Potomac R. Here 32 were seen (6 ad., 26 imm.) July 21 (FRS, MAB, BC *et al.*), a count which was felt to be conservative.

S.A.

The encouraging results of the Chesapeake Bay Bald Eagle Nesting Survey were summarized in the spring season report (q.v.). A few additional comments may be of interest. Since 1977, the year of the first bandings, a total of 279 young eagles has now been banded as part of this survey. Of the 4 recoveries received so far two have been of imm. birds found in July and September in Pennsylvania and Ontario respectively 14 and 4 months after having been banded in nests in the Blackwater N.W.R. area. Although production of young was good in 1981, problems still exist, to wit, "From a sample of 17 unhatched eagle eggs collected in 1980 and 1981, eggshell thickness averaged about 13% below the pre-DDT norm which was about 0.66 mm" (JMA).

At Royal Oak, Wicomico Co., Md., May 8 the skeletal remains of an eagle which had been shot were found (*vide* JMA). Marsh Hawks were present probably as breeders at Myrtle I., Va., June 26 (BT), Cobb I., Va., June 25 (BA, *vide* BW), and Mathews County, Va., where two were seen June 5 (JBB, MP). One of the few concrete breeding records for the Region was established when Wierenga found a nest with four young at Elliott I., June 14 in the vast *Juncus roemerianus* marsh that is characteristic of that area. The same observer also saw a pair of Marsh Hawks displaying nesting behavior (*i.e.*, carrying grass) June 7 & 12 in a similar marsh at Deal Island W.M.A., s. of Elliott I. The Elliott I. nest was on top of an old muskrat house. Peregrine Falcon hacking continues at scattered sites in the Region including a remote site near Elliott. Elsewhere it is of interest to note some opposition to the hacking of peregrines in very similar marshes on Delaware Bay because of concern over competition between these falcons and the small population of Marsh Hawks and Short-eared Owls which still persists at that locality (*Peregrine Observer* 1981 4:[2] 14). Single Am. Kestrels, which do not breed near the Bay on the lower Delmarva Pen., were seen at Blackwater N.W.R., June 6 (EMW) and Bozman, Md., June 20 (JGR). Two pairs of Black Rails were suspected of breeding again at S.P.S.P., and were heard through June 23 (HW). A Com. Gallinule

nest with eight eggs was found at Savage, Howard Co., Md., June 21 (PL, *vide* CPW). A pair was at S.P.S.P., June 23 (HW). This species is scarce in Maryland w. of Chesapeake Bay. An Am. Coot was on L. Anna June 2 (JBB).

SHOREBIRDS — At Chinc., water levels in the Snow Goose Pool were lowered in July “to improve feeding habitat for shorebirds” (JPO). Seven shorebird surveys were made at Chinc., during June and July, 5 by Wilds June 4-5 and July 13-14 and 2 by Risley and Nol July 21-22 and 30-31. Each survey normally takes 2 days. The records below are by these observers respectively. If any further evidence is needed to demonstrate that early June is a marvelous time to observe shorebirds it may be seen from the survey of June 4-5 which recorded 19 species including the following highs at Chinc., for the June-July period: Ruddy Turnstone 1120, White-rumped Sandpiper 43, Semipalmated Sandpiper 4158, Sanderling 1798 and Wilson’s Phalarope, one. Other species highs (peaks?) included Piping Plover 49 July 6-7, Semipalmated Plover 252 July 30-31, Whimbrel 122 July 30-31, Willet 184 July 21-22, Red Knot 426 July 30-31, Pectoral Sandpiper 32 July 30-31, Least Sandpiper 635 July 21-22, Short-billed Dowitcher 932 June 18-19 (!), Stilt Sandpiper 173 July 30-31, W. Sandpiper 28 on July 13-14, and Hudsonian Godwit 22 on July 30-31. Semi-rarities were an Am. Golden Plover July 6-7, another Wilson’s Phalarope June 29, two Black-necked Stilts present throughout the period and four Am. Avocets July 30-31. Species missed were Com. Snipe, Baird’s Sandpiper, Long-billed Dowitcher and Marbled Godwit. Highest species counts were July 13-14 (23) and July 30-31 (22). On the Virginia Eastern Shore barrier islands Williams *et al.* found beach nesting shorebirds up markedly over 1980’s numbers with 1151 Am. Oystercatchers (746 in 1980) on 15 islands, 88 Piping Plovers (68 in 1980) on 9 islands and 41 Wilson’s Plovers (20 in 1980) on 8 islands.

The isolated c. Chesapeake Bay population of Am. Oystercatcher continues to thrive with nests of three eggs June 6 on Barren I., Md. (HTA) and two eggs on Holland I., Md., June 20 (HTA, CP)—these near their n. limit on the Bay. On Fisherman I., where Anderson found 55 nests, there was very heavy Fish Crow predation. On Assat., 42 Piping Plovers were seen June 26 (MR) and Wilds estimated 21 pairs at Chinc., but saw a maximum of only 12 juvenals and believed production was mediocre there. No more than three Wilson’s Plovers were on Assat.—these June 26 (MR) & July 18 (DC). Two Am. Golden Plovers were at Chinc., July 19 (DFA, RJA). At Godwin I., w. of Ship Shoal I., Va., Truitt saw the summer’s outstanding shorebird, a Long-billed Curlew carefully observed July 5 in company with three Whimbrels and nine Marbled Godwits. Perhaps equally unusual was a Curlew Sandpiper at Chinc., July 19 (DFA, RJA).

Dyke saw 100 Whimbrels at Assat., June 1 and noted the first southbound ones there July 5. Exceptional was another near McLean, Va., in a grassy field July 5 (PS, *vide* HGH), apparently that state’s first Piedmont record. The peak Upland Sandpiper report was of 14 near Lily Pons, Md., July 31 (JO,

vide CPW). On Assat., 190 Willets were estimated June 26 (MR) and at least 80 pairs bred on Fisherman I. (RLA). A Lesser Yellowlegs at S.P.S.P., July 1 was in all likelihood an early fall migrant (HW). Red Knots made a strong showing almost throughout the summer with 300 at Wallop’s I., Va., June 6 in company with 131 Ruddy Turnstones (CRV), 350 on Metomkin I., Va., June 9 with three White-rumped Sandpipers (JSW), 300 at Metomkin I., July 22 (JSW) and smaller counts at numerous other coastal sites such as 12 on Cobb I., Va., July 20 & 22 (BT, JSW), 13 on Hog I., July 26 (Va.E.S., BT) and six on Assat., June 14 (DC). Late and/or perplexing White-rumped Sandpipers were 28 on Assat., in company with 325 Semipalmated Sandpipers June 11 (CPW), three on Assat., June 14 (DC), one at Holland I., Md., June 20 (HTA, CP) and five on Metomkin I., June 27 (BW). Two Least Sandpipers and one Lesser Yellowlegs at Lily Pons June 28 were probably early arrivals (MW, *vide* CPW), as was a Short-billed Dowitcher at S.P.S.P., July 1 (HW). The only Long-billed Dowitcher report was one at Chinc., July 18 (DC). High counts of Marbled Godwit were 12 on June 26 and 12 on July 12 in the Ship Shoal I. area (BT). Three were at Hog I., June 11 (M & DM). Craney I., Va., remains extremely dry and the huge Am. Avocet flock often found there was absent; Wolfe found only two July 29. A pair of Wilson’s Phalaropes was at Chinc., June 5 (FRS, JWD).

GULLS THROUGH SKIMMERS — On the Virginia Eastern Shore the breeding population of Great Black-backed Gulls doubled to at least 28 pairs from last year’s record count of 12± pairs. At Barren I., 117 nonbreeding birds were present plus 695 Herring Gulls June 6, the latter with 10 active nests, their n. breeding outpost on Chesapeake Bay (HTA). The only Lesser Black-backed Gull report was of an *adult* at Parramore I., June 26 (TW, *vide* BW), a most unusual record. An unusual almost entirely white Ring-billed Gull was present and photographed at S.P.S.P., July 24 (HW), as such a possible cause of erroneous Iceland Gull reports. Wreck I., Va., was the site of the



“White” Ring-billed Gull, Sandy Point, S.P., Md., July 24, 1981. Photo/Hal Wierenga.

Region’s largest Laughing Gull colony, the total population estimated to be as high as 20,000 ad. birds in late June (BW). Buckalew estimated about 50% of young Laughing Gulls were wiped out by tropical storm Brett at the beginning of July. For the third straight year a summering Franklin’s Gull was seen at

S.P.S.P., July 24 & 29 (HW). A late Bonaparte’s Gull was at Ft. Smallwood P., Anne Arundel Co., Md., June 4 (HW).

On July 1 & 2 Brett wiped out most colonies of beach-nesting birds on the Virginia Eastern Shore with losses of eggs or small young of most terns and skimmers estimated at 90% on some islands (BW, BT, JHB, JSW). Especially hard hit was Cobb I. In the first week of June another very high tide had already adversely affected beach birds (BT, FRS). But big Royal Tern colonies, except on Cobb I., survived fairly well. Weske and Buckalew banded 3397 young Royals in Virginia on Metomkin I., Fisherman I., and Horsehead Tump June 27-Aug. 7. Northern outpost Royal colonies in Maryland consisting of 7 nests n. of South Pt., June 28, and 28 nests on the Cedar Is., June 11 were unsuccessful, at least on the dates indicated. Last year’s first-ever Chesapeake Bay Royal Tern-Black Skimmer colony near Shank’s I., n. of Tangier I., Va., was deserted in 1981 but two of the 40 young banded there in 1980 have been recovered—one in Belize Dec. 5, 1980 the other in Delray Beach, Fla., June 8, 1981 (JSW).

Williams’ totals of ad. terns and skimmers seen on the Virginia Eastern Shore follow (number of colonies in parentheses): Gull-billed Tern 1122 (8), Forster’s Tern 234 (3), Com. Tern 5260 (12), Least Tern 1869 (8), Royal Tern 5738 (3), Sandwich Tern 35 (4), Caspian Tern 2 (1), and Black Skimmer 9598 (10). The Least Tern total is nearly twice the previous 1975-1980 high. Most of the other numbers were better than average and the season looked very promising until the storms. Metomkin I. is a veritable paradise. By way of illustration its total population of ad. colonial and beach breeding birds included: Green Heron 16, Little Blue Heron 16, Cattle Egret 160, Great Egret 126, Snowy Egret 352, Louisiana Heron 300, Black-crowned Night Heron 80, Glossy Ibis 70, Am. Oystercatcher 377, Piping Plover 15, Wilson’s Plover 12, Great Black-backed Gull 4, Herring Gull 694, Laughing Gull 468, Gull-billed Tern 462, Forster’s Tern 40, Com. Tern 1718, Least Tern 688, Royal Tern 1262, Sandwich Tern 1 (JSW), Caspian Tern 2 and Black Skimmer 4116! Italicized totals are the highest for any of the Virginia Eastern Shore barrier islands in 1981. The Caspian Tern breeding (one young banded, JSW) represents the eighth straight year for the Virginia Eastern Shore. Breeding Sandwich Terns were also on Cobb, Smith and Fisherman Is.



Least Tern nesting colony near the mouth of Winter Harbor, Mathews Co., Va. Found June 5, 1981 by Mary Pulley and J. B. Bazuin, Jr. Photo/Bazuin.

On Barren I, Md., June 6 a new tern colony consisted of 149 Common and 29 Forster's pairs. Among these was a well-seen Sandwich Tern, for the first record for the Maryland part of Chesapeake Bay (HTA). Breeding there is not out of the question for although Sandwich Terns are usually believed to consort exclusively with Royal Terns, June 26 a nest was found in a Com. Tern colony on Smith I., Va. (BA, *vide* BW). At Chinc., Common and Least terns made 4 nesting attempts and were plagued by rain, high tides, foxes and Fish Crows. Least Terns nested again on the Cambridge, Md., school roof where 30 adults were seen June 6 (EMW) and 300 ± pairs bred at Hampton, Va., with 150 ± fledged young present June 27 (BA, BW, RB). From one to four Caspian Terns were seen throughout the summer at 6 widely separated localities (v. o.). At Chinc., 56 Black Terns were counted July 13-14 (CPW). A count of 85 Black Skimmers on Adam I., Md., June 20 was unprecedented that far up Chesapeake Bay (CP, HTA).

DOVES THROUGH SHRIKES — The bird of peace which passeth all understanding was a Rock Dove swimming s. of Annapolis June 13. It was an adult which "landed and took off as though it were quite used to mimicking puddle ducks" (BM). Completely contradictory reports from all areas were received for Yellow-billed Cuckoo emphasizing the difficulty of getting a comprehension of the status of many common birds *sans* an objective measure such as the Breeding Bird Survey. In some such as Pocomoke Swamp, c. Dorchester Co., Md., and the vicinity of the Baltimore-Washington Parkway caterpillar defoliation was severe from mid-May to early June (CSR, HTA, BM) yet cuckoos did not seem to be correspondingly abundant. Gypsy moth males have been trapped in every Maryland county (BM). Martin saw a recently fledged Black-billed Cuckoo at Patuxent W.R.C., July 30. A sickly ♂ **Long-eared Owl** was found near Royal Oak, Talbot Co., Md., June 21 with "gonads small but nesting suggested," a most unusual record (JGR). On the Virginia Eastern Shore Com. Nighthawk was suspected of breeding on Cobb, Smith and Fisherman Is., in June (BW *et al.*). Belted Kingfisher is still regarded as in very low numbers (RFR, HTA, JGR). Bizarre was an E. Kingbird at Elliott I., June 14 harrasing a Red-tailed Hawk and riding piggy-back on the hawk for at least 10 seconds without using its wings at the base of raptor's neck (HW). On the Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel a Great Crested Flycatcher was seen flying S June 3 (FRS). The pair of Alder Flycatchers near Monkton, Baltimore Co., Md., was present in the company of Willow Flycatchers at least until July 18 (DC, MR, *vide* RFR) with much singing by both species—a most notable grouping for this Region.

Probably breeding Horned Larks were on Metomkin, Parramore and Hog Is., Va., in June (BW). Tree Swallows are increasing as breeders in many parts of the Region with 27, 57 and 74 fledged respectively from 1979-81 bluebird boxes in Algonkian Regional P., e. Loudoun Co., Va. (HGH). At Presquile N.W.R., Va., 155 Bank Swallow breeding pairs were seen June 12 (FRS, HO) and 2500 migrants were at nearby Hopewell July 19

(FRS, JWD) At Ft Smallwood P, Md, two Bank and two Rough-winged Swallows were late migrants June 4 and as late as June 9 three Bank Swallows passed there (HW). Cliff Swallows persist in small colonies at their favored sites, notably Hopewell (12 nests June 12, FRS, HO), under 4 bridges at Liberty Res., Md., and the Rte. 32 bridge at nearby Sykesville, Carroll Co., Md. (RFR) and at L. Anna (28 nests in 3 locations—JBB *et al.*). Purple Martins were regarded as having had a good breeding season (MKK) and 1300 were at a roost in Alexandria, Va., July 30 (JMA). In June Brown Creepers were found singing and feeding young in 2 localities of the Nassawango Cr. Preserve of the Nature Conservancy in Pocomoke Swamp in mature bald cypress forest (CSR, DDB). One was seen at Noland's Ferry along the C & O Canal n. of Washington June 21 (DHW), a good showing by this rare regional breeder. Unique was a singing Short-billed Marsh Wren on Assat., June 26 (MR). Of outstanding interest is the presence of a pair of **Golden-crowned Kinglets**, including a singing male, in Carroll County, Md., n. of Melrose June 28 + in a spruce grove (RFR, EB) where the elevation is only 775 ft. There are no regional breeding records. In this connection refer to suspected breeding at Winterturth Museum n. of Greenville, Del., in a spruce grove in 1976 (*Delmarva Ornithologist*, v. 12 [1] 14-15). A Loggerhead Shrike nest fledged two young near Richmond June 15 (DP, *vide* FRS).

WARBLERS THROUGH SPARROWS — Several Prothonotary Warbler nests were reported in bluebird houses including one with five eggs at Federalsburg, Caroline Co., Md., June 1 (*vide* AJF). A Blue-winged Warbler was feeding young at Henryton, Carroll Co., Md., June 20 (EB, RFR). Totally unexpected was the occurrence of an imm. Magnolia Warbler at Oxford, Md., July 15, that collided with a picture window and subsequently became a fresh specimen and that can only be regarded as an extremely early migrant (EW, VGR). Late Bobolinks, as usual, straggled into June with two at Locustville, Va., June 6 (FRS, JWD) and three at Ft. Smallwood P., June 9 (HW) but a male at Hopewell June 21 was unusual (BR, *vide* FRS).

Rose-breasted Grosbeak singles were seen in 2 places where it normally does not breed. An ad. male was in n.e. Frederick County, Md., July 19 (EB, RFR) and a female was in Fairfax, Va., July 25 (JWE). Dickcissel continues to persist as a rare breeder in the Maryland piedmont with a pair and one full grown young w. of Taneytown, Carroll Co. (no date—RFR, EB) and at least three males s. of Frederick June 21-July 23 (DHW, DC *et al.*) but the small colony near Hopewell, Va., failed to materialize in the areas it was seen in 1980. Commenting on House Finch is becoming monotonous yet it bears repeating that many remarked on its continued spread and increase this summer as a regional breeder, a fact born out most graphically by the banding of 103 in Fairfax, Va., June 22-July 27 (EDP). Near Greenbackville, Va., Scott counted 38 Grasshopper Sparrows June 4 on overgrown lots of a "slow-moving development called Captain's Cove," close to a record state count. The highest and one

of the few Henslow's Sparrow counts was a total of seven at Elliott I., June 6 (HW) Vesper Sparrows were found singing in several localities in Accomack County, Va., June 2-7 "indicating that this Coastal Plain colony is still extant" (FRS) at the s. limit of their coastal breeding range. These were seen on a breeding bird foray in this county which recorded 155 species (BLK *et al.*) A late White-throated Sparrow was at College Park, Md., June 5 (RFR). Less easy to explain was one at L. Roland, n. of Baltimore June 30 and July 10 (JB, *vide* RFR). A singing Swamp Sparrow at S.P.S.P., June 19 was a probable breeder near the s. edge of its breeding range (HW).

APOLOGIA — This report is even more weighted toward water and coastal birds than most others from this as well as other regions usually are. However, it should be emphasized, again, that this is in almost direct proportion to the reports received.

ADDENDUM — Six Wood Storks were seen flying SE over downtown Norfolk, Va., August 11, 1980 (RLA).

OBSERVERS — D.F. Abbott, J.M. Abbott, R.J. Abbott, Bill Akers, Terry Allen (TAn), R.L. Anderson, Tom Armour, J B Bazuin, Ruth Beck, Jeff Bickart, C.R. Blem, Eirik Blom, D.D. Boone, Ned Brinkley, J H Buckalew, M.A. Byrd, Bill Clark, Jim Clark, Sam Cooper, Dave Czaplak, J.W. Dillard, S.H. Dyke, Ethel Engle, J.W. Eike, A J Fletcher, R.B. Fletcher, H.G. Hausch, G J Hennessey, B.L. Kinzie, M.K. Klimkiewicz, Paul Leifer, Aaron Marshall, Elwood Martin, D.A. Mendinhall, Debbie Mignogno, Mike & Dorothy Mitchell, Bill Murphy, Erica Nol, John O'Brien, J P Oland, Harold Olson, E.D. Peacock, Carl Perry, Darrell Peterson, Mary Pulley, J G Reese, George Reiger, Heinz Remold, Mike Resch, R.F. Ringler, Chris Risley, C.S. Robbins, Betsy Roszell, F.R. Scott, Jim Stasz, Phil Swango, R.J. Tripician, Barry Trutt, Craig Tufts, C.R. Vaughn, D.H. Wallace, Michael Welch, J.S. Weske, Tom Wieboldt, Hal Wierenga, C.P. Wilds, Bill Williams, E.M. Wilson, R.R. Wolfe, Erica Woodman.—HENRY T. ARMISTEAD, 28 E. Springfield Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19118.

SOUTHERN ATLANTIC COAST REGION

/Harry E. LeGrand, Jr.

Summer 1981 was hot and fairly dry over most parts of the Region, although conditions were not as severe as those of last summer. Nonetheless, many areas still suffered an extended drought that began in May 1980. Storms were rather sparse for the season, and the benign although hot conditions apparently allowed most birds to complete a successful breeding season. As usual, I received few reports concerning the nesting success of colonial waterbirds along the coast, and (as always) there was very little exploration of poorly-birded counties for significant breeding records. The highlight of

the season was the coverage of a number of counties in the southern portion of the North Carolina Coastal Plain, extending from Richmond County on the west to Carteret County on the east.

GREBES THROUGH FRIGATEBIRDS

— A Pied-billed Grebe was rare for midsummer at Fayetteville, N.C., July 23 (PJC). As is customary for the season, several Audubon's Shearwaters and Wilson's Storm-Petrels were observed from shore at Carteret County, N.C. (*vide* JF), but a surprise was a live Audubon's picked up in a yard at Williston July 26 in that county (*vide* MS). Seldom seen in summer, a White Pelican stayed at Eufaula, N.W.R., Ga., during July (SP), and another rare non-breeding visitor was an ad. **Blue-faced Booby** that lingered in a Brown Pelican nesting colony in the lower Cape Fear R., N.C., from June into August (RD, BN *et al.*; ph. JFP). This provided the first documented record for the booby in North Carolina, there being several previous sight records. A group of eight Double-crested Cormorants in flight over Ft. Bragg near McCain, N.C., June 1 (JHC *et al.*) was most unusual, and one was seasonally rare near Dublin, Ga., July 17 (TKP). Noteworthy Anhinga reports for North Carolina were as many as four near Fayetteville all summer (PJC), 11+ near Nakina, Columbus Co., July 7 (JM), and three in s.e. Craven County July 3 (GH). Breeding might have occurred at all these sites, whereas a female at Johns Pond in Scotland Co., June 10 (DM) was considered a non-breeding bird, despite suitable habitat. Single Magnificent Frigatebirds were detected in Carteret County at Beaufort Inlet June 6 (LC) and near Cape Lookout June 25 (L&MD), in addition to another over Pawleys I., S.C., June 2 (MC, *vide* JC).

WADERS, WATERFOWL — An apparent heronry was located at Lay's L., Columbus Co., N.C., July 7 (JM); noted were 200+ Cattle Egrets, 30 Little Blue Herons, 12 Snowy and seven Great egrets, and an unspecified number of White Ibises. Although only the Cattle Egrets showed definite evidence of breeding, this site deserves careful study next summer to determine if the other waders are nesting. Dry conditions during the season were believed by Patterson to have been the reason for the vacating of a heronry near Dublin that had supported 6000+ nests for the past 2 years. A second inland record for Georgia was a **white morph Great Blue Heron** near Newborn in the center of the state June 21 (TM, PM, PB, BP), and very rare for North Carolina was a Reddish Egret at Cedar I., June 21 (FI, WI). Despite the low water levels at inland reservoirs, relatively few post-breeding waders wandered into the Piedmont this summer, with the only noteworthy reports being those of an imm. Black-crowned Night Heron at Atlanta, Ga., July 25 (PB) and 40 imm. White Ibises at Jordan Res., Chatham Co., N.C., July 13 (BW, MW). The Glossy Ibis breeding population in the Region has plummeted in the past several years, and Fussell noted essentially no reproduction by the species in the Morehead City area, apparently owing to high winds and storms. Numbers on spring counts in the Carolinas have declined drasti-

cally over this period, and it qualifies as a definite "Blue List" species now. Non-breeding Wood Storks were found, as usual, at a pond near Sunset Beach, N.C., during the summer, with the highest count being of 12 on July 13 (WI, FI). An ad. Black Duck with five young at Ft. Macon S.P., N.C., June 30 (JF) was unusual for that area. Lingered (injured?) Ring-necked Ducks were noted at 2 sites near Atlanta: one June 13, and three at the second locality June 27-July 31+ (PB, DB).

KITES THROUGH COOTS — Mississippi Kites were again detected in e. Halifax County, N.C., during the summer with 24 there June 20 (AB, ML). These birds, all adults but one, were believed to be breeding, whereas two adults in s.w. Richmond County, N.C., July 26 (DM) were probably non-breeders, as was an adult "out of range" at Jordan Res., July 13 (BW, MW). An apparent light-phase Rough-legged Hawk was observed at Jordan Res., July 12; unfortunately, the bird was seen only from above at a distance (flying away low over fields) and not from below. Non-breeding ad. Bald Eagles were seen in inland North Carolina at Beaverdam Res., n. of Raleigh June 18 (AB) & June 27 (JM, RR) and in w. Hoke County July 10 (JHC, FY). A Marsh Hawk inland near Indian Springs, Ga., June 6-7 (MAV, HO) furnished apparently the first state record for that month. The species is believed to nest at Cedar I., N.C., where five were found June 22 (FI, WI, JF); another on several dates during the summer at Jordan Res. (MW, JM, DK, AB) was probably a visitor, as Marsh Hawks have never been detected nesting inland in the Region.

Breeding evidence for the Am. Kestrel has been sparse in recent years, although a handful of summer sightings of adults is normal. Summer 1981 saw evidence of nesting in North Carolina near Greensboro (WI) and at Winston-Salem (RS, PP), and in South Carolina in Francis Marion N.F., n.e. of Charleston (SC, PN). A group of five in w. Ft. Bragg, N.C., July 1 was likely a family party (JHC, RTS *et al.*). Surprisingly early was a migrant Sora feeding on a mudflat at a farm pond near Pendleton, S.C., July 25 (HL), and a Black Rail was seen at Jordan Res., June 27 (AB) after it had responded to a taped call. This is the third consecutive summer of Black Rail records at this site, where breeding is presumably being attempted. Two Am. Coots each at two places near Atlanta during the summer (PB) showed no evidence of nesting.

SHOREBIRDS — Three pairs of Black-necked Stilts were present during the summer at North R. marsh near Beaufort, N.C., with one egg found to confirm breeding (WI, JF); and an Am. Avocet, seldom seen inland, was detected near Clayton, N.C., July 25 (BP). Unusually high counts for the season were of 31 Marbled Godwits at Ocracoke I., N.C., July 2 (JM), 13 Whimbrels at Beaufort,



N.C., June 17 (JF), and 18 Whimbrels at Jekyll I., Ga., July 30 (EH). A Long-billed Curlew was a rare sighting at Hatteras Inlet, N.C., on the unusual date of June 5 (MH, BH), and surprisingly early were three Upland Sandpipers July 7 at the Wilmington, N.C., airport (RD). A good inland find was a Willet on a farm pond near Bunn, N.C., July 4 (EP, JE). One of the Region's most irregular and "mysterious" breeders is the Spotted Sandpiper. Moore reported Spotted Sandpipers along the Chattahoochee R., near Atlanta during the summer and believed that nesting occurred although no evidence could be found; one near Pendleton June 20 (HL) was certainly a non-breeder. Among inland highlights for the season were a Ruddy Turnstone at Beaverdam Res., July 18 (C.H.B.C.), a Wilson's Phalarope near Dublin July 25 (TKP), and a phalarope (sp?) believed to have been a Red spinning on L. Oliver near Columbus, Ga., in late June (DJ). Early arrivals among the more common shorebirds inland were a Short-billed Dowitcher and a W. Sandpiper near Bunn July 4 (EP, JE), a Least Sandpiper and a Greater Yellowlegs at Clemson, S.C., July 6 (HL), and a Pectoral Sandpiper near Dublin July 11 (TKP). A White-rumped Sandpiper was late at Pendergrass, Ga., June 1 (JP), and the always exciting **Ruff**, considered to have been an ad. female, was at North R., near Beaufort July 31 (JF, BP). Fussell *et al.* observed several thousand shorebirds at a drawn-down impoundment near the coast at Davis, N.C., from July to early August, with the best finds being 35 Silt Sandpipers July 12, 65 there July 26 (JF, WI), and two Wilson's Phalaropes and three Long-billed Dowitchers Aug. 2 (JF, BP).

JAEGERS THROUGH TERNS — Jaegers are seldom seen in July; thus, unusual were a Pomarine off Oregon Inlet, N.C., July 8 (DL, WI) and an unidentified bird seen from shore at Atlantic Beach, N.C., July 4 (RJH). Possibly a first summer record for Georgia was an ad. Great Black-backed Gull July 30 at Jekyll I. (EH), and quite out of season inland was a Ring-billed Gull at Clemson July 9 & 18 (AA). Last year's drought allowed refuge personnel at Pea I., N.C., to create artificial islands in some of the ponds there; 50+ pairs of Gull-billed Terns bred successfully on those islands this summer (AB). Single Forster's Terns were early inland near Clayton, N.C., July 27 (TH) and near Dublin

July 31 (TKP). A presumably non-breeding Roseate Tern, in full breeding plumage including the "dangling" tail in flight, was very rare at a Pea I. pond June 6 (MH); there is just a single breeding record for the Region. Similarly, an ad. Sooty Tern sitting with Royal Terns at Cape Lookout, N.C., June 18 (SPR) was likely a non-breeder, although this is the general area where "accidental" nesting occurred in 1978.

GOATSUCKERS THROUGH SWALLOWS — A Whip-poor-will heard calling 6 mi s. of New Bern, N.C., June 18 (JF) was somewhat s.e. of the known breeding range, and an out-of-range Gray Kingbird was found near Atlantic N.C., June 22 (WM). Willow Flycatchers were again noted in Forsyth County, N.C., this summer (RS, BaP) but no others were reported. The species breeds sparingly in the Piedmont of North Carolina and Georgia; an intensive survey is needed to better detail the actual range in the Region. McNair did considerable field work in the s.w. Coastal Plain of North Carolina, discovering 18 pairs of Horned Larks in Richmond County, 14 of those in the Sandhills section. Farther e., at the edge of the breeding range, he detected four pairs plus young in Scotland County and an approximate number at the Lumberton airfield in Robeson County. Many observers reported migrating Bank Swallows during the latter half of July, but only in small numbers; the earliest were July 19 in Carteret County, N.C. (JF, RJH), and near Pendergrass, Ga. (PB). Several pairs of Cliff Swallows were observed nesting along the Pee Dee R., in Richmond Co., N.C., in June and July, at the edge of the range (JM), and small nesting colonies were also seen at two bridges over the Tugaloo R., along the South Carolina-Georgia border (HL). Breeding might have occurred also at Pendergrass, based on adults present in May and July (PB, DB, TM), although migrants pass through the Region regularly in these months; Georgia has only a handful of breeding sites for the Cliff Swallow (all in the upper Piedmont).

CROWS THROUGH VIREOS — The inland breeding population of Fish Crows has been steadily increasing in the Region for over a decade. The species is now common in many or most sites in the upper Coastal Plain, and fairly common in a few places in the Piedmont. At least a half dozen were again noted all summer at Clemson (HL), although no breeding evidence was found. One or two were rare in mid-summer at Durham, N.C., (JM), where they are mainly spring visitors. Most unusual for the Coastal Plain was a pair of House Wrens attempting to breed at Fayetteville, N.C., May to July 26 (HR); this city is 30-50 mi s.e. of the known breeding range. The first positive breeding of the **Cedar Waxwing** in South Carolina was noted at the Oconee Nuclear Station n. of Seneca June 2 (SG). Two nests (plus four adults) were observed in the *same* tree; the habitat was scattered, planted trees on the grounds of the station. A fledgling waxwing was found on a sidewalk in Forsyth County, N.C., July 3 (F&SH), providing a rare breeding record for that state's Piedmont; and other reports, perhaps of non-breeding wanderers, were of single birds in Georgia at

Gainesville June 4 (JP) and at Bartow June 5 (FM), one at Chapel Hill, N.C., June 27 (ME), and two at Southern Pines, N.C., July 17 (JHC). The Loggerhead Shrike continues its decline as a breeder, and it is now in real jeopardy over much of the Region. Several observers mentioned a sharp decline over the past summer or two, and some birders are actually reporting individual sightings from locales where 10+ years ago its status was fairly common or common. Although pesticide build-up in the birds seems the most plausible reason for the decline, does anyone really know what ails this species? McNair located territorial Solitary Vireos near the edge of the breeding range in s.c. North Carolina: four singing males at Morrow Mountain S.P., May 23, and one along the Richmond-Montgomery County line on the same date. All birds were in mixed pine-hardwood forests.

WARBLERS THROUGH TANAGERS —

S.A.

Truly amazing was Fussell's report of 31 singing Worm-eating Warblers in the Croatan N.F., N.C., during the summer. Although the records do not represent a range extension, the warbler was previously considered to have been a rare breeder from Gates County and the Dismal Swamp s. to Croatan forest. The preferred habitat of the warblers in Croatan is "high pocosin" (JF); the birds apparently key on the dense cover of broadleaf evergreen shrubs, also a feature of many of the forests inhabited by Worm-eating Warblers in the s. Appalachians but a feature that is rare-to-absent over most of the Piedmont and upper Coastal Plain where breeding birds are scarce or nonexistent.

Fairly early were three Cerulean Warblers at Atlanta July 18-31+ (JCa). As many as ten Ovenbirds were noted during the season in the Fayetteville area (PJC), near the edge of the nesting range. Also along the edge of the range was a singing Louisiana Waterthrush at Elizabethtown, N.C., May 24 (DM); however, a singing bird near Croatan, N.C., June 9 & 11 (JF) and a silent individual nearby in e. Jones County June 10 (JF) were extralimital. On June 3 McNair had a ♂ Bobolink at Derby, N.C., and a female at Norman, both in Richmond County; both were presumably late migrants. A small group of Bobolinks near Dublin, Ga., was very early July 31 (TKP). Northern Orioles nest so rarely and sporadically in the Region in the Piedmont, that it is seldom certain whether summer individuals are actually breeding. Adult males at Morrow Mt., May 23 (DM) and Zebulon, N.C., June 2 (EP) were likely just visitors or late migrants, but a singing male in June in n. Alamance County, N.C. (AB) might have been on territory. A singing Scarlet Tanager in Robeson County, N.C., May 30 (DM) was on territory, at least 30 mi s.e. of the breeding range.

FINCHES — No positive breeding evidence of Dickcissels was noted in the Region during the summer, but possible breeders

were a female at Columbia, S.C., May 18 (JB, LG, JPq), one of unspecified sex at Jordan Res., June 7 (EM, RF), and a singing male in n. Anderson County, S.C., June 14 (PH). This last bird was at the same site where one was on territory in 1977 and may well have been the same individual. House Finches apparently bred at Fayetteville, with adults seen June 29-July 31+, and a pair plus three immatures were found Aug. 17 (PJC, HR). No other new breeding stations were reported from the Region. Completely out of season was a ♀ Red Crossbill at Greenville, S.D., July 2, and again later in the summer (SCx). The Savannah Sparrow that lingered until late May at Pendergrass again made news—it was Georgia's first ever seen in June (June 3—JP). Grasshopper Sparrows were not known to breed in the North Carolina Sandhills or adjacent Coastal Plain. However, McNair found approximately three pairs in n.e. Richmond County, one or two pairs s. of Rockingham, 10-12 pairs at the Lumberton airfield, and 35-40 pairs at the Laurinburg-Maxton airfield. The latter "colony" might represent the largest one ever reported from the state—in the Coastal Plain, no less! Also of interest in the latter province was a male heard May 18 near Fayetteville (KM, PJC), where previous breeding is unknown, and again Davis noted the species at the Wilmington airport (an adult and a possible juvenile July 30).

Without question, the major highlight of the summer was the shocking discovery of a breeding population of **Lark Sparrows**, the first nesting record in the 20th century and just the second ever for the Region; there is a record from the late 19th century near Raleigh. McNair found three or four pairs near Derby in Richmond County in late May, a nest with five young was seen May 22, with a recently-fledged young caught May 28. Most of the birds had departed by mid-July. This is the site where Carter had seen an adult in the spring of 1980, although he doubtless assumed that the bird was a migrant. The breeding range of the Atlantic race of the Song Sparrow was extended SW about 15 mi. Ten territorial males and two recently-fledged young were observed June 22 near the ferry terminal on Cedar I., N.C. (JF, WI).

CORRIGENDUM — The Iceland Gull photographed at Morehead City, N.C., in February 1981 (AB 35:291) had *dark gray* coloration in the tips of the primaries, and not black as mentioned in the report; *i.e.*, the bird was not a Thayer's Gull (John Fussell, *pers. comm.*).

OBSERVERS — Alan Avakian, Jimmy Beatty, Donna Brisse, Patrick Brisse, Allen Bryan, J.H. Carter III, Jack Carusos (JCa), John Cely, Margaret Cely, Chapel Hill Bird Club, Steve Compton, Steve Cox (SCx), Larry Crawford, P.J. Crutchfield, Lloyd & Martha Davidson, Ricky Davis, Marc Eisdorfer, John Erickson, Ruth Fink, John Fussell, Sidney Gauthreaux, Lex Glover, R J Hader, Tom Haggerty, Paul Hamel, Fred & Sally Hill, Barb Homoya, Mike Homoya, Gene Huntsman, Eileen Hutcheson, Fran Irvin, Wayne Irvin, David Johnston, Dan Kaplan, Dave Lee, Harry LeGrand, Merrill Lynch, Woody Martin, Kevin Mason, Frank McCamey, Jim McConnell, Eva McKenna,

Douglas McNair, Peggy Moore, Terry Moore, Bud Needham, Perry Nugent, Helen Ogren, Barbara Page (BaP), Phil Page, John Paget, Brainard Palmer-Ball (BP), John Paquet (JPq), J.F. Parnell, Sam Pate, T.K. Patterson, Eloise Potter, Skip Prange (SPr), Bill Pulliam, Henry Rankin, Raoul Rubin, Mark Shields, Ramona Snavely, R.T. Stamps, Mary Ann Vernocy, Bill Wagner, Margaret Wagner, Fred Yelverton.—**HARRY E. LEGRAND, JR.**, Department of Zoology, Clemson University, Clemson, S.C. 29631.

FLORIDA REGION

/Richard T. Paul

Drought conditions dominated the scene as the Florida Peninsula continued in the grip of the driest year since 1971. By the end of the period, Lake Okeechobee had dropped to a record low 9.75 feet above mean sea level, 6 feet below normal. Water management districts around the state imposed emergency water use restrictions, and as August began were preparing to try cloud seeding in an effort to ease the shortage in the southern part of the state. Meanwhile many of the wetlands birds—lacking the legislative devices available to humans—simply did not nest. Low water levels in the interior of the state, and the resulting mudflats, attracted shorebirds not normally seen inland.

Several area editors also remarked on the scarcity of observers.

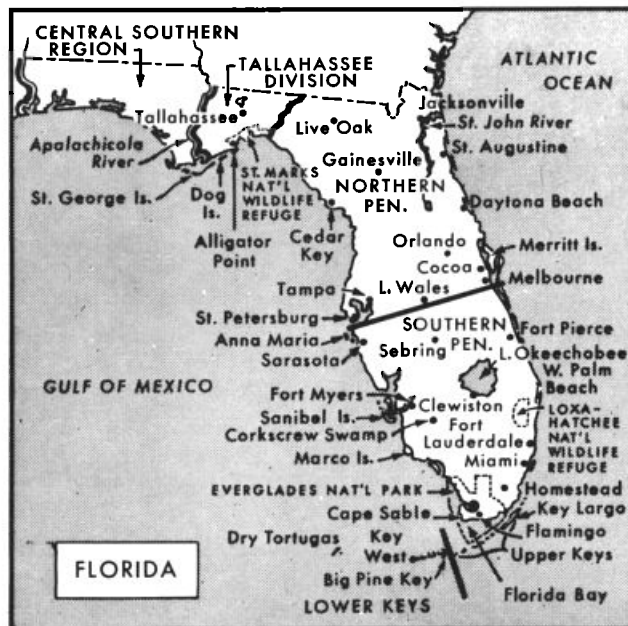
LOONS THROUGH BOOBIES — Common Loons were reported from the St. Johns R., near Jacksonville June 12-18 (PP) and St. George I., July 18 (SC). The latter bird was in breeding plumage. A Red-throated Loon, apparently injured, was found at St. George I., June 16-17 (SC). This represents the first summer record for the state and was probably a holdover from the record numbers in the same area last winter (*vide* HS). In contrast to last year, there were a number of shearwater reports. Most were seen 10-20 mi off Boynton Beach and featured highs of seven Cory's June 28, one Sooty July 24 and 51 Audubon's June 7 (HL, AA, BH, WM, TT). Sooties also turned up in the Keys, where one was seen at Key West (A. Meyerfeld) and five appeared after a squall at the Tortugas (RH); both sightings July 24. A sick Audubon's Shearwater came ashore at Vero Beach July 7, a fatal mistake (HK, *F.S.M.). A Leach's Storm-Petrel seen well 20 mi off Palm Beach June 11 (HL, WM, WMJr, PW) provided the first record for Palm Beach County and the first summer record for the Southern Pen. A second Leach's turned up with a Wilson's for comparison July 10, 15 mi off Boynton Beach (HL, H&WD, AA, TT). The highest count of Wilson's was 25, 20 mi off Palm Beach June 11 (HL *et al.*). For the third consecutive year a statewide Brown Pelican survey revealed 8000± pairs (SN). However a decline in numbers and nesting success was reported at Marco I., and Pine I. Sound (TB). The suspected cause was a food shortage. Unusual inland was a Brown Pelican in Conservation Area 3A June 22 (HL *et al.*). Single Blue-faced (Masked) Boobies were reported at the Tortugas June 6 (adult,

H&WD) and July 24 (RH) and an imm. Brown Booby was there June 3-7 (H&WD).

WADING BIRDS — The annual Nat'l Audubon Society heronry survey checked 176 colony sites in s. and w.c. Florida in July. Sixty per cent were empty and most of the others were Cattle Egret colonies (BP). This should perhaps be expected in a dry year and is an example of the risky nature of summer nesting efforts by herons in Florida (see Ogden's comments about a seasonal shift in nesting, AB 30:946). East Coast nesting was also considered to be down (HK). Six "Great White" Herons were found n. of their usual range: two at Lake Worth July 8 (RP, R. Plockelman), and singles at Riomar and Ft. Pierce July 9 (RP, HK), Cortez I., Sarasota Bay July 25 (RP) and at the Miami Canal and Alligator Alley July 9 (HS). A surprising "Wurdeemann's" was at L. Tohopokaliga, Osceola Co., June 25 (Tim Ackley). An eastbound Little Blue Heron was seen 10 mi off Boynton Beach June 26, presumably heading for Grand Bahama I. (HL, TT, AA). Reddish Egrets continued to show signs of population increase in Florida. At least three pairs nested at Riomar (HK), and three more at the A.B.C. and Stingaree colonies near Marco (TB). Two nests were found June 13 at Cortez I., a new site, and an adult with two recently fledged young was seen at Tarpon Key July 18, where nesting has long been suspected (RP). One thousand Great Egrets and 800 Snowies were found feeding in 2 settling ponds at the Clear Springs phosphate mine (below, C.S.P.M.) near Bartow June 7 (CG) along with lesser numbers of other waders.

As is too often the case lately Wood Stork nesting success was mediocre in c. and n. Florida, and awful in key s. colonies. At Corkscrew about 1500 pairs began nesting in April but abandoned their young in June after the rainy season began. About 70 young fledged. Cuthbert was moderately successful, with 850 pairs fledging about 780 young. The best news was from the Chaires colony in Leon County, where 225 pairs produced about 415 young. Statewide (and including the Brunswick, Ga. colony), 4450 pairs in 20 colonies produced 2300± young (BP). One Glossy Ibis, seen 3 mi offshore of Palm Beach June 11, was westbound (HL *et al.*). A pink Scarlet x White Ibis was seen June 2 at Payne's Prairie (JH, D. Maehr). Roseate Spoonbills again nested at Alafia Bank in Tampa Bay, 30± pairs this year (RP). Twenty "pinks" were seen loafing near Eagle Bay, L. Okeechobee (LR).

WATERFOWL — Canada Goose numbers seem to be increasing in Leon County,



where the species was released some years ago. Seven were at Phillips Road June 7, and ten at L. Jackson in July, both flocks probably representing spring broods (GM). Counts of Fulvous Whistling Ducks at Duda Farms, s. of Belle Glade, peaked at 1540, including young July 4 (PS, HL). At the same site were 1260 Mottled Ducks (PS, HL). Three ♂ Blue-winged Teals were at Duda June 27 and another July 4 (PS, HL, BH). A ♂ Am. Wigeon in eclipse plumage was seen in Charlotte County June 29 (B. Neville, J. Hendrix). A ♂ N. Shoveler was at Duda June 27 (PS, HL, BH). Ring-necked Ducks nested for the third successive year at Orange L., Alachua Co. A brood of six was seen June 16 (AW, J. E. Thule), while July 9 broods were at Orange L. and Lockalosa L. (AW). Both records represent breeding by cripples. A Canvasback was at the Occidental chemical plant, Hamilton Co., July 2, as were 21 Ruddy Ducks July 21 (TO). Seven Ruddies were also found at C.S.P.M., June 7 (CG). Neither observer was sure the Ruddies were nesting.

RAPTORS — One Swallow-tailed Kite was found in s.e. Leon County June 16, where inland records are rare (GM). Mississippi Kites at s. Jacksonville June 24 and over US 19 and Gulf Hammock, Levy Co., July 5 (both, JPC, HS) were respectively e. and at the s. edge of their usual summer range.

S.A.

Perhaps hardest hit by the drought was the Everglade Kite. Few even attempted to nest and most that did, failed. The population of 651 birds counted by Sykes and Rodgers in December 1980, produced fewer than ten young. With no water in many of the traditional nesting grounds, kites dispersed widely in Florida. One was found dying at Fanning Springs, Levy Co., and another was found in an urban canal in Royal Palm Beach, Palm Beach Co. Significant adult mortality was expected this year as birds were forced into marginal habitats near human habitation (S. Beisinger).

A Cooper's Hawk was reported from Joshua Cr., near Nocatee, DeSoto Co., July 7 (HS). Another, a juvenile seen about 5 mi w of Palmdale Aug. 4 (JC), provided additional evidence that the species persists as an uncommon breeder in the Fisheating Cr. area (*vide* FL, who saw a juvenile in the same area some years ago). A dark-phase Short-tailed Hawk was reported July 18 from the Lower Wekiva State Preserve, Seminole Co. (CT, DF) Three brown-plumaged Marsh Hawks were reported. One, northbound at Merritt I., June 5, was "rather late" (PS) but were the others, at s. Jacksonville July 13 (JPC) and Payne's Prairie July 12 & 14 (SN, JH) "rather early" or summer residents? A Peregrine Falcon was seen July 26 at Gainesville a very unusual date (SN). Just two Am. Kestrels were reported, one throughout the period near Riverview, Hillsborough Co. (RP, LA, HS), and one at the Rte. 66 bridge across Charlie Apopka Cr., Hardee Co., July 7 (RP). Both were males and, hopefully, breeding. Previous writers of this column have voiced their concern about this species, and I join them. With so many wintering kestrels in the state it's easy to overlook the resident birds. However, HMS considers them not unusual in n.c. Florida. Readers are urged to report any they see during the period May-July. Ospreys seem well established in Leon County where three pairs were noteworthy in 1978. At least seven birds and 2 nests were seen at L. Talquin, and one pair at L. Jackson during the period (GM, RKC). Single birds were also seen along the Ochlocknee R., July 12 and in nearby Gadsden County July 18 (GM, RKC, RMC).

CRANES THROUGH SHOREBIRDS — Forty-one Sandhill Cranes, including 36 in one flock, were seen 5 mi s. of Riverview July 26 (RP), an unusually large group for the resident subspecies (*vide* SN). Although not a rare bird, there were no reports of Limpkins, a species which might be expected to suffer in a drought year. Yet another summer record of a Purple Gallinule in the Keys turned up, this one an adult at Key West July 20 (FH). Common Gallinules at Duda Farms reached a high of 930 July 4 (PS, HL). Repeated surveys of Am. Oystercatchers in Hillsborough Bay yielded a minimum population estimate of 67 birds, including 23 pairs (RP). Five Semipalmated Plovers were found at inland sites: C.S.P.M., June 7 (CG), L. Placid July 31 (FL, JC) and L. Jackson twice, July 20 & 27 (GM); two birds on the latter date). The L. Jackson records were the first July reports for Leon County. Five pairs of Wilson's Plovers were found at the small J S Phipps Preserve, Alligator Pt., June 3 (RLC, WB). An estimated 15-20 pairs of Wilson's were present throughout the period on a spoil island in Hillsborough Bay (RP). A welcome Snowy Plover survey by B. Russell and cooperators produced the following early reports: two birds at the Phipps Preserve, the first summer record on Alligator Pt., in 20 years (HS); three at Anclote Keys, two at Shell Key, Pass-a-Grille; two at Passage Key, seven ± at a spoil island in Hillsborough Bay—an unusual site—and six on s. Keewaydin I., s. of Naples.

The usual murky pattern of "late" spring and "early" fall migrants was well illustrated

with reports of a "late" Spotted Sandpiper at Eastpoint June 14 (J. Stevenson) and an "early" one at L. Jackson June 30 (GM, RKC). I recommend B. Robertson's remarks on the subject (*AB* 34:874). Other interesting shorebird records were of a late Whimbrel at St. Marks Light June 4 (Mrs. F.A. Stoutamire), 1329 Lesser Yellowlegs at Duda Farms July 11 (HL, H&WD), the fourth Leon County Willet at L. Talquin July 27 (GM), the two earliest Wilson's Phalaropes for the state at Duda July 11 (HL, H&WD) and an Am. Woodcock in a *Melaleuca* thicket w. of Hollywood July 11 (HS). A Long-billed Dowitcher was at L. Jackson July 27 (GM), while two Sanderlings turned up inland at Lake Placid July 31 (FL). Three late White-rumped Sandpipers were discovered at the Tortugas June 3 (H&WD). A Pectoral and two Stilt sandpipers were at Duda July 4 (PS, HL). Also at Duda June 27 were 1450 Black-necked Stilts (PS *et al.*). Both nests and young were seen. Seventy-five stilts were at the C.S.P.M., June 7 (CG). Unusual inland were 20 Am. Avocets seen in June at Fisheating Cr. Bay, L. Okeechobee (LR).

LARIDS — A subad. Great Black-backed Gull was present at Ward's Bank July 12 (JW). Laughing Gulls totalled 44,000 ± breeding pairs at 5 sites in the Tampa Bay area, which must be a record (RP, L. Hanners, S. Patton). One basic-plumaged Laughing Gull in Marion County June 25 was considered unusual inland at that date (HS). Just one report of Gull-billed Terns reached me (my own), of at least eight adults exhibiting typical nest defense behavior at a spoil island in Hillsborough Bay throughout the period. Three Com. Terns, not nesting this year, were found June 30 at the Black Skimmer colony on the St. George I. causeway (HS). Ninety-six pairs of Roseate Terns on eggs were found with eight pairs of Least just off Lower Matecumbe Key June 21 (S. Sprunt). K. Wolf saw both Roseates and Least carrying food to rooftops of buildings at the Truman Annex in Key West, pursuing larger birds in the area and dive-bombing passers-by. Although no estimates of numbers were possible, Wolf considered Least more common in June and Roseates in July. This may be the first indication of roof-nesting by Roseates. A single Roseate was seen at close range at Ft. Pierce Inlet July 9 (RP, HK). Among several other reports of nesting Least Terns were the following roof-nesting records: "several" in Indian River and St. Lucie cos. (HK), 3 sites in Jacksonville totalling 200 pairs (PP, JW) and 4 sites in Orlando totalling 100+ pairs (DF, GB). Least may also have nested inland near L. Placid, where eight adults and four fledged, begging young were found July 23 (FL).

At the Alafia Bank in Hillsborough Bay, nesting terns included 815 pairs of Royals (double last year's total), five Sandwich and 15 Caspians (RP). About 30 pairs of Royals also nested at Passage Key (RP). The earliest of several Black Tern reports was of six birds at Tampa June 6 (*vide* B. Courser), which may have been northbound, southbound, or summering. July counts of Black Terns at Naples and Marco I. were, for unknown reasons, down 95% from the 8-year mean (TB). Unusual numbers of Black Skimmers

nested at the St. George I causeway this year, with 400-500 adults estimated June 30 (HS). Twenty-five pairs nested at the Phipps Preserve, about the same as last year (RLC, WB). Other reported skimmer colonies were at Ward's Bank, where 48 pairs were found July 25 (JW) and in Tampa Bay where 425+ pairs were found at 6 sites (RP). Skimmers nesting at Marco were unsuccessful owing to human disturbance.

CUCKOOS THROUGH BUNTINGS — Two dead Yellow-billed Cuckoos recovered July 7 & 8 at the WCTV tower near Tall Timbers may have indicated the early fall departure of this species or may still have been northbound (RLC). A Chimney Swift at Belle Glade July 9 suggested a slight range extension (HS). Nesting Red-cockaded Woodpeckers were found near Naples. One nest with young was about 10 mi e. of Naples on Radio Road in late May, while a "5-tree colony with 3 active nests" was found farther e. along Alligator Alley (G. Patterson). Nesting Barn Swallows were found again at Payne's Prairie (one nest—JH) and Jacksonville (4 nests—JW), and also at Eastpoint (one nest—HS). The small Cliff Swallow colony at Port Mayaca is hanging on, with 2 nests seen June 20 (PS). Movements of 200 Purple Martins near Moore Haven July 11 suggested strongly to HS that they follow a path E along the Caloosahatchee R., and the s. shore of L. Okeechobee.

An albino ♀ Mockingbird, mated to a normal male, produced five normal-plumaged young in St. Augustine (R. Hornback). A Gray Catbird nest found Aug. 10 in s. Jacksonville was the second ever (PP), while across the state single catbirds seen in n. Wakulla County June 6 (RMC) & July 1 (GM, RKC) suggested a slight southward range extension. A singing male at Tallahassee was also present throughout the period in the vicinity of the nesting site of the past few years (GM). Two Am. Robins were reported, one in n. St. Johns County July 11-31 (B. Davis) and a juvenile at L. Jackson July 22 (GM). Starlings were reported to be taking over Red-bellied Woodpecker holes in Key West (FH). A Louisiana Waterthrush in s. Jefferson County June 12 was s. of the area where it is normally considered to nest (J. Cavanaugh) while two others at Lower Wekiva State Preserve July 11 were surely migrants (CT, DT). A pair of Orchard Orioles 5 mi w. of Bunnell, Flagler Co., June 16, extended the East Coast breeding range S (HS), while 25 immatures at Payne's Prairie July 16 indicated local abundance (JH). Boat-tailed Grackles remain established in Leon County after 3 summers: three were at L. Miccosukee June 18 and six at L. Jackson July 13 included a brood of four (GM *et al.*) Six Brown-headed Cowbirds were in n. Marion County June 9 (HS). Appropriately for that county, they were feeding around 2 horses. A pair of Blue Grosbeaks with one fledgling in n.e. Citrus County June 23 was near the s. edge of the usual breeding range (HS). Five singing Indigo Buntings were found at Lower Wekiva State Preserve July 11 & 18 (DF, CT, DT). Omitted from the Spring Report, a green-plumaged Painted Bunting was singing at Eastpoint May 4-21

although no evidence of a mate was found (HS).

CORRIGENDUM — Delete the record of a Veery reported at Tallahassee June 22-July 3, 1980 (AB 34:889).

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ONTARIO REGION

/Clive E. Goodwin

The most noteworthy event of the season had nothing to do with birds, but rather the vagaries of the Canada Post Office. A mail strike which made its first impact on the spring report continued to create havoc among the network of reporters and with the result that what follows is fragmented and incomplete. This was particularly unfortunate in that the Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas commenced in June, and some interesting results have already begun to emerge.

It was an uneventful season. Weather was on the whole good without the extremes that sometimes wreak havoc with nesting. Migration continued well into the second week in June and was evident, again as usual, by the first week in July. In the south it was suggested that fall movement started early, in keeping with an early spring migration. Farther north, however, on the breeding grounds of many species the cold weather in mid-May delayed migration so that by May 20 at Pimisi Bay "the birches stood still leafless a week late" and most arrivals were late as well (LdeKL). June there followed "unusually cool and wet" and by the beginning of July birds were unusually silent. Mrs. Lawrence noted "the causes (of apparent absence of birds) may be many, local in part." These impressions are noteworthy not only because they are from a veteran observer with over 30 years' systematic coverage of the one locality, but because they illustrate the great diversity of perceptions from one part of the Province to another.

Summer has always been the most difficult season to interpret neatly. The short period always presents an untidy mixture of birds that may or may not be breeding, and that may or may not be migrating. Perhaps that mirrors exactly what occurs, as territorial males at a species' range limits advertise for mates that never arrive, and unmated and non-breeding birds wander, drifting slowly south until the onset of autumn stimulates more purposeful movement.

LOONS THROUGH CORMORANTS — One of 2 northern trips reported this season was by a Royal Ontario Museum field party in June and July to an area s.e. of Winisk at 54°30'N and 84°55'W (hereafter, Sutton Ridges). The area was surprisingly devoid of birds, and the only loons recorded were Commons. Full details of this expedition will be published later in an appropriate journal (RDJ). In Quetico P.P., rising water levels in June may have influenced loon nestings. There were 80-100 adults on Basswood L. there throughout June and July (SP). Loons

also often remain late along L. Ontario: there were seven Commons at Whitby July 31 (m.ob.), and a group of up to seven Red-throats there July 4+ were in full spring plumage and very noisy (NL, m.ob.). Other Red-throats were at Oshawa July 30 (MB), two at Torrance June 4 (JF) and 175 in migration at Winisk June 5 (AW, AM). There was only one Red-necked Grebe nest located on Manitoulin I., this year July 25 (JN), and a couple of birds at Whitby June 20 (NL) were likely non-breeders. There was no evidence of larger cormorants at the Bustard Is. Double-crested colony this June (RG). On Pigeon I., 262 young Double-crested were banded, and the 168 nests there compare with 80 in 1980, 38 in 1979, 3 in 1978 and none in 1977 (K.F.N.). On Little Galoo I.—technically in the United States and hence in the next reporting area—461 nests compared with 276 in 1980 (CW). Another indication of the improvement in this species' fortunes was a large new colony of several hundred birds on L. Henry, Pelee I. (CAC *et al.*). Single birds were sighted at Atikokan June 7 & 20 (SP).

HERONS — New Great Blue heronries were located at Mud L., Oxford Co. (DB) with 6 nests, and Crooked L., Pimisi Bay, with 3 or 4 (RT, *vide* LdeKL). In the marshes e. of Toronto post-breeders had built up to 134 by July 31 (BDP). Green Heron nestings close to the edge of the species' range were at Gravenhurst June 19 (PT), Bracebridge July 18 with two immatures Aug. 1 (RB, PT), and on Manitoulin I., July 27 with two adults and flying young (CB). Southern heron dispersal included a Little Blue at Pt. Pelee N.P. (hereafter, Pelee) July 27 (AW, BF) and a Snowy Egret at Kingston July 2 (KFE). Pelee had five Cattle Egrets July 25 (AW), but the only nest reports were of 4 outside the Region on Little Galoo I., noted above, May 27 (CW). Black-crowned Night Herons seemed to be continuing a steady recovery, as on Pigeon I., there were 75 nests compared to 60 and 43 in 1980 and 1979 respectively (K.F.N.). The Toronto I. heronry had 110 nests (DBr), identical to the number there in 1950, and there were 2 nests and six adults on



islands offshore from Manitoulin I., in June (CB, DF, JM) as well as three birds in Tehkummah Twp. there July 7 (JN). A Yellow-crowned Night Heron—surely not the spring bird still wandering around—was at Wildwood July 6, the first for Oxford County (RWS). Least Bittern nestings reported were "several" at Pelee (SK), two at Port Severn June 20 (RB *et al.*), four + in the Kingston area (*vide* RDW) and two nestings of probably one pair in Leason Marsh, Manitoulin I., June 21 & July 19 (KB), the first there. Sightings of the species were few—only two in all—but a tape response survey of the species in L. Erie and L. Ontario major marshes revealed low numbers there (CAC).

SWANS, GEESE, DUCKS — The steady increase of Mute Swans along L. Ontario continues, there were 31 July 12 in Cranberry Marsh, Whitby alone (BDP). Canada Geese also continue to increase in the same area, with a record number of nests at Kingston (K.F.N.) and nestings at Port Hope (ERM). Farther n., 19 at Garson June 19 (JN) were late for normal migration. A major effort to reduce the numbers of feral birds in the Toronto area has been under way now for 2 years by the Ministry of Natural Resources. There the species has assumed pest proportions, fouling parks and beaches everywhere. A brood of ten young Black Ducks May 18 in Algonquin P.P., was early (PD). Another expanding species is Gadwall, with the first Oxford County breeding at Norwich June 13 (BDP) and a nest off Manitoulin I., June 20 (CB, DF). There were several Kings-

ton broods, and 75 on Amherst I., July 18 were mainly males (K.F.N.). Three pairs of Green-winged Teals at Bright's Grove (AR) were the most noteworthy of several reports of this species in the s. Two Blue-winged Teals were unusual fatalities at the Lennox Generating station chimneys July 29 and may presage a high-mortality fall there for migrants, as the policies on stack lighting have been changed again (RDW).

The Pickering area Eur. Wigeon was present to June 4 (m.ob.). There is still no proven nesting of Am. Wigeon in the Kingston area, despite suggestive sightings this year of a pair at Wolfe I., to June 7 (HQ, AEH, CW) and five on Amherst I., July 18 (RDW). Northern Shoveler seemed to have a bonanza year: reports included two + broods at Garson (*vide* JN), a female with six young at Harrow (AW), ten birds at Bright's Grove June 1 (AR) and nine at Warton July 18 (JWJ). A pair of Redheads was at Harrow throughout (m.ob.) and one was on Amherst I., July 18+ (RDW). The second n. trip this season, at the beginning of June to Winisk, reported up to 12 Canvasbacks and four Redheads June 1-2 (AW, AM). Surf Scoters nesting at Sutton Ridges constituted the third breeding record for the Province, but no Black Scoters were seen there (RDJ). Ruddy Ducks were again widespread, mainly on sewage lagoons, at Harrow, Warton, Chelmsford and Whitby. A Hooded Merganser nest in Algonquin P.P., May 18 was using the same hole as last year (PK, *vide* RT0).

HAWKS — Four Goshawk nestings included one on Manitoulin I., June 19 (HH, WRL) and three in the Kingston area (K.F.N.). A bird on Sutton Ridges was one of very few diurnal raptors there (RDJ). Other Accipiters were a Cooper's Hawk at Pelee June 6 (RC) and a Sharp-shinned at Heber Downs June 23-24 (MB, DR). Kingston's Atlas activity yielded one Sharp-shinned and seven Red-shouldered Hawk nests (K.F.N.). A movement of 30 Rough-legged Hawks was observed at Winisk June 1 (AW, AM). Golden Eagles now outnumber Balds on migration, but there has only been one known nest site in the n. until this year, when a second was located (*vide* RDJ). The recent stronghold for Bald Eagles in Ontario has been in the n.w. and this population remains vigorous with 18 young in 14 active Quetico P.P. nests alone June 13 (PM). A family of Marsh Hawks was seen at Warton Aug. 10 (JWJ) as was food exchange between a pair at Presqu'île P.P., May 23 (CEG, JEG), but there were no breeding birds at Kettle Pt., this year (AR). The Ministry of Natural Resources' latest release of captive-reared Peregrine Falcons was in Toronto, where four young birds were freed successfully Aug. 16 (I Bowman). More Merlin nests than usual were located: six on Manitoulin I. (JN, JL, RRT), and three in Quetico P.P., with three other birds seen there alone (SP). The Sudbury Am. Kestrel nest box programme had 86 young fledged from 22 boxes (JL).

GROUSE THROUGH COOTS — Sharp-tailed Grouse were breeding at Sutton Ridges (RDJ) and a pair was seen at Winisk (AW, AM). Bobwhites were reported from Pelee June 13-20 (BFI *et al.*), Tilbury June 23 (BF,

BH), Zurich Aug. 1 (MPD), Wildwood June 13 (BDP) and—perhaps a release—Kingston June 10 (R&PG). Released wild Turkeys on Great Cloche I., bred successfully (FM). Three Sandhill Cranes were sighted on the Moose R., near Moosonee July 8 (LW), and at the other end of the Province a King Rail was at Harrow June 13 (AW, BFI). There were up to three Yellow Rails at Winisk June 8 (AW, AM), but far more unexpected was a report of breeding Virginia Rails at North Pt., well n. of their known range (RDJ). In the intriguing and potentially exciting category was a "probable response" to a Black Rail recording from a female at Dundas Marsh June 1 (CAC, MC), where Hamilton observers had heard a bird calling earlier. There are no Ontario records that have been substantiated. A Purple Gallinule was seen at Pelee July 8 (GS, RS, JMa), an unusual date for this species.

SHOREBIRDS — Shorebird habitat was scarce again owing to high water levels. The final outcome of a Killdeer roof nest, 30 m from the ground at Kingston June 9 (RDW) was not known. An Am. Golden Plover was at Blenheim June 21 (AW). Sightings at Pelee included a Willet June 13, Am. Avocet July 9 and Buff-breasted Sandpiper July 26 (AW, BF *et al.*). A late Whimbrel was at Amherst I., June 5 (MM). Upland Sandpipers were widespread n.e. to Bracebridge July 26 (AS, JP), Atlas work confirming the presence of still healthy populations in the s. (m.ob.). Shorebirds seen on the Winisk trip included 120 White-rumped and six Baird's sandpipers June 2, a Marbled Godwit June 5 and 30 Hudsonians June 8 (AW, AM). Elsewhere White-rumpeds were in good numbers in the s. with four+ at Bright's Grove (AR) and five at Rock Point P.P., both June 1 (HHA). Whitby was one of the more productive shorebird areas with an early Baird's July 10 and Stilt Sandpiper July 4 (NL), one+ Buff-breasted, July 30+ (MB, RN), and two Hudsonian Godwits June 2 (SL). Long Pt. had a Marbled Godwit June 1 (RS). Probable and confirmed Wilson's Phalarope nestings were widespread: a pair at Strathroy in June with aggressive female behaviour June 20 (DEW, m.ob.); six pairs and two successful broods on Amherst I. (*vide* RDW); a male at Warton June 16-July 18, showing alarm behaviour (JWJ); one+ pairs at Kelly L., and then a male + three juveniles, June 30 (JL), with many sightings of single birds throughout the period.

GULLS, TERNS — Winisk sightings included 15 Glaucous Gulls June 1, 200 Arctic Terns June 2 and a Caspian Tern June 2 & 5 (AW, AM). White gulls again stayed around the lower Great Lakes, with an Iceland Gull at Kettle Pt., June 8 (AR) and a Glaucous—later found dead—at Whitby June 22 (JB). There were four Great Black-backed Gull nests on Little Galoo I., noted above (CW), and a Herring Gull nested on the Kingsville sewage lagoons (AW). The Oliphant Lesser Black-backed Gull was present to at least June 25 (DRp, JWJ). Laughing Gull reports in the s.w. were from Kettle Pt., June 7 (AR) and Pelee June 13 & 19 (BFI, AW). No Bonaparte's Gull nests were found at Sutton Ridges but a female in breeding condition was seen (RDJ). No Little Gull nests were

reported anywhere, but birds were seen at Kettle Pt., June 12-14 (AR), two immatures at Whitby June 7 (DR) and up to three at Pelee, where 14 adult and 24 young Forster's Terns appeared July 9 (AW). There were 30 pairs of Com. Terns nesting on 2 Quetico P.P. lakes July 30 (TN) and a Caspian Tern there June 30 was only the second for the area (DHE).

DOVES THROUGH GOATSUCKERS — Mourning Dove young of the year were seen at Sutton Ridges (RDJ). Yellow-billed Cuckoos were widely reported in good numbers in the s. (AD, GB, MPD) and n. to the Sudbury region (*vide* JN). The Owl Rehabilitation and Research Foundation (hereafter, O.R.R.F.) released its 134th young captive reared Barn Owl this year, and the species nested on the Foundation property (KM). Snowy Owls were seen at Winisk June 2 & 8, and there were eight+ Short-eareds breeding there (AW, AM). Elsewhere Short-eareds were in Rayside Township in mid-July and Fairbank June 3 (CB, JL) and two birds sent to O.R.R.F., in the period were from Windsor and Welland. The Foundation also received a juvenile Long-eared Owl from Owen Sound (KM). A family group of medium-sized owls at Erbsville July 14 were probably Long-eareds (MS, CAC, JC), and the species was one of two breeding owl species at Sutton Ridges, the other being Hawk Owl (RDJ). At Atikokan 2 Great Gray Owl nests were found in April and May, and by June 24 ad. birds had arrived from St. Cloud, Minnesota, following a crash in vole numbers and traced by a radio tracking experiment there (SLo, *vide* SP). A juv. Great Gray from Thunder Bay was received by O.R.R.F. There were 20 pairs of Whip-poor-wills at Kettle Pt. (AR), and a bird was calling at Pelee throughout (AW).

WOODPECKERS THROUGH SWALLOWS — Red-headed Woodpeckers were reported in good numbers from the Carden Plain (4 sites—JS, PS), Oxford County (10 sites—BDP) and n. of Toronto (8 sites—AD, GB). Flying young Black-backed Three-toed Woodpeckers were being fed at Half-way P.P., July 14 (CB), but one of the most exciting nestings of the season was a **Northern Three-toed Woodpecker** feeding young on a nest on L. Opinicon, 8 m up a dead tamarack July 16 (FP). The nearest known nesting in Ontario is Algonquin P.P., over 100 mi n.w. Eastern Kingbirds were sighted both at Sutton Ridges (RDJ) and Winisk June 5 (AW, AM), and three W. Kingbirds was an exceptional number at Kitchener-Waterloo May 31 (M&M Oudejans), Pelee June 10-11 (AW *et al.*) and Manitoulin I., Burpee Twp., Aug. 14 (JN), although roughly half of the Provincial records are between the end of May and August. The year's second Scissor-tailed Flycatcher was at Hamner July 28 (CWh) A Yellow-bellied Flycatcher was present daily at Pimisi Bay from mid-June, for the second successive year (LdeKL) and on the Bruce Pen., birds were present July 17-Aug. 1 in N. Keppel and Sidney Bay and behaved territorially (JWJ). Two Acadian Flycatcher nests at Wheatley P.P. (PAW, AW) were encouraging, and also in the s.w. an Alder Flycatcher was singing in wet pin oak savannah on Windsor Prairie June 29 (CAC, PDP)

A ♀ Olive-sided Flycatcher in breeding condition was at Sutton Ridges, but no nest was found (RDJ), and an early bird was at Pelee July 30 (AW).

CROWS THROUGH WRENS — Middlesex County's third Com. Raven record was a bird at London June 2 (JSt). On Manitoulin I., an all-white plumaged raven with a yellow bill July 14 (JN) must have been bewildering! A Red-breasted Nuthatch was noteworthy at Lockhart Pond, Oxford Co., June 13 (BDP), and Manitoulin's first Brown Creeper nest had six eggs June 7 (DF). Young creepers at Sutton Ridges were well n. of their range. In Algonquin P.P., Winter Wren numbers were still below those of former years, and both marsh wrens also continued scarce everywhere. The 7 colonies or nestings of Short-billeds reported, however, were more than in recent years, and on Manitoulin I., the Leason marsh had 45 pairs, with 15 pairs of Long-billeds June 29 (CB, KB, DF). A Carolina Wren was at Kingston July 26 (RDW) and another at Pt. Abino July 12 (RJS, CAC), while a pair at Pelee had one successful brood (AW).

MIMIDS, THRUSHES — The news of E. Bluebirds was encouraging, although much of this may be the result of improved coverage. There were 20+ pairs in the Kingston area (K.F.N.), pairs at 11 sites on the Carden plain (JS, PS), 6 locations on the Bruce (JWJ) and six pairs on Manitoulin (JN *et al.*). However, some of the "traditional" stations on both Manitoulin I., and the Carden plain were unoccupied, and C. Campbell reported "very low numbers" continuing on Pelee I., in the Waterloo region and at Parry Sound. A Wheatear was seen at Winisk June 2 (AW, AM). Blue-gray Gnatcatchers nested at Jones Falls and Chaffey's Locks (MH), Heber Downs (*vide* MB), and at 3 sites in the Toronto area (BDP, JC-B, MB), all near the n. limits of this species range in the Province. Both species of kinglet were nesting at Sutton Ridges: the area is considerably n. of the known limit for Golden-crowneds (RDJ). A southerly family of these birds was near Wiarton June 23 (JWJ).

WAXWINGS THROUGH VIREOS — No waxwings of either species were seen at Sutton Ridges. Although there are no confirmed nestings of either species from this area both have been recorded in summer on the Hudson Bay Lowlands and the hope for Ontario's first Bohemian Waxwing nesting continues. A family of N. Shrikes there finally confirmed this species as a Provincial breeding bird (RDJ). The Loggerhead Shrike story was mixed: hopes for "a possible comeback in Waterloo and Prince Edward cos." (CAC), six Kingston area pairs (K.F.N.) and birds in 8 Carden plain locations (JS, PS); but none seen in either the Bruce Pen. (JWJ), or Manitoulin I. (JN). Vireo nestings included a Solitary at Dorcas Bay July 12 (JWJ), "four to five" White-eyed pairs with nests found at Pelee (AW), Philadelphia at Worthington June 7 (JL) and Warbling at Sudbury and Naughton in July (HB, JL).

WARBLERS — There was a pair of Prothonotary Warblers at Pelee in June (EF) and one singing on Pelee I., Aug. 21 (CAC).

Golden-winged Warblers appeared to be holding their own on Carden plain (JS) and e. Algonquin P.P. had seven males June 3 (JMy). At Kingston 2 sites with 38 birds had no Blue-wingeds present but one Brewster's (HQ, FP, RDW). However, Blue-wingeds nested at Kilworth July 17, the first in Middlesex Co. (PAR), and were at Ingersoll and Lockhart Pond in Oxford Co., June 13 (BDP). On Sutton Ridges, Tennessee Warblers were nesting but no Yellows or Connecticutics were seen (RDJ). The first Yellow Warbler nest in 38 years in Algonquin P.P.—although the bird breeds regularly there—was found June 2 (JMy, *vide* RTo). By contrast a Pelee study located 115 nests in one small area alone (R. Benoit). Five N. Parulas were located on Manitoulin I., in July (JN), and a pair of Connecticutics was at nearby Killarney June 27 (DF). Also noteworthy for the areas were a probable Yellow-rumped Warbler nesting at Kettle Pt., June 14-29 (AR); Prairie Warbler nestings on Georgian Bay N.P.—an old site for this species (JFr) and 18 males in 2 localities near L. Opinicon (FP); and 11 Cerulean Warbler territories at Otter L., June 3 (HQ, RDW). A Cerulean singing at Wiarton July 3 (JWJ) was farther n. than usual on the Bruce, and an Ovenbird breeding at North Pt., on the Moose R. mouth (RDJ) was n. of its usual range. Southern warblers included a late report of a Yellow-throated at Long Pt., May 5-6 (CL *et al.*), Kentuckys at Kettle Pt., June 7-10 (AR) and singing at Marlbank June 13 (RDW), and one confirmed and one probable Louisiana Waterthrush nesting at Kingston (HQ, RDW). There were ten+ pairs of Yellow-breasted Chats at Pelee (AW) and birds e. to Scarborough July 7 (BDP) and Lennox June 10 (RDW).

BLACKBIRDS — The only W. Meadowlark reports were from Mara, Albion and Vaughan Townships (JS, PS, AD). Yellow-headed Blackbirds nested at Narrow (m.ob.) and again at Steep Rock June 30 (DHE), and there were birds at Long Pt. (*vide* DTH) and Port Severn June 20 (RB *et al.*). Both Red-winged Blackbirds and a Brown-headed Cowbird were seen at Winisk June 3-8 (AW, AM). Orchard Oriole pairs or nests were at Petersburg in June (CAC), Newcastle July 19 (EA), Bowmanville July 22 (feeding a cowbird—PB), London and Toronto (JSt, PW) and there were communal nests with many males attending at both Pelee I., and Pelee (CAC, AW).

FINCHES, SPARROWS — Indigo Buntings were in excellent numbers: 50 singing males in 15 km July 19 at Otter L. (RDW) was an example. A bird was at Lac la Croix June 2 (DHE). There was a singing Dickcissel at Hope Bay June 5-20 (MP, JWJ *et al.*). Evening Grosbeaks and Pine Siskins hung on across the s. and there were 3 widely separated Red Crossbill reports, while on Sutton Ridges fledged young White-winged Crossbills were seen, but the only other finches there were one flock of redpolls. Swamp and Lincoln's sparrows were also breeding, but no Song Sparrows were seen (RDJ). At Winisk a Le Conte's Sparrow and 125 Snow Buntings were seen June 2, and a *gambelii* White-crowned June 3 (AW, AM). Elsewhere House Finches continued to dominate

the news as London received the first Middlesex County nesting (M&A Smout), birds were in 3 Toronto locations (BDP, JC-B, CEG), a pair was at Rockport (DS) and a bird was at Bowmanville June 29-July 1 (PB), as well as nestings at most of the previously established breeding sites. The mail strike—to bring the account full circle—prevented any adequate assessment of Henslow's and Grasshopper sparrow's status, although what details were received suggested some improvement for Grasshopper Sparrows and—by the absence of any mention—none for Henslow's.

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NIAGARA-CHAMPLAIN REGION

/Douglas P. Kibbe

As usual summer weather influences on the Region's birdlife appeared to be relatively minor and the season was in one contributor's words "very average." The only significant natural perturbation in the Region likely to have influenced breeding bird populations was the gypsy moth infestation which reached local epidemic levels in parts of New York and southern Vermont. Although vast acreages were totally denuded early in the summer (most deciduous trees re-leaved during July) unfortunately no data were submitted evaluating even local impacts on birdlife.

As previously indicated (*Am. Birds* 34:159) the Region is now entirely covered by breeding bird atlasing projects. New York's proj-



lingered until June 1 at Seneca L., and one June 2 at Island Pond (NM *et al.*) would have been noteworthy at any season. An Oldsquaw near Rochester in mid-July was unusual but not unprecedented for the Region which regularly hosts these and other non-breeding divers through the summer.

Thirty-eight Caspian Terns at Braddock Bay and the season's close, although by far the Region's best total, was about average.

CUCKOOS THROUGH SHRIKES — Although a massive gypsy moth invasion was evident in much of the Region only two reporters noted a concurrent increase in Black-billed Cuckoos. Were others' sightings not considered noteworthy enough to mention or are the cuckoos' fabled invasions in response to caterpillar infestations mere speculation? A Barn Owl at Derby, N.Y., and a pair near Dryden provided this season's only sightings. An extensive survey followed by an intensive management program for this, our rarest resident owl, seems long overdue. Atlas surveyors may find them more common than expected if farmers are queried and abandoned buildings are searched for signs. Long-eared Owls were heard at West Haven, Vt. (D&SL), and in two New York areas. Vermont's first Short-eared Owl nest, complete with five young, was photographed at Shoreham (EW). Only 2 Vermont localities, West Haven and Cabot, reported Red-headed Woodpeckers, however, the species was well reported from w. New York. As predicted, Northern Three-toed Woodpeckers were finally confirmed as breeders in Vermont when a pair was found feeding young near Averill L., July 16 (LM). The list of New York sites reporting Acadian Flycatchers now includes Bear Swamp near Niles and Silver L., in Wyoming Co. An albino Bank Swallow was seen amidst the 5000+ which amassed at Braddock Bay in late July. A pair and three young Fish Crows were reported from the Ithaca colony. The population dynamics of this isolated population would make an excellent long term study for some intrepid bander. Common Raven reports continue to increase, particularly from the hills s. of Cayuga L. Although only one pair of Short-billed Marsh Wrens was found in the L. Champlain Valley, at Rouses Pt. (MG), reports from c. New York were up slightly.

VIREOS THROUGH ICTERIDS — A White-eyed Vireo that appeared at Sapsucker Woods July 16 (CS *et al.*) was the only one reported during the summer despite an influx this spring. Records kept by one Vermont atlas team worker (WE) of nearly 1000 vireo sightings this summer resulted in the following ranking: Red-eyed 83% of all sightings, Solitary 7%, Warbling 6%, Yellow-throated 3%, and Philadelphia 1%. Similar rankings derived from over 2700 warbler sightings in Vermont gave Com. Yellowthroat top billing with nearly 23% of all sightings followed by Am. Redstart 16%, Chestnut-sided 13%, Ovenbird 10%, and Yellow, Blackburnian, Magnolia, Canada, Yellow-rumped, and Black-and-white warblers with 4-5% each, Black-throated Blue, Black-throated Green and Nashville warblers 3% each, and N. Waterthrush and Mourning Warbler 1% each. All other species comprised approximately 1% of the sightings. For the sake of comparison the three warblers considered most abundant on the L. Erie plains were Hooded, Canada and Mourning (MJ&TM). A Cerulean Warbler from Carmi S.P., June 14 (WE&CS) was one of the few Vermont sightings ever made away from the known breed-

ect entered its second year while ambitious Vermonters achieved their goal of adequately (at least 75+ species located with 50 per cent confirmed per block) covering one sixth of all blocks in the state. The Vermont accomplishment is all the more laudable when compared to that in Massachusetts, the only other state to complete an atlas project thus far, where it was assumed that a maximum of no more than 75 species occurred in any block and no standards for adequate coverage were ever defined. Nearly 15 per cent of the blocks in Vermont yielded over 90 species. Coverage in the Region has produced 112 species in one central New York block and a staggering 129 species (with 91 confirmed) in a Vermont highlands block. The Vermont Institute of Natural Science at Woodstock hosted a Conference on Northeastern Atlas Projects in November to facilitate information exchanges between participating or interested states and provinces. In attendance were atlas project leaders from Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Michigan, Ontario and the Atlantic provinces of Canada, as well as from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Proceedings of this meeting, to be available in early 1982, should go a considerable way towards answering the informational void awaiting fulfillment by the North American Ornithological Atlas Committee. The Vermont Atlas results scheduled for publication in late 1982 may also be an inspiration for states with limited resources to initiate their own projects.

LOONS THROUGH HAWKS — A Red-necked Grebe at Essex Jct., on the Winooski R., July 16-27 (MS) represents, to this writer's knowledge, Vermont's first summer record. Double-crested Cormorants continued to be well reported. Nesting on the L. Champlain islands remains to be confirmed although adults continue to summer there in increasing numbers. The Rum Hill Great Blue heronry near Otsego, abandoned last year after shooting by vandals, had 4 nests (H&UK). Notable s. waders included an imm. Little Blue Heron at Ithaca July 28 (DS), a Snowy Egret in nearby Dryden July 25 (DME) and a Yellow-crowned Night Heron at El Dorado Shores July 3 (GS). The Am. Flamingo mentioned previously at Kings Bay on L. Champlain is presumed to have escaped from Quebec's Safari Africa. Although only three reports of secretive Least Bitterns were received from the e. portion of the Region, up to 15 were found at Buck Pond near Rochester. Seven Brant

A Goshawk with exotic taste that attempted to seize a Sulfur-crested Cockatoo in Old Bennington eventually settled for a steady diet of now well established House Finches (H&JT). Can any other region match our record of captive propagation projects for three species? The Bald Eagle hacking program has now been extended to include Oak Orchard W.M.A., where 21 young were released (*vide* VP). Osprey continued to be well reported outside their Adirondack breeding grounds and several were hacked again on the Seneca Indian Reservation in w. New York (*vide* VP). Peregrines from one of the Adirondack hack sites gave more than one unsuspecting but alert observer a thrill. A single pair of Golden Eagles was sighted in the Adirondacks (GL, *vide* H.P.A.S.), the only known breeding area in the e. United States. A Marsh Hawk nest near Nulhegan Pond in E. Brighton (LM), only the fourth record for Vermont, contained three young feeding on a sibling.

GALLIFORMES TO GULLS — Bobwhite from unknown release sources resulted in sightings in Middlesex (RJ) and Tinmouth (GLB), Vt. No viable population is known in that state and the species probably does not deserve its current "introduced" status. Shorebirding was singularly unexciting this summer with little other than the usual array of late departure/early arrival dates worthy of mention. Three Ruddy Turnstones on Button I., June 12 (CJ) were a virtually unprecedented occurrence, but more likely because Vermont birders seldom visit the Champlain Is. than because the birds do not stop regularly in spring migration. Similarly, a Solitary Sandpiper June 25 at Bristol (PZ, BF) or a Pectoral Sandpiper on Colchester Pt., July 16 (MW, DC), while record Vermont dates, are scarcely surprising. Unusual observations included a Ruff July 3 (WB) at Montezuma N.W.R. (where an absence of habitat severely curtailed shorebird use), a Whimbrel at Charlotte July 22-25 (MDa *et al.*), and a Red Phalarope seen mid-route from the Burlington ferry June 13 (PZ *et al.*). Wilson's Phalaropes at Montezuma N.W.R., in early June and Pt. Breeze in mid-July defied seekers of New York's first breeding record for yet another year. A Long-billed Dowitcher at the latter site July 14 (MDa, WL, *vide* R.B.A.) was rather early and 11 Baird's Sandpipers July 28 at Onondaga L. (FS) was an excellent tally. Where had the Black-headed Gull at Irondequoit Bay July 29 (MDa, WS) attempted to summer? The dearth of other rare gulls is surprising in light of the experience of recent years.

ing area at Sand Bar W.M.A., on L. Champlain. Blue-winged Warbler reports outnumbered Golden-winged by more than 15 to 1 in the Rochester area, probably a reflection of things to come for the rest of the Region. More detailed information on the relative abundance of these two species and their hybrids is needed.

Probably owing to Atlasing, more reports than usual of Prairie Warblers were received. The species' distribution appears to be widespread but very spotty, a reflection more, perhaps, of inadequate coverage than lack of birds or habitat. Nestlings found July 24 in Allegany County extended the known nesting date by nearly 3 weeks. Only five Kentucky Warblers were reported, all from w. and c. New York. Atlas workers are cautioned to remember that some boreal breeding warblers (e.g., Blackpoll, Wilson's) may still be migrating through the first half of June. Several midsummer sightings of Tennessee Warblers from mountainous c. Vermont support the belief that the species may be a widespread but erratic breeder in that state.

A **Yellow-headed Blackbird** spent July in Glens Falls (*vide* BC) to delight local observers. A W. Meadowlark summered at Pt. Breeze again (m.ob.). Orchard Orioles, well reported from c. New York, haven't been sighted in Vermont since 1977. A male and "possible female" **Western Tanager** reportedly (RD, R&SG, *vide* WEB) summered at Vine Valley in Yates County this year and may also have been present in the same area in 1979.

FRINGILLIDS — House Finches continue to thrive and now probably outnumber House Sparrows at many localities. Pine Siskins lingered, and probably bred at many locations this summer. Only four Red Crossbill sightings were reported, all without evidence of breeding, and White-winged Crossbills were totally absent. **Clay-colored Sparrows** were identified at Andover and Alfred, N.Y. (EB), the latter location being a known breeding area in the early 1970s. A White-crowned Sparrow at Braddock Bay July 5 (MDa) was very late or early. More nesting Lincoln's Sparrows were found in s.

Vermont (CB, DK) utilizing both high shrubby fields and more typical beaver pond meadows.

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APPALACHIAN REGION

/George A. Hall

"Summertime, and the livin' is easy", so sang the late Gershwin's Bess and it would appear that many observers forgot about looking at birds during this easy-living season. Even though the reports submitted constituted the lowest volume in many reporting periods, there were still a number of items of interest, and even a little excitement.

Temperatures throughout the Region were near normal for the season. In the north at Erie, Pennsylvania, rainfall was normal or a little below, and in the south at Knoxville it was slightly below average, but at places in between the rainfall was unusually heavy. At Pittsburgh, an excess of 4.7 inches fell during the two months, and at Harrisonburg, Virginia, the excess was 3 inches. There was local flooding in places. Much of this rain came during the height of the nesting season, and must surely have had an effect on ground nesting species, although there was no direct evidence of this. On the contrary those reporters who commented felt that the nesting season was successful. The heavy July rains did wipe out most of the mudflat locations, and so shorebirding was generally not good, although the usual hotspots produced some good records.

As has been the custom in the last two summer reports, this account deviates from the routine following of the Checklist order and instead discusses a series of special topics.

SHIFTS IN BREEDING RANGES — For several years our attention has been drawn to the steady movement S of species usually thought to be "northern" in their distribution. There appears to be no let-up in this trend. Outstanding in this respect was the Yellow-rumped Warbler. The population, previously thought to be isolated, on

Gaudineer Knob in the Cheat Mountains of West Virginia was at an all-time high level (GAH), and in late June adults were seen carrying food, as if feeding young, although no young were seen (GB). The species was found also on Spruce Knob, W.Va., June 27 (RR), in Shenandoah N.P., Va., June 14 (LT), at Ligonier, Pa., June 27 (AD), and at Bear Meadows, Centre Co., Pa., June 19 (RW), and it nested at Black Moshannon S.P., Pa. (DP *et al.*). Two other n. warblers that seem to be moving S are the Nashville, found at 4 locations near State College, Pa., during June (RW & SB), and present at Erie all through June (JM), and the Mourning Warbler, adult and young seen near State College (MM), and three heard on a Breeding Bird Survey (hereafter, B.B.S.) route near Lock Haven, Pa. (PS), where only one was recorded in the previous 7 years. The Tennessee Warbler continues to present a puzzle. For some years at Powdermill Nature Reserve, Pa. (hereafter, P.N.R.) one or two very early Tennessees have been captured, and often they are in molt. This has suggested an unknown breeding population of a species that is not known to nest s. of n. New York. This year the first individual (migrant?) was banded at P.N.R., July 14 (RCL), but even more baffling were the reports from Allegheny County, Pa., June 18 (*vide* PH) and Westmoreland County, Pa., June 27 (AD). Are these simply stragglers? Two Solitary



Vireos were present throughout the period at Union City, Erie Co., Pa (JM), and a singing male was found in Butler County, Pa., June 27 (PB).

Two species which staged heavy S flights last winter also produced some s. summer records. Red-breasted Nuthatches were reported from Centre and Huntingdon cos., Pa. (RW), Monroeville, Pa. (BZ), Shenandoah Mt., Va. (LT), the "Barrens" of Augusta County, Va. (RR), Linville, N.C. (JA), and on the Blue Ridge Parkway in North Carolina (RRu). There was no indication of nesting at any of these places. On the other hand Pine Siskins apparently did nest near Caledonia S.P., Pa., where young birds were seen July 9 & 10 (CG). Other summer records for this species were at Knoxville (BS, R&AHO), Blue Ridge Parkway, N.C. (JY), Marietta, O. (JS), State College, Pa. (KJ), P.N.R., where birds with brood patches had been captured

in May, but which disappeared in June (RCL), and several other s.w. Pennsylvania records (PH).

A Winter Wren apparently nested near Black Moshannon S.P., Pa. (CS) and for the second year a singing ♂ Dark-eyed Junco was found in Centre County, Pa. (RW).

No report came in on the status of the Yellow-bellied Flycatchers which have been nesting for several years in the Mt. Rogers, Va., area. The new population of Alder Flycatchers on Roan Mt., Tenn., was at somewhat lower levels than in earlier years (GE). This species was found in Haywood County, N.C. (MH), and moved this year into the L. Arthur, Pa., area where the Willow Flycatcher occurs (PH). The Willow Flycatcher continues to do well in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia (R.B.C., RS), and was found in Jackson County, N.C. (MH) and Mercer County, W.Va. (JP).

In 1979 and again this year a ♂ House Wren at Dalton, Ga., filled bird boxes with nesting material, but failed to attract a mate (HW, *vide* AH). Rose-breasted Grosbeaks were present through the period in Triadelphia, W.Va. (GP), and Swannanoa, N.C. (RRu).

Finally, note must be taken of the long list of "northern" species that are turning up in cool hemlock-covered ravines on the glaciated Appalachian Plateau in n.e. Ohio. This summer at Mohican S.F., Ashland Co., territorial males of Winter Wren, Hermit Thrush, Veery, Solitary Vireo, Magnolia, Black-throated Blue, Chestnut-sided and Canada warblers and Rose-breasted Grosbeak were found (BP, JB, SM). Some of these species may have been in these areas for several years, but until recently little work has been done there.

There was not as much news this year about the N advance of s. species. Such old standbys as the Red-bellied Woodpecker, White-eyed Vireo and Yellow-throated Warbler continue to increase to the n. The woodpecker nested for the first time in Erie County (DS), but in Crawford County the population seems to have leveled off (RFL). New reports came of Summer Tanager at State College (MW), Worm-eating Warbler in Warren County, Pa. (JK), and Blue Grosbeak in several e. Ohio localities (BP). Of special interest was the Red-cockaded Woodpecker, which again nested in Great Smoky Mountains N.P. (MH).

SWALLOWS — The Tree Swallow continues to move S as well as increase in numbers n. Populations were up in Greene County, Pa. (RB), at P.N.R. (RCL), and in Warren County, Pa., the *Operation Bluebird* boxes fledged $350 \pm$ young (*cf.* 300 in 1980). Nestings were successful near Harrisonburg, Va. (R.B.C.) and Waynesboro, Va. (RS), while the species nested in Buncombe County, N.C. (second state nesting—BD), and in Jackson County, O. (BP).

Of great interest was the apparent resurgence of the Cliff Swallow. A colony of 50 nests was found on the Kinzua Dam, Warren Co., Pa. (WH), with 16 nests upstream from that dam (TG); 150 pairs nested on a farm in Holmes County, O. (JB), and 20 pairs in Hocking County, O. (BP). Cliff Swallows were seen at Bristol, Va., July 6 (JH).

BLUE LIST SPECIES AND CANDIDATES — The E. Bluebird continues to do poorly. In Warren County, Pa., *Operation Bluebird* fledged only $385 \pm$ young—down from 444 in 1980 (WH). As mentioned in previous reports the increase in Tree Swallows in these boxes is greatly affecting the bluebird. In Rockingham County, Va., 100 nest boxes fledged $160 \pm$ young (R.B.C.).

The grassland sparrows have generally been considered to be in some difficulty and Grasshopper and Vesper sparrows remain in low numbers at most places. However, the Henslow's Sparrow has shown signs of a modest comeback in Pennsylvania. Observers at Montour County (SS) and Clarksville (RB) reported several each, and they were in greater than usual numbers in Erie County (JM), but the most interesting report was of a colony of $20 \pm$ pairs in one field at P.N.R., where they have been scarce or absent for a decade (RCL).

Carolina Wrens have made an almost complete comeback in the s. but are still below normal in the n. The breeding population of Golden-crowned Kinglets in the high country of West Virginia seemed about fully recovered from the low of a few years ago (GAH), and this species, too, showed some S extension of its breeding range, nesting in Centre and Huntingdon (first time) cos., Pa. (RW). The Yellow-breasted Chat brought mixed reports, being unusually common at Bald Eagle S.P., Pa. (RW), highest count ever on a B.B.S. route near Fulton and Bedford cos., Pa. (CG), and increased populations near Harrisonburg, Pa. (R.B.C.), but still very low in the Morgantown area (GAH); two B.B.S. routes in w. Pennsylvania were 58% and 64% below average. The Yellow Warbler was essentially unmentioned by the reporters. Does this mean they are gone or that they are in no trouble? Some other Blue List species are mentioned in the species accounts that follow.

LOONS THROUGH HERONS — An unusual number of Com. Loons remained through the summer at various places with the southernmost coming from Kingston, Tenn. (m.ob.). Possibly the bird of the season was a dark-phase W. Grebe seen and photographed at Mountain Lake P., Md., June 11 (FP). Double-crested Cormorants near Cumberland, Md., June 5 (KH), and Richmond Furnace, Pa., June 20-24 (CG) were unusual.



Western Grebe, Broadford Res., Garrett Co., Md., first documented state record. Photo/Craig Phillips.

A new nesting colony comprising 23 Great Blue Heron nests was discovered near Warren, Pa. (TG), making 8 colonies with 79-84 nests within 18 mi of that location (WH). Another new colony of 30-40 nests was found in Crawford County, Pa. (RFL), and there was a colony of 18 nests near Wooster, O. (JB). Colonies of Black-crowned Night Herons in the Knoxville area were up 30-40% over 1980 numbers (BPu), while a canoe trip over 5 mi of the S. Fork of the Shenandoah R., Va., produced 21 Green Herons (R.B.C.). This species was also in good numbers at Pymatuning L., Pa. (RFL), P.N.R. (RCL), and at Dalton, Ga. (AH). There were fewer than the usual late summer reports of Great Egret, and none of Snowy Egret. Little Blue Herons were reported from Presque Isle S.P., Pa. (hereafter, P.I.S.P.), July 29 (JF), the Potomac R., in e. West Virginia, several June 15+ (CM), Roanoke July 24 (MP), and two July 3 at Knoxville (PP). Yellow-crowned Night Herons apparently nested near Elizabethton, Tenn. (GE), and Waynesboro, Va. (RS *et al.*), while one was sighted on the Blue Ridge Parkway near Blowing Rock, N.C., July 29 (00). The usually unreported Least Bittern was found at Conneaut L., Pa., July 7 (RFL), P.N.R., July 16 (RCL), Harrisonburg (found dead) June 5 (R.B.C.), Shenandoah L., Va., June 9 (LT), and Surgoinsville, Tenn., all season (WJ). A White Ibis was seen near Ft. Loudon, Pa., July 26 (BB).

WATERFOWL — At Pymatuning L., the Canada Goose population was estimated at 2700 with 60% young birds (RFL). Broods of geese were reported from many areas, even as far s. as Dalton, Ga. (AH), and in many respects this heavily managed species has almost a domestic status. A Mute Swan remained at Colyer L., Pa., throughout the summer (MW).

Two broods of Hooded Mergansers were seen in Erie County, Pa., the first confirmed nestings there in recent years (JM, SSI, JSI), and a brood was seen at the Killbuck W.M.A., near Wooster, O. (JB). Several broods of Com. Mergansers were seen on the Allegheny R., near Warren and Tidioute, Pa. (*vide* WH).

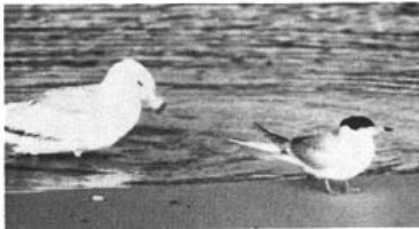
RAPTORS — There was general agreement that Sharp-shinned, Cooper's, and Red-tailed hawks had good nesting seasons. The Goshawk did not return to nest near State College where it had done so in 1980 (RW). At Crawford County, Pa., the five young Bald Eagles (including one transplanted) mentioned in the spring report all fledged successfully. Immature Bald Eagles were sighted at Bald Eagle S.P., Pa. (RW), Kinzua L., Pa. (JHa), Saegertown, Pa. (RFL), L. Arthur, Pa. (DF), while adults were seen at Norris L., Tenn. (JHo), and Rogersville, Tenn. (WJ). At Watts L., Tenn., 3 Osprey nests fledged four young. There were scattered reports of summering Ospreys throughout the Region. The most exciting raptor record of the season was of a Swallow-tailed Kite near Shippensburg, Pa., June 15 (RP).

RAILS AND SHOREBIRDS — Four or five Virginia Rails were reported from Con-

neaut, Pa., July 19 (RFL), Athens, W.Va., July 9 (JP), and Columbiana and Guernsey cos., O., July 5 & 25 respectively (BP).

The earliest signs of the S shorebird migration were July 3 at Kingston, Tenn. (SS), and July 5 at Pymatuning L. (RFL), but within a week most suitable shorebird locations had birds. The migration had not built up to very large numbers by the end of July, and the wet weather had decreased the suitable habitat in many places. The most unusual records were of Piping Plover at P.I.S.P., July 27 (J & BG); 3 reports of Whimbrel there June 11 & 13 (C & ZK, SSI), July 24 (BG), July 29 (DS & JF); Willet at Roanoke July 8 (MP & NM), Marbled Godwit at Kingston July 16 (first July record—SS,M&LA), Ruff at Sunbury, Pa., July 20 (SSt), and Am. Avocet in Wayne County, O., July 10 & 14 (JB). Other interesting records were of White-rumped Sandpiper at Kingston July 10-16 (S&BS, M&LA), P.I.S.P., July 29 (DS), Baird's Sandpiper at Kingston July 19 (CN) and P.I.S.P., July 25 (JM&JF), W. Sandpiper P.I.S.P., July 25 (JM&JF), and Stuart's Draft, Va., July 2 (YL); and Stilt Sandpiper at Kingston July 16 & 31 (B&SS) and five Aug. 2 (MA), Allegheny County, Pa., July 17 (DF), and 12 in Wayne County, O., July 25 (JB).

GULLS THROUGH OWLS — The gull explosion has reached the interior with 600± Ring-billed Gulls present at Pymatuning L., where in past years none would be found in summer (RFL). A Glaucous Gull was present at P.I.S.P., July 8 & 18 (DFI & JF). Caspian Terns were at Bald Eagle S.P., Pa., June 6 & 9, but much more unusual there were three Forster's Terns (photographed June 9 (RW)).



Forster's Tern, Bald Eagle S.P., Pa., June 9, 1981. Photo/Rick Wiltraut.

The Yellow-billed Cuckoo continued to thrive on gypsy moth larva in c. Pennsylvania, and on tent caterpillars in the s.w., but Black-billed Cuckoos were generally thought to be scarce.

Screech Owls in w. Pennsylvania and n. West Virginia have not recovered their numbers from the severe winters of a few years ago and remain scarce. A Saw-whet Owl was seen along the Blue Ridge Parkway in Jackson County, N.C., May 25 (BH). Barn Owls fledged six young in Erie County (SSI) and also nested at Princeton, W.Va. (JP), and Harrisonburg, Va. (R.B.C.). A Short-eared Owl at P.I.S.P., June 11 was unusual (C&ZK).

GOATSUCKERS TO CHICKADEES — In w. Pennsylvania several areas commented on the low numbers of Com. Nighthawks. The Chuck-will's-widow has only recently moved in numbers into s.w. Virginia but a total of 18 was found w. of Fincastle June 13 (BK).

There were several encouraging reports of Red-headed Woodpeckers: a pair and another adult in Montour and Northumberland cos., Pa., July 5 (SSt), a nesting near State College (KJ), two nestings and several other sightings in Rockingham County, Va. (R.B.C.), but one at Alcoa, Tenn., July 5 (MD) was the only one reported from that area. An Olive-sided Flycatcher at Mohican S.P., O., June 6 (JB) was undoubtedly a late migrant rather than an addition to the boreal species found nesting at that location. The first migrant Yellow-bellied Flycatcher was netted at P.N.R., July 31 (RCL).

The Com. Raven was found near Highland, Warren County, Pa., June 11 (TG) & July 9 (WH). For the second year in a row Fish Crows were found in the State College area in summer (RW). There were numerous sightings of Black-capped Chickadees in the Shenandoah Valley (R.B.C.) where normally we expect only the Carolina Chickadee.

THRUSHES THROUGH WARBLERS — Early captures of Swainson's Thrushes at P.N.R., July 23 & 30 (RCL) present the same intriguing possibility as early Tennessee Warblers mentioned above.

A pair of Loggerhead Shrikes nested at Knoxville (PHa) and another pair in Campbell County, Tenn. (JHo) represented the first summer records there for several years. This species has declined throughout the Region, almost without notice.

There were 3 or 4 nesting sites (one with five pairs) of Swainson's Warblers near Elizabethton, Tenn. (RL). The decline of the Golden-winged Warbler with the concomitant increase of the Blue-winged Warbler continues in w. Pennsylvania, n. West Virginia, and e. Tennessee. A total of 13 Blue-wingeds was recorded on a B.B.S. route in n. West Virginia (RB). A pair of Blue-wingeds was found near Waynesboro, Va. (YL), a region where the Golden-winged is currently doing well (LT). "Brewster's" Warbler hybrids were reported from Allegheny County, Pa. (DF), and at Bald Eagle S.P., Pa., a ♂ "Brewster's" was found mated to a ♀ Golden-winged (RW). Two Pine Warblers



Male Brewster's Warbler near nest, Bald Eagle S.P., Pa., June 9, 1981. Photo/Rick Wiltraut.

were seen in Allegheny County June 13 (DF). A migrant Am. Redstart was at State College July 30 (MW).

ICTERIDS AND FRINGILLIDS — Bobolinks were reported as very common and increasing in the Ligonier Valley of Pennsylvania where they had been rare (RCL). A Dickcissel was found near Swope, Va. (YL). House Finch continues to increase and it has become a common bird in the city

of Pittsburgh (KP). Young birds were found at Johnson City, Tenn. (GE). The only records of Red Crossbills came from the nesting area on Shenandoah Mt., Va. (R.B.C.) and from Great Smoky Mountains N.P. (CN). Savannah Sparrows at 3 locations in the c. Shenandoah Valley indicated the continued S expansion of this species (R.B.C.). Song Sparrows are on the increase in e. Tennessee where 83 were counted on one B.B.S. route (CN).

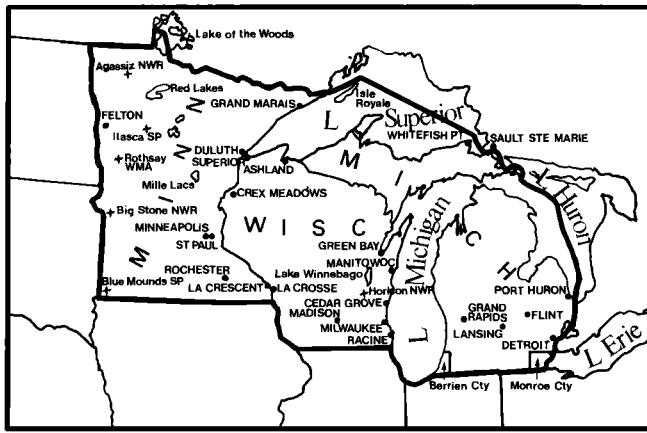
CORRIGENDUM — The Saw-whet Owl reported from Bickell's Knob Randolph County, W.Va. (AB 35: 183 (1981)) was actually seen on Bickett's Knob, Monroe County (DW).

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WESTERN GREAT LAKES REGION

/Daryl D. Tessen

Weather varied within the Region this summer. Michigan had weather close to the norm, with few extremes of either temperature or precipitation. Minnesota had an unusually cool and wet June (*i.e.*, Duluth had rain on 28 of 30 days). July alternated between hot, dry and cool, wet conditions. Wisconsin's weather proved even more variable. The northeastern quarter had almost no rain during the summer, except for the last few days of July. By contrast most of the remainder had too much rainfall. June was



generally cool but there were periods of 90°F. However July was unusually hot and exceptionally humid. There were many 90°-98° days, often accompanied by heavy (3-9 inches) of very localized rainfall. In fact both Wisconsin and Minnesota had exceptionally heavy but localized rainfall during July. The unusual number of rainy days played havoc with some of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Breeding Bird Surveys. Mosquitoes were unusually abundant this summer in Minnesota and most of Wisconsin. The exception was again the northeastern section, where one pest, the mosquito, was replaced with another, the deer fly. Coverage for Wisconsin and Michigan was about average but Minnesota had an unusually low number of reporters.

This summer proved to be an ornithological high, in direct contrast to the ornithological drought of the past several summers. Certainly the headliner for the period was the juvenile Wilson's Plover at Duluth. Where did this bird come from? This was closely followed by Michigan's first Black-bellied Whistling Duck and Wisconsin's first Western Wood Pewee and California Gull. In addition there were summer Brant in Michigan and Minnesota and a King Eider in Michigan, summering Louisiana Heron at Wisconsin's Horicon National Wildlife Refuge, and the first nesting Northern Three-toed Woodpeckers in Minnesota. Add to this a variety of other unusual sightings including one disoriented adult White-crowned Sparrow in southwestern Minnesota and what follows is an ornithological treat. In the text following, place names in *italics* are counties.

LOONS THROUGH IBISES — Common Loons were seen farther s. than usual in Wisconsin, as witnessed by the individual at LaCrosse until July 4 (FL) and a successful nesting in *Monroe* (m.ob.). Most surprising was the appearance of 12 Red-throated Loons at Duluth July 3 (DRu, BP). This represents Minnesota's third summer record Wisconsin's Red-necked Grebes continue to nest at 3 localities, Oakridge L. (three pairs), Grassy L. (one pair) and Rush L., where 55 adults and 11 young were counted June 11 (TZ). A Horned Grebe was seen at the Saginaw R. Diked Disposal Project (hereafter, S.R.D.D.P.) in Saginaw Bay, Mich., June 17 (THo). Two Eared Grebes were at the Muskegon Wastewater System (hereafter, M.W.S.) June 21-27 (JP, GW *et al.*) The three that appeared at Rush L.,

during late May lingered into June, with the last seen June 11 (TZ). Western Grebes were found in all 3 states. In Michigan single birds appeared at M.W.S., June 21, July 14-15 (GW, JP, JH, SM). One was at Duluth July 4 (KE, S&DM). Five were observed off Wisconsin Pt., Superior, June 3 including two performing their courtship dance with two also found June 26 (RJ).

White Pelicans appeared in all 3 states. One was at Crex Meadows W.M.A., June 10-17 (JHo) and nine resided on Horicon N.W.R., during the last half of July (staff). Two were observed in *Emmet*, Mich., June 21 (PY), while Minnesota had out of range birds at Boulder L., during July (THa). The nesting expansion of the Double-crested Cormorant in Wisconsin continues at a phenomenal rate. The current nesting population exceeds all previous recorded data (TE). Typifying this expansion are the 700 ± nests now on Green Bay (300+ nests last year) and the 120+ nests on Gull I., L. Superior (30 last year). Minnesota's southern heron picture was less than encouraging. Little Blues, Snowies and Cattles were again at Big Stone N.W.R., but no nesting evidence could be found, in contrast to previous years. However a Little Blue nest was discovered June 6 at L. Johanna (NH). Yellow-crowned Night Herons were located at 3 places, with a nest at Pigs Eye L., near St. Paul. In contrast Wisconsin's heron picture was the most encouraging since the mid-1970s. This was especially due to the habitat restoration/modification at Horicon N.W.R. By the end of the period it was possible to see 11 heron species there.

Little Blues were at Mead W.M.A., July 10-11 (DF, K&JL) and late July at Horicon. Cattle Egrets nested at Green Bay (13-15 pairs—TE) and Horicon. One pair of Snowy Egrets also nested at Green Bay (TE) with additional sightings occurring at Horicon (period, m.ob.) and Grand River Marsh (July 18 (TZ *et al.*)). Louisiana Herons summered at Horicon N.W.R. (m.ob.). Several Yellow-crowned Night Herons could be found there during the summer with nesting suspected. Successful nesting occurred in *Outagamie* (JA), *Waupaca* and *Milwaukee*. In addition one was seen at Hudson July 20 (SR). Least Bitterns were unusually abundant in Wisconsin marshes, especially in the e.c. portion of the state. In contrast Am. Bitterns were down in numbers in both Wisconsin and Minnesota.

WATERFOWL — Mute Swans continue to expand their nesting range in Michigan. Beside the 150-200 in *Grand Traverse* and *Antrim*, successful nesting also occurred in *Allegan*, *Kalamazoo*, *Macomb* and *Muskegon*. Wisconsin's Ashland colony continues a slow expansion. In addition a pair summered at Superior (RJ). In Minnesota Whistling Swans appeared June 2 at Agassiz

N W R (JPe, AM) and July 2 at Duluth (KE) while Wisconsin had single birds at Crex Meadows M.W.A., July 1-3 (JH) and on Green Bay July 30 (TE, JT). Most unusual was the appearance of **Brant** in the Region Eight were observed June 1 at Whitefish Pt. Bird Observatory, Mich. (hereafter, W.P.B.O.) by Jorae and Lewis. At Duluth Hojnacki found a pair June 20. It remained until July 1 during which time it was seen and photographed by many birders. Michigan had two additional outstanding finds within this group. A **Black-bellied Whistling Duck** was seen and photographed in *Kalamazoo* July 25 (LG, RA, DP). This represents Michigan's first record. In addition that state's first summer record for **King Eider** occurred when one was seen and photographed June 17 at S.R.D.D.P. (JB, THo, BR, RR). Wisconsin had less spectacular finds within this group, highlighted by a ♂ **Cinnamon Teal**, possibly a pair, photographed at Horicon N.W.R., June 19 (RB, MC). Canvasbacks were found in 5 counties, a Greater Scaup was at Manitowoc June 18 (SR, DT), Lesser Scaups summered at Milwaukee (GC *et al.*) and Manitowoc (CS) and were noted in 4 additional counties. An out-of-range Com Goldeneye was at Kaukauna July 27 (DT)

HAWKS — A June 10 Turkey Vulture at Sibley S.P. (EB) was away from its normal breeding range in Minnesota. A late migrating Rough-legged Hawk was found in Michigan's *Crawford* June 1 (DR). Another tardy migrant was the Peregrine Falcon at Duluth June 3 (JPe, AM). The encouraging breeding hawk picture noted last summer for Wisconsin continued again this year (TE). There were 35 confirmed Goshawk nests, including new breeding sites in *Brown*, *Shawano* and *Monroe*. Nesting activity/productivity was also up for the Sharp-shinned, Cooper's and Broad-winged. In the case of the Cooper's, of 30 nests checked about half failed owing to raccoon and especially Great Horned Owl predation. Only the Red-shouldered showed a decrease from last year, but that encouragingly was only slight. The Bald Eagle and Osprey had excellent productivity in the state although figures were not available at this time.

GROUSE THROUGH RAILS — A Spruce Grouse was found in the usual *Forest* location in Wisconsin June 29 (RSp). Minnesota found Sharp-tailed Grouse numbers down with Bobwhite appearing in 2 unexpected s.w. counties, *Rock* and *Jackson*. In Wisconsin a King Rail was observed on the *Oconto-Brown* line July 30 (TE, JT). Michigan found Virginia Rail numbers to be down considerably while Michigan found almost an identical situation for the Sora. In Michigan's Upper Peninsula (hereafter, U.P.) Yellow Rails were found in *Luce* and *Schoolcraft* with four July 2 (PY) and three July 8 (EL, WR) respectively. Wisconsin reported none this summer, while Minnesota made no comment about them. Undoubtedly limited coverage by birders is a prime factor in failing to record this species.

SHOREBIRDS — The unseasonably cool May produced a later-than-usual shorebird migration. This was especially evident in

Wisconsin with 21 migratory species recorded June 1-11. Superior had several interesting sightings June 3, including 250+ Ruddy Turnstones, a Whimbrel and two Red Knots (RJ). Mead W.M.A., also had several good sightings, all June 6, that included Willet, W. Sandpiper, Marbled Godwit and two N. Phalaropes (SR, K&JL *et al.*). During this early period White-rumped were found in 10 counties, Baird's and Least in 3, Dunlin in 6 and Semipalmated Sandpipers in 11. Various species appeared during the duration of the summer indicating wandering, summering, and/or early fall migratory individuals. Piping Plovers again nested on Long I. Three record early Am. Golden Plover sightings included July 3 & 11 at Horicon N.W.R. (DG, DT) and three at Fond du Lac July 12 (ST).

A Ruddy Turnstone summered at Manitowoc (CS). A Whimbrel appeared July 30 at Milwaukee (BC, ST). Very unusual were Solitary Sandpipers in *Chippewa* and *Eau Claire* June 24 & 28 respectively (JPo). A Willet was at Two Rivers June 13 (DT). Very late was a Greater Yellowlegs at Rush L., June 19 (TZ) with Lesser Yellowlegs appearing June 16 in *Racine* (NC) and June 24 in *Chippewa* (JPo) and *Winnebago* (CSc). A Red Knot was in Milwaukee July 8-12 (GC, DG) and one was at Horicon N.W.R., July 11 (DT). Pectoral Sandpipers were already at Horicon N.W.R., June 26 (DG). Dunlin remained at Ashland until July 18 (RV). Western Sandpipers were found at Port Wing June 7 (LE), July 26 at Milwaukee (JFr) and July 28 at Manitowoc (CS). Hudsonian Godwits were in *Polk* (WM) and *Barron* (AG) June 7. An Am. Avocet was at Horicon N.W.R., July 4 (DG) with possibly the same bird seen at Milwaukee July 8 (GC). Two N. Phalaropes were at Horicon July 17 (DT).

Michigan had a lower number of late spring migratory species. Most interesting seasonal sightings included a Whimbrel July 22 in *Iosco* (JB), single Willets at New Buffalo June 6, 13 & July 11 (RS), a White-rumped Sandpiper at W.P.B.O., June 28 (DP, TS) and three Dunlin at Nayanguing Pt., June 27 (JB *et al.*). The Muskegon W.S. had W. Sandpipers July 14 (GW) and four July 17 (JF, TH). A tardy Hudsonian Godwit was at W.P.B.O., June 1 (MJ, ML). The Detroit area had its first nesting record for Wilson's Phalarope with the discovery of a nest at Pt. Mouillee State Game Area. Four N. Phalaropes were seen June 2 in *Iosco* (PY).

Minnesota had several unusual sightings. Far outclassing everything was the unprecedented appearance of a juv. Wilson's Plover at Duluth July 4. It was initially discovered

by Eckert and the Millards, seen and photographed by others later that day. An extensive search the following day failed to relocate it. This represents Minnesota's first record. Unusual were Solitary Sandpipers in *Cook* June 11-27 (K&MH) and at Scenic S.P., June 16 (TL). Willets were seen in 4 counties during the period, *Lac Qui Parle*, *Wilkin*, *Traverse* and *Pennington*. Five Buff-breasted Sandpipers were seen July 25 in *Traverse* (RJa). A Marbled Godwit was at Heron L. in s.w. Minnesota June 24-26 (SMa). An Am. Avocet was at Duluth June 6 (DGr *et al.*). It was also seen at Moorhead, Thief River Falls and Big Stone N.W.R., during the season, and may have nested. Out of its normal range in the state was a Wilson's Phalarope at Duluth July 4-19 (JG,KE).

GULLS THROUGH TERNS — A partially decayed Long-tailed Jaeger was found July 18 at Michigan's Waughoshanee Pt., by Young and Carhart. Immature Glaucous Gulls were in Milwaukee June 23 (RB,MC) and Manitowoc June 28 (CS) and July 18 (JS). An imm. California Gull was seen in Madison June 30 by D. Johnson. If accepted by the state records committee this would represent Wisconsin's first record. Indicative of the expansion of the Ring-billed Gull throughout the Region were 60,000 at Michigan's S.R.D.D.P., June 17 (JB *et al.*). Laughing and Franklin's gulls also were seen in the state. Laughing Gulls were at St. Joseph June 5 (WB) and Harsen's I., June 23 (PY). Franklin's Gulls were also found at St. Joseph June 6 & 13 (WB) and in *Muskegon* June 15 & 30 (GW). Wisconsin had Laughing Gulls at Manitowoc where four were present June 15-28 (CS,DT,SR), a surprising inland record from *Marathon* June 21 (K&JL) and one on the *Oconto-Brown* line July 30 (TE,JT). Franklin's were in Milwaukee June 13 (DT), six intermittently June 15-July 31+ at Manitowoc (CS) and up to two at LaCrosse June 4-July 12 (FL). Little Gulls were again at Manitowoc—Two Rivers this summer, but in contrast to previous years only four were seen with no nesting attempted (JS,CS). Milwaukee had at least 11 birds commencing in late June (m.ob.).

Except for the Forster's, Wisconsin's tern picture continued to be less than optimistic. Only 2 colonies of Commons now exist in the state, one at Ashland, which had 58 pairs (MM) and one on Green Bay with 75 pairs (TE). The latter produced only six young! Black Tern productivity was low—as it was last summer. There are at least 5 Forster's Tern colonies in Wisconsin, with the L. Poygan colony consisting of 111 nests on artificial platforms (MM). On Michigan's Saginaw Bay 2000 Common Terns were counted June 17 (JB *et al.*). A well-described Arctic Tern was in *Bay* June 9 (PY). Minnesota had 5 Caspian Tern reports during the period, this for a species that is normally not seen there in summer.

CUCKOOS THROUGH OWLS — Numbers for both cuckoo species were down considerably in Michigan and Wisconsin. A ♀ Snowy Owl appeared in Wisconsin's *Clark* during May. It remained there until June 15 (K&JL *et al.*). On June 17 the bird was photographed in *Langlade* (H&NR). One

was in Michigan's U.P., at the W.P.B.O., June 2 (MJ, ML). There were seven reports of Great Gray Owls from 4 Minnesota counties. The large number that nested during 1980 in *Aitkin* did not nest this summer. Documentation for this species for sightings in Wisconsin's n. and n.c. areas is still forthcoming. Both Wisconsin and Minnesota are beginning to find Saw-whet Owls s. of their normal breeding range during the summer.

GOATSUCKERS THROUGH STARLINGS — At least three Chuck-will's-widows were calling during the summer in Michigan's *Kalamazoo*, where they have been present for 6 years (RA,DP). Unusually far n.e. was a Red-bellied Woodpecker at Duluth June 6 (DGr). Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker nests were discovered at 3 Wisconsin localities, Spooner (VB), Morse (LG) and *Bayfield* (DC). Additional birds were seen near Spooner and in *Forest* (DT). Minnesota was excited about its first Northern Three-toed Woodpecker nest located June 26 in *Cook* (KE *et al.*). Another indi-



Male N. Three-toed Woodpecker at nest, Cook County, Minn., July, 1981. Photo/Marj Carr.

vidual was seen June 2 in *Lake of the Woods* (JP,AM). Two W. Kingbirds were near Munising, Mich., June 22-July 9 (MG,PY). Its numbers were reported up in Minnesota. A Scissor-tailed Flycatcher was at Michigan's Pictorial Rocks Nat'l Lakeshore during June (m.ob.). Far s. of its normal breeding range was an Alder Flycatcher at Black Dog L., Minn., during June-July (m.ob.). A Western Wood Pewee was studied at leisure (including its song) at Port Wing, Wis., June 9 (LE). If accepted by the state records committee this would provide Wisconsin's first record.

An early fall concentration of 50,000 Tree Swallows was seen along a 4-mi stretch in *Anika*, Minn., July 30 (KL.a). A Black-billed Magpie in *Itasca* June 27 (TL, TSo) was farther e. than normal. Red-breasted Nuthatches were found in c. Minnesota and c. and s. Wisconsin, far s. of its normal range. Winter Wrens were likewise found s. of their breeding range in all 3 states this summer. Michigan had the only Carolina Wrens with birds in *Wayne* July 18-19 (TC,HH). The only Mockingbird found in the Region was one at White Pine, Mich., June 3 (JM). Probably an early fall migrant was the Swainson's Thrush in Milwaukee July 29-30 (WW). A June 7 sighting of a Water Pipit at Port Wing, Wis.



Wilson's Plover, Duluth, Minn., July 4, 1981. Photo/Marj Carr.

(LE) represents a record departure date. Both Wisconsin and Minnesota had unusually large numbers of Cedar Waxwings. The dismal spring picture for the Loggerhead Shrike continued this summer. The only nest to be found in Wisconsin was in n.w. *Eau Claire* (JPo). Single birds were seen in *Marquette* (EP) and *Columbia* (CG), but none appeared at their *Sauk* nesting sites of the past 30 years. Michigan had one in *Mis-saukee* June 30 (PY) with none reported from Minnesota.

VIREOS THROUGH WARBLERS — A White-eyed Vireo was in Milwaukee June 2-3 (BC, DG). Bell's Vireos were more numerous than usual in Minnesota. Besides the usual Kellogg site, birds were in *Rice* June 3-8 (KJ) and six were found along the Minnesota R., between Black Dog L. and Fort Snelling S.P. (m.ob.). This species was found at its usual Wisconsin locations of *Grant*, *Dane* and *Rock*. A Yellow-throated Vireo at Duluth July 3 (KE) was n. of its usual range. A total of 2-4 nesting pairs of Worm-eating Warblers was found in Hemlock Draw and Baxter's Hollow in *Sauk*, Wis. (m.ob.). One wonders how many might be discovered in s. and s.w. Wisconsin in the numerous wooded ravines that lace this part of the state, if the area could be extensively covered. One was in *Berrien*, Mich., June 6 (WB). A tardy Tennessee Warbler was in *Kalamazoo* June 16 (BE). For Wisconsin several range extensions occurred within this family. These included Magnolia, Blackburnian and Canada warblers in *Sauk*, Cape May in *Taylor*, and Palm in *Lincoln* (SR *et al.*).

A Yellow-throated Warbler was present during most of June at Wyalusing S.P., Wis. (JPo *et al.*). One was located in *Berrien* July 4 & 11 (WB, RS). A Bay-breasted Warbler nest in *Cook* represented one of Minnesota's few nesting records for this species (K&MH). Puzzling was the appearance of several Blackpoll Warblers in the Region during the summer. One was present in Wisconsin's *Douglas* until June 23 (RJ) but an apparent family group of six in *Price* July 11 was hard to explain (MH). Minnesota had a male July 18 in *Aitkin* (WN) which was probably an exceptionally early fall migrant. The Prairie Warblers discovered in Wisconsin's e. *Fond du Lac* in early May were present at least until mid-June (DT). A Kentucky Warbler was in *Kalamazoo*, Mich., July 8 (RA) with this species present at Wyalusing S.P., in *Dane*, *Sauk* and *Monroe* in Wisconsin. Connecticut Warblers were up in numbers in their nesting territory in Minnesota. In Michigan two birds near Lovells were s. of their usual range. The Yellow-breasted Chat, rare in Minnesota, was found at Black Dog L. (m.ob.) and near Fort Snelling S.P. (MW). Wisconsin had one during the summer in *Monroe* (MP, EE) and at least six pairs in the Beloit area (TEL). A Hooded Warbler was present all summer at Prior L., Minn. (m.ob.) while Wisconsin had its usual nesting birds in *Sauk* and *Waukesha*. Most unusual was a Wilson's Warbler at the Schlitz Audubon Center at Milwaukee June 14-21 (JFr).

ORIOLES THROUGH SPARROWS — The Detroit area had its first nesting record for the Yellow-headed Blackbird while in-

creased numbers were noted in Minnesota. A family of Rusty Blackbirds, including three fledged young, was observed in Minnesota's *Cook* June 29 (K&MH). No nest has as yet been found. A ♂ Summer Tanager was seen at Crosby, Minn. (SB), with one June 6 in *Berrien* (WB). Unusual was a Cardinal found n.e. of Duluth at the Knife R., June 1 (JE). A Black-headed Grosbeak at Madison June 30 (DJ) represented Wisconsin's first summer record. Johnson also had a Blue Grosbeak at LaCrosse July 4. Dickcissels were found in considerably lower numbers than last summer. Michigan had its first nesting House Finch with a confirmed nest in *Oakland* (ETC, EC) and a suspected nesting in *Berrien* (RS). A pair of Pine Grosbeaks July 2 in *Vilas* (RSp) represented only the fourth Wisconsin summer record. Pine Siskins lingered into June at Afton and Cedar Creek Bog, Minn., in *Wayne*, *Oakland* and *St. Clair*, Mich., and during the period at Green Bay and Appleton, Wis. Unusually far s. were four Red Crossbills July 22 at West Allis, Wis. (DG).

Henslow's Sparrows were found away from their localized s.e. Minnesota habitat. This included Afton S.P. (BH), *Wilkin* (JE) and *Becker* (RJa). Le Conte's Sparrow was found in above-normal numbers in Minnesota. In Wisconsin it was found in its usual n. areas with one exception. One was located in *Winnebago* July 16-17 (TZ). Michigan had two June 27 in *Chippewa* (DP, TS). Three Sharp-tailed Sparrows were singing in Wisconsin's Powell Marsh July 4 (RSp). North of its usual range was a Vesper Sparrow at Duluth June 25 (KE). A Dark-eyed Junco at Green Bay June 3 was s. of its usual range (E&RK). Also s. of its range were Clay-colored Sparrows in Michigan's *Oakland* and *Sainlack* (CH, DM *et al.*). However how does one explain the ad. White-crowned Sparrow found at Pipestone, Minn., July 30 (KE, RJa)? Naturally this represents the state's first summer record. Less out-of-range was a White-throated Sparrow during the summer in *St. Clair*, Mich. (DM).

ADDENDUM — Michigan's *Monroe* had two excellent finds on May 3, 1981. One was a Glossy Ibis at the Erie Marsh Preserve (PY) and the other a Fulvous Whistling Duck at the Woodtick Pen. (PY). A Hawk Owl nest containing five young was found near Baudette, Minn., during the summer of 1980 (*vide* DJo). This represents only the state's second nesting record, both during the 1980 summer.

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MIDDLEWESTERN PRAIRIE REGION

/Bruce G. Peterjohn

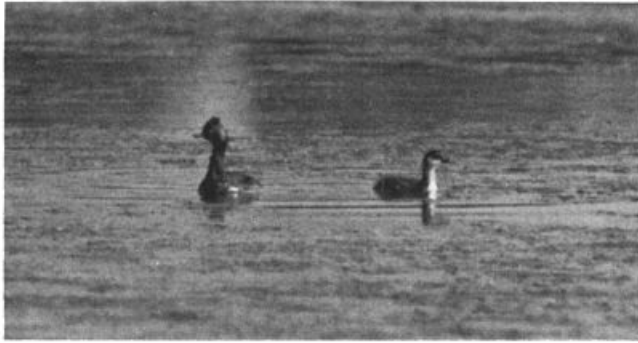
In contrast to a fairly dry spring, June was wet. Most areas experienced excessive precipitation, resulting in severe flooding at some localities. The rains subsided in July but rainfall for both months was generally above normal. Temperatures were fairly constant; southern areas were typically hot and humid while northern areas were relatively mild with below-normal temperatures.

The weather was generally conducive to a successful breeding season. June floods undoubtedly reduced the success of riparian and floodplain-inhabiting birds. However, most other species had a good year. Patterns of range expansion established during previous years continued in many areas. Most encouraging was the recovery of species decimated by the severe winters of the late 1970s.

As usual, all extraordinary sight records must be thoroughly documented at the time of observation. All documented records have been denoted by a dagger (†).

ABBREVIATIONS — L. Cal.: L Calumet, Ill.; O.W.R.: Ottawa N.W.R., O, M.M.W.A.: Magee Marsh W.M.A., O, Spfld.: Springfield, Ill.

LOONS THROUGH CORMORANTS — Most Com. Loons departed by early June. Summering records included two at Hursttown Res., Ind., July 11-22 (JH) and one near Vandalia, Ill., July 24 (FK). Nesting Eared Grebes are unusual in this Region. Illinois' first breeding record was provided by three successful broods at Riverdale, Cook Co (RBi, †JL, m.ob.). In Iowa, 25 adults and 25 young were observed at Eagle L., July 28 (LK, *vide* JD) while two summering adults were noted at Clear L., July 19 (*vide* RCu). Iowa's first nesting Western Grebes occupied Rush L., where two adults and three young were noted June 29 (T). In addition, two appeared in O'Brien County, Ia., May 25



Nesting Eared Grebes, Riverdale, Cook Co., Ill., Aug. 3, 1981.
Photo/Jerry R. Kumery.



(*fide* DH) and one at Swan L., Ia., July 14 (HZ). Nesting Pied-billed Grebes were reported from all states except Kentucky. They were common in n.e. Illinois, with 20 broods at Palos (PD) and 13 at L. Cal. (JL). Summering White Pelicans included six near Mokane, Mo., June 7 (*fide* JW) and 20 at Stockton Res., Mo., June 8 (DaJ). The Thompson, Ill., Double-crested Cormorant colony increased to 47 pairs, producing 122 young. Two nests were also located in Putnam County, Ill. (MB). Numbers of summering birds increased dramatically with 1-24 reported from 9 locations in Ohio, Iowa and Illinois.

HERONS—Great Blue Herons appeared to be stable if not increasing slightly; colonies were reported from all states except Missouri. Green Herons may be common in Illinois but were declining in portions of Ohio and Kentucky. A mixed heronry at Kentucky L., Ky., included two Little Blue Heron nests (BP, *fide* JE), for a first breeding record for the state. Approximately 150-200 nests were present in the Madison County, Ill., colony (K *et al.*). Nonbreeders were reported from only 4 locations. The Kentucky L. heronry also hosted the state's first Cattle Egret nest. Nearly 150 nests were counted in Madison County, Ill., while 15 adults at O.W.R., probably nested nearby. The most unusual breeding attempt was by a wild female that directed her amorous affections towards a captive male at the Ft. Wayne, Ind., zoo. In spite of their barred romance, the cagey male induced the female to lay an egg on top of the zoo's aviary (*fide* JH). Great Egrets nested at 3 Illinois colonies and in usual numbers along L. Erie. Nonbreeders were scattered across the Region. Five Snowy Egret nests were located in the Madison County heronry; up to nine birds were present at M.M.W.A., where nesting was suspected. Nonbreeders wandered N to L. Cal., June 26-July 25 (JL, m.ob.) and Davenport, Ia., July 28 (P).

Summering Louisiana Herons included 1-2 at L. Cal. (†JL, m.ob.) and one at M.M.W.A. (†JP *et al.*) while singles appeared at Horse-shoe L., Ill., June 19-21 (†BR) and Chicago June 12 (†PC, HR). Black-crowned Night Herons appeared in expected numbers at traditional colonies while 200 nests were discovered at Kentucky L. Yellow-crowned Night Heron reports have increased. They appeared at 20 locations including 17 in Warrick County, Ind., June 24 (JC) and 8 in Peoria County, Ill. (VH). Nesting was noted

N to L. Cal. (WM). Where suitable habitat was available, Least Bitterns were holding their own. They were fairly common in n.e. Illinois and n. Missouri and reported from scattered locations elsewhere except Kentucky. They outnumbered Am. Bitterns which nested only at Dewey's Pasture, Ia. (RJ, *fide* JD) while singles appeared at 5 Illinois, 2 Iowa, one Missouri and one Ohio locations.

WATERFOWL—As usual, small numbers of nonbreeding waterfowl were reported, mostly from n. areas. These species included Snow Goose (Ia. and Mo.), two Fulvous Whistling Ducks at Ted Shanks W.M.A., Mo., June 2-22 (†SSU, TBA, JW, m.ob.), Black Duck (Ill.), Gadwall (Ill. and Mo.), Pintail (Ind., O. and Ia.), Green-winged Teal (Ill. and Ia.), Am. Wigeon (Ill.), N. Shoveler (O. and Ill.), Redhead (Ill.), Ring-necked Duck (Ind., Mo. and Ia.), Canvasback (O. and Mo.), 2-4 Greater Scaup at Waukegan, Ill., June 1-Aug. 3 (JN), Lesser Scaup (O., Ia. and Ill.), single Buffleheads at Michigan City, Ind., June 20-July 3 (KB) and Chicago July 12-16 (PC, HR), Ruddy Duck (Ind., O. and Ia.), Hooded Merganser (Ill. and Ia.), Com. Merganser (Ill. and Mo.) and Red-breasted Merganser (Ill.).

Five broods of Gadwalls were counted at Oregon, O. (LV) while normal numbers appeared in Iowa. A Green-winged Teal brood at Columbus July 19 was exceptional for c. Ohio (J). Redheads nested along L. Erie and in usual numbers in Iowa. The only Canvasback brood was reported from Dickinson County, Ia., June 23 (DH). Five broods of Ruddy Ducks were produced at L. Cal. (JL) while seven young were observed at Riverdale, Ill., July 9 (PC, HR). Hooded Mergansers nested in LaGrange County, Ind. (JH, SS) and Toussaint W.M.A., O. (LV). The more common species apparently had successful breeding seasons in most areas.

DIURNAL RAPTORS—Black Vultures nested at Mingo N.W.R., Mo. (TBe) and Dixon Springs S.P., Ill. (K). Mississippi Kites appeared at Hickman County, Ky., June 12 (JE), Mingo N.W.R., Mo., July 31 (JW, TBe) and traditional s. Illinois locations including 40 at Union County Conservation Area (SE). Two wandered N to Sand Ridge S.F., Ill., June 15 (†RB). No Sharp-shinned Hawk nests were reported although summering birds were noted at Columbus (JF), Seneca County, O. (TB) and Amana, Ia. (CBe). Cooper's Hawks appeared to be holding their

own in most areas. At least ten nesting attempts were reported. Red-shouldered Hawks maintained fairly stable numbers in Ohio where 1-3 pairs were found at 7 locations. Elsewhere, they were described as "scarce and low" in Kentucky while 1-2 reports were received from other states. Swainson's Hawks nested in Osceola County, Ia. (DB) and breeding behavior was observed in Kane County, Ill. (RCO). Summering birds appeared at Springfield, Mo. (JS) and 4 Iowa locations. An injured Rough-legged Hawk was discovered at Cincinnati July 25 and was successfully rehabilitated (BM *et al.*).

Bald Eagles continued their slow recovery. Ohio's population increased to seven pairs (including one inland at Mosquito L.) which successfully raised six natural young and three transplants, its most successful year since the early 1960s. Two young fledged at Crab Orchard N.W.R., Ill. (MSi) while the Mingo N.W.R. pair did not attempt to breed. Non-breeders were encountered at 6 locations. The only Marsh Hawk nest was reported from Hayden Prairie, Ia. (RM, FM). Breeding behavior was observed in Trumbull County, O. (CB) while summering birds were reported from Warrick County, Ind. (JC), 3 n. Ohio locations and L. Cal. (PC, HR). Nonbreeding Ospreys appeared at Pigeon R., Ind., July 18 (JH, SS) and 3 n.e. Illinois locations in June. American Kestrels were abundant in most areas; Illinois populations increased 38% over 1980 levels (JEI).

S.A.

While isolated nonbreeding hawks are often encountered during summer, defined movements are without precedent. At Beverly Shores, Ind., June 20, Ken Brock *et al.* witnessed small flocks of 3-5 Broad-winged Hawks moving W along L. Michigan at 9:00 a.m. During the next 2 hours, a total of 110 Broad-winged Hawks flew by including kettles of 36, 21 and 17 birds. Most were immatures although some adults were present. Single Sharp-shinned and Marsh hawks were also a part of this flight.

GROUSE THROUGH COOTS—The Illinois Greater Prairie Chicken flock increased to 163 cocks this spring (RW). Bobwhite was rebounding, particularly in s. areas, although its recovery has been negligible in the n., Illinois numbers increased

27% this year (JEL) Ring-necked Pheasants have increased more slowly; only local populations have noticeably recovered. A pair of Sandhill Cranes with young was observed at Chain O'Lakes S.P., Ill., May 27 (K, MSw), providing a first recent breeding record for Illinois. Three nonbreeders were also observed there while two were noted at Ted Shanks W.M.A., Mo., June 23 (JB). King Rails were observed at 8 locations including young at Dewey's Pasture, Ia., June 22 (RJ, *fide* JD) and Tinley P., Ill., July 22 (JT). Largest numbers of Com. Gallinules appeared along the Great Lakes although only 3 broods were found at L. Cal. They were noted at scattered inland sites s. to Marais Temps Clair W.M.A., Mo. (RK, TBa). American Coots were also common near the Great Lakes but only isolated summering birds were reported elsewhere.

SHOREBIRDS — As usual, this group presented a complicated picture of late spring and early fall migrants plus a few nonbreeding birds. This year, spring migration extended through June 10 while the first fall migrants returned in late June. Mid-June records of nonbreeding species included Semipalmated Plover (O.), Black-bellied Plover (O.), Willet (Ill. and O.), both yellowlegs (Mo.), Dunlin (Ia. and O.), Short-billed Dowitcher (Ill.), and Marbled Godwit (O.).

A Piping Plover lingered at Waukegan, Ill., through June 20 but did not nest (JL, JBo). Fall migrants appeared at Chicago July 19 (JL *et al.*), Cleveland July 29 (M), and Michigan City, Ind., July 31 & Aug. 2 (KB, JH). A flock of eight Am. Golden Plovers represented early migrants at Sweet Marsh, Ia., July 26 (FM). Small numbers of Ruddy Turnstones appeared along the Great Lakes after July 17. A winnowing Com. Snipe was noted at Goose Lake Prairie S.P., Ill., May 31 (MS). Single Whimbrels were reported at Michigan City July 18 & Aug. 1-2 (KB *et al.*) and Chicago July 18-19 (JL), up to three appeared at Waukegan July 25-Aug. 7 (JN) and five at Cleveland after July 23 (TL). One inland at Wayne County, O., July 26 was unusual (DK). Increased reports of Upland Sandpiper reflected greater interest in this Blue-listed species. Most were found in Illinois, Iowa and Ohio. A Spotted Sandpiper in Marshall County, Ky., June 12 was rare for w. Kentucky (RE). A congregation of 250 Solitary Sandpipers at L. Cal., July 26 (JL) made light of an obvious misnomer.

Migrant Willets appeared at 13 locations beginning June 28. Largest flocks numbered 16 at Illinois Beach S.P., Ill., July 8 (JN), 14 at Wilson Island S.P., Ia., June 28 (T) and 13 at Michigan City July 8 (ABr). A maximum of 1600 Lesser Yellowlegs at L. Cal., July 26 was exceptional (JL). One to three Red Knots appeared at 3 L. Erie locations July 18-23. Peak numbers of Pectoral Sandpipers included 1100 at L. Cal., July 26. Stilt Sandpipers were well reported along the Great Lakes including 70 at Oregon, O., July 10 (ET *et al.*) and 45 at L. Cal., July 26. Western Sandpipers appeared at 6 Ohio locations beginning July 5 at O.W.R. (TB, LV), Michigan City July 11 (KB *et al.*), and two Kentucky sites July 26-29 (JEm, LR). Small numbers apparently regularly migrate with the July flocks of Semipalmated Sandpipers.

Marbled Godwit reports included four at M.M.W.A., after July 25 and one at L. Cal., July 26. The only Hudsonian Godwit appeared at O.W.R., July 27-30 (CH). Sanderlings were common along the Great Lakes after mid-July with up to 80 at L. Cal., July 17. American Avocets were scarce. Late spring migrants included two at Waukegan June 4 and two at Chicago June 6 (JL) while the only fall report was from Oregon, O., July 27 (CH). A **Black-necked Stilt** at M.M.W.A., July 18 (CH, †m.ob.) provided the second Ohio record of this century. Wilson's Phalaropes nested at L. Cal., where eight young were observed in late July (JL). Breeding behavior was observed in s. Cook County, Ill., but this site was later abandoned (JT). They summered at O.W.R., Squaw Creek N.W.R., Mo., and at 2 Iowa locations where breeding was possible. Three N. Phalaropes were reported from L. Cal., July 26 and one at M.M.W.A., July 25-31 (JP).

GULLS, TERNS — A report of a third-year **Pomarine Jaeger** at Alton, Ill.-Mo., July 9-12 was exceptional (YB, †m.ob.). This species' status is "accidental" inland and summer records are unheard of. An imm. Glaucous Gull appeared at Chicago July 19 (†JL). Herring Gulls were thriving along L. Erie where 2000 young were produced at one colony; 20 chicks were counted at L. Cal. An unsuccessful nesting attempt at L. Rockwell, O., was unusual inland (LRO). Ring-billed Gulls experienced poor success along L. Erie while the L. Cal. colony could not be adequately surveyed this year. Summering birds were observed in small numbers at many inland locations. An early movement totaled 7682 Ring-billeds in 3 hours at Chicago July 14 (PC, HR). Summering Laughing Gulls have become regular along the Great Lakes with three at Chicago June 21-July 7 and three along L. Erie June 2-July 22. Inland singles appeared at Ballard W.M.A., Ky., June 20 (†AB) and Urbana, Ill., July 28 (†RCh). Franklin's Gulls appeared in normal numbers in Iowa while nonbreeders included 1-7 at Chicago in June and singles at 4 L. Erie locations. Bonaparte's Gulls began congregating along the Great Lakes in July with a peak of 700 at Cleveland July 29 (M).

Forster's Terns nested in Dickinson County, Ia. (T, DH); summered along the Great Lakes, and lingered through July 2 at Spfld. (H). July migrants were widely reported including 200 at O.W.R., July 19 (TB). Nesting Com. Terns experienced a disastrous season, failing to raise young in Ohio or Illinois. A few nonbreeding birds were found at inland sites while expected late summer concentrations did not develop along the Great Lakes. High water prevented Least Terns from nesting along the Mississippi R. Seven were observed at Belmont S.P., Ky., June 12 (JE) and one appeared in Cook County, Ill., July 16 (PD). Small numbers of Caspian Terns summered at several Great Lakes locations and appeared at 2 inland sites in June. Fall migrants included 73 at Waukegan July 25 (JN). Black Terns nested at 3 n.e. Illinois locations and possibly in n.w. Indiana; "small numbers" were reported from Iowa. Fall migrants appeared in all states during July.

DOVES THROUGH WOODPECKERS — Mourning Doves continued their recovery in many areas; Illinois populations increased 61% this year. Yellow-billed Cuckoos were widespread but in reduced numbers from previous years. Black-billed Cuckoos remained scarce. The only successful Barn Owl nest produced three young at Big Lake S.P., Mo., June 22 (SSu, TBa). Four pairs were unsuccessful at Killbuck W.M.A., O. (*fide* JF) and one pair failed to raise young in Clinton County, Ill. (ES, FH). A single bird was noted near Farmington, Mo., in July (BL). Screech Owls continued to increase in n.w. Ohio; 21 nests produced 45 young from 80 boxes (LV). Adult Long-eared Owls were accompanied by two young at Willow Slough, Ind., May 16 (DA). Short-eared Owls apparently nested for the second consecutive year in Warrick County, Ind., while a road-killed adult was discovered near Vermont, Ill., July 20 (*fide* MSw). Chuck-will's-widows continued their N expansion with single birds appearing at Dayton, O., throughout June (CM *et al.*), and Indiana Dunes, Ind., June 18-July 2 (NG, KB). They returned to traditional sites at Shimek S F, and Waubonsie S.P., Ia., Sand Ridge S F, Ill., Willow Slough, Ind., and Adams County, O. Common Nighthawks were thought to be declining in Kentucky and Ohio but good numbers were reported from several Illinois locations. Ruby-throated Hummingbirds were generally scarce although "more than normal" appeared in Iowa. Few observers commented on woodpeckers. Since many dead trees have recently been converted into firewood, these species warrant more careful observations. Red-headed Woodpeckers maintained their good-to-excellent numbers of recent years. Pairs of Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers appeared in Iowa at Sioux City in early June (RSi, *fide* T) and Pikes Peak S.P., June 14 (DKo).

FLYCATCHERS THROUGH CREEPERS — Maximum numbers of W. Kingbirds included seven at Big Lake S.P., Mo., June 22 (SSu, TBa) and 15 in extreme w. Iowa June 29 (T). A nest with four young at Columbia was unusual for c. Missouri (†BGo, †JR). Extralimital Scissor-tailed Flycatchers appeared at 3 Missouri locations e. to Belgrade (SD, BL) and n. to Kirksville (TBa). Say's Phoebe returned to Plymouth County, Ia., where a family of four was photographed June 29 (T). A late Yellow-bellied Flycatcher at Shimek S.F., June 7 was unusual for Iowa (DKo). Alder Flycatchers seem to be very local residents in n. and possibly c. portions of the Region. Up to ten were reported from n. Ohio in Lucas County (ET), Seneca County (TB) and near Streetsboro (LRO) while single males appeared at 2 s.e. Iowa localities (FM, JSa) and Bigelow Marsh, Mo (SSu, TBa). Migrants were noted through June 10 and after mid-July. Expected numbers of Least Flycatchers were discovered in Iowa and n. Ohio. In Illinois, 2 males at Kickapoo S.P. (SB) and one at Trail of Tears S.F. (MM) were s. of their normal range.

Tree Swallows continued their S expansion; isolated nests were found in Campbell County, Ky. (EG) and Kentucky L. (JE), while 19 birds were noted in Warrick County in June (JC). Bank Swallows appeared to be

stable The largest reported colony comprised 2000 nests near Dallas City, Ill. (K); colonies with 100 or more nests were noted in most states. Cliff Swallow reports increased this summer. Two Kentucky colonies were in Wolfe County (DC), and 90 birds were at Falls of the Rough (KC). Ohio's largest colony contained 180 nests (DK) while many smaller colonies were discovered, including 23 nests near Cincinnati (*fide* W). A small colony and several isolated pairs were reported from Illinois. Few observers commented on Purple Martins; Waukegan supported the only roost with up to 4000 present by Aug. 1 (JN).

Chickadees, titmice and nuthatches elicited few comments; apparently they remained stable. Red-breasted Nuthatches raised one young in Tiffin, O. (TB) while single summering birds were found at Sand Ridge S.F., May 31 (RB) and Illinois Beach S.P., Ill., July 10 (JN). Brown Creepers continued to increase. Single birds appeared at 4 n Ohio locations, in s. Iowa near Keosauqua (JSa) and 4 Illinois localities S to Lawrence County (DJ).

WRENS THROUGH SHRIKES — House Wrens were abundant in most areas and increasing in s. and w. Kentucky. A late Winter Wren appeared at M.M.W.A., June 6 (JP) Bewick's Wrens nested at Wildcat Bluff Nature Preserve, Ill. (JWh) while 1-2 were reported from 3 Kentucky locations. All observations of this declining species should be reported. Carolina Wrens staged a noticeable recovery, particularly in s. areas where they were locally common but not yet "back to normal". Successful broods were noted by many observers. Small numbers appeared in c and n. areas reaching Chesterton, Ind., and 2 L. Erie locations. Good numbers of Short-billed Marsh Wrens were discovered at 15 sites in all states except Kentucky. Largest colonies were 25 at 2 Iowa marshes (T, TS) and 13 pairs in Champaign County, Ill (RCh).

Mockingbirds also staged an impressive recovery in the s. They were gradually returning to n. locations, appearing in Plymouth County, Ia. (LF), Chicago REi) and Cleveland (M). Veeries continued to increase in n. areas, e.g., 11 at White Pine Hollow, Ia., June 20 (DKo). Their S expansion brought 1-4 to 2 c. Indiana locations (ABr) and several to Middle Fork W.M.A., Ill (SB). Encouraging numbers of E. Bluebirds were reported from most areas with many observers indicating a successful breeding season. Cedar Waxwings were generally abundant within their normal range. Iowa Loggerhead Shrike populations have undergone a modest increase including five pairs in Poweshiek County (DKo), three pairs in Fayette County (JSc) and singles at 2 other locations. Elsewhere, two nests and up to four birds were noted at 5 c. and n. Illinois sites, two pairs with young were discovered in Indiana, and singles appeared at 2 n. Ohio localities. Normal numbers were reported from s. states.

VIREOS, WARBLERS — Many species lingered through the first week of June while early fall migrants, e.g., a Cape May Warbler at M.M.W.A., July 30 (JP) and Tennessee Warbler at Spfld., July 31 (H), returned by

the end of the period White-eyed Vireos were increasing in n. states. An E expanding Bell's Vireo population produced increased sightings in Illinois, three in McCracken County, Ky., June 20 (AB), 1-8 at 4 Indiana locations and Ohio sightings from Holmes County June 1-2 (†DK), and near Clyde June 1-10 (†TB), in addition to the Lucas County nesting locality (ET *et al.*). A Yellow-throated Vireo at Cherokee June 27 (DB) was unusual for w. Iowa. Small numbers of Solitary Vireos were noted at 2 n.e. Ohio locations where they are probably regular (LRO).

Summering Black-and-white Warblers were reported from 9 locations. Prothonotary Warblers appeared to be stable; 50 were counted in Warrick County in June (JC). A Swainson's Warbler was noted in Oregon County, Mo., June 13 (RC *et al.*) while it returned to traditional s. Illinois sites. Worm-eating Warblers appeared in Iowa at Shimek S.F., June 7 (DKo) and Amana June 21 (CBe); normal numbers were reported in the s. A few Golden-winged Warblers remain in n. states. This summer they were noted at Winthrop Harbor, Ill. (JN), Oak Openings, O. (ET), and Lorain County, O. (JP). Blue-winged Warblers continued their N expansion, displacing Golden-winged where their ranges overlap. In Ohio "Lawrence's" and "Brewster's" warblers were each reported from 2 locations including a mated pair of "Brewster's" at Oak Openings. Summer ♂ Tennessee Warblers are enigmatic since this species does not nest anywhere near this Region. This year, single birds appeared at Chicago June 18 & 23 (PC, HR), New Haven, Ind., June 21 (JH) and Decorah, Ia., July 3 (JSc).

A summering N. Parula in Boone County, Ky. (LM) was locally unusual. Three territorial Magnolia Warblers in Geauga County, O., June 30 (LRO) were probably regular at that site. A Black-throated Green Warbler at Trail of Tears S.F., June 13 (MM) provided a rare summer record for Illinois. Iowa's first Yellow-throated Warbler nest was discovered at Lacey-Keosauqua S.P., June 6 (DKo); another appeared n. of Keosauqua, Ia., June 1 (T). Summering Chestnut-sided Warblers appeared at 5 Ohio and 3 Illinois locations s. to Richland County, O. (SM), and Vermilion County, Ill. (SB). Summering Ovenbirds in Illinois at Trail of Tears S.F. (MM), Will County (AD, JM) and Chicago (PC, HR) were noteworthy. Single N. Waterthrushes were reported from Tippecanoe County, Ind., June 3 (DA) and Geauga County, O., July 6 (J, LRO). Kentucky Warblers continued to increase in n. areas. While Mourning Warblers frequently linger through early June; one at Waukegan June 26 (JN) may have summered. Yellow-breasted Chats were generally well reported while Hooded Warblers may be increasing, particularly in Ohio. A Wilson's Warbler at Chicago June 21-22 (†PC, HR) was unexpected. Canada Warblers have become regular summer residents in n. areas. This year, they were noted at Beverly Shores, Ind. (KB, EH), Summit County, O. (LRO), Winthrop Harbor, Ill. (JN), Joliet, Ill. (JM), Thorn Cr. Nature Center, Ill. (AD), and three males at White Pine Hollow, Ia. (DKo).

BLACKBIRDS THROUGH SPARROWS — Good numbers of Bobolinks were

reported from many areas At the e edge of its range, W. Meadowlark appeared at Battle Ground, Ind. (DA), 2 n.w. Ohio locations and Holmes County, O. (*fide* DK). Yellow-headed Blackbirds found favorable habitats along the Great Lakes. They appeared at 6 n.e. Illinois locations including 61 adults at Redwing Slough, Lake Co. (FH, JV), and 40 young raised at L. Cal. (JL *et al.*). In Indiana, they nested at Gary (KB) and Willow Slough (CK) while one was discovered at Franklin July 9 (*fide* BG). Up to three appeared at 2 locations along L. Erie. Orchard Orioles continued to increase in n. areas, as evidenced by several pairs near Chicago (JL, PD) and eight males in Poweshiek County, Ia. (DKo) Northern (Baltimore) Orioles were doing well in most areas and increasing in w. Kentucky. While Summer Tanagers were scarce at several s. localities, numbers farther n appeared to be stable if not increasing slightly.

Rose-breasted Grosbeaks were common in n. areas while birds at St. Charles County, Mo., July 2, Carbondale, Ill., July 11 and Trail of Tears S.F. June 2 (MM) were s. of its normal range. Blue Grosbeaks were expanding in all areas, appearing at traditional Ohio and Indiana locations, 4 c. Illinois sites and 5 Iowa localities including five birds in Plymouth County June 29. Two Painted Buntlings were reported near Protom, Mo., June 4 & 12 (SD *et al.*). Dickcissels presented a varied pattern. They were rapidly disappearing from Ohio and Kentucky, normal numbers appeared in Illinois and Iowa while most of Indiana experienced a moderate influx House Finches had another successful breeding season in Ohio, appearing at several new localities. Individuals wandered to Greenwood, Ind., June 26 (GB), Franklin, Ind., July 14 (BG) and Chicago June 20 (†DBr). Pine Siskins nested at Morton Arboretum, Lisle, Ill. (BW). They lingered through mid-June at several locations and into July at Lorain, O. Summering Red Crossbills included 21 at Sand Ridge S.F., May 26 (RB) and one at Urbana, Ill., June 13 (JWh). Two White-winged Crossbills lingered at Lorain, O., through June 9 (JP)

Grasshopper Sparrows received mixed reports with the largest numbers appearing in Illinois. Henslow's Sparrows were stable in most areas including 50 pairs at Atterbury W.M.A., Ind. (BG) and 25 pairs at Paint Creek Res., O. (TB). Four in Johnson County, Ill., July 12-21 (MM) were unusually far s. Lark Sparrows were reported in normal numbers. This species remained very scarce in e. states. Bachman's Sparrows appeared in Calloway County, Ky. (CP, JE), Glasgow, Ky., July 18-19 (RS), Atterbury W.M.A., Ind., June 18 (*fide* BG) and three in Ozark County, Mo. (SD *et al.*). Ten Dark-eyed Juncos were observed at their traditional Geauga County, O. location (LRO). A Clay-colored Sparrow returned to Rockton, Ill (DW) while other summer records included two at Illinois Beach S.P., June 7 (JN) and a male at Volga L., Ia., July 11-26 (†RM, FM) Song Sparrows are expanding S in Kentucky; one appeared in Fulton County June 12 (JE).

UNCORROBORATED REPORTS — The following reports were not satisfactorily documented but may be credible: Snowy

Owl in Sandusky Bay, O., June 1 and Scissor-tailed Flycatcher at La Porte County, Ind., July 4.

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CENTRAL SOUTHERN REGION /Jerome A. Jackson

No tropical storms and a lack of rain late in the season are about the only climatic comments worthy of mention for summer 1981 in the mid-south. In spite of the lack of an assist from Gulf storms, a few unusual seabirds made appearances on the coast—most notably a banded Sooty Tern and an unidentified jaeger. Seabird colonies generally fared well, with abandoned colony sites almost matched by new ones. Problems at the human-bird interface along the Mississippi Gulf Coast recurred, as might have been predicted. As usual, the majority of records submitted were not of breeding birds, but were of late leaving or early returning migrants. The litany of unusual shorebird records is exceptionally long. Some shorebirds, such as Black-bellied Plovers, now seem to be found regularly along the Gulf Coast at any time of year.

Southward range expansions further documented this year include: Whip-poor-will; Tree, Bank, Barn, and Cliff swallows; House Wren; Scarlet Tanager; House Finch; and Song Sparrow. A new nesting colony of

Roseate Spoonbills in Louisiana, a possible Golden-fronted Woodpecker mated with a Red-bellied in Florida, and possible breeding of Sharp-tailed Sparrows on the Alabama coast were among the more exciting events of the season.

With the large number of observers reporting from the Region now, our biggest need is to get better coverage of forest and grassland habitats, although I know it is much more pleasant to stand with a scope along the beach in July than it is to feed the chiggers and ticks of southern forests and fields!

LOONS THROUGH IBISES — While Com. Loons are now regularly reported from the Gulf Coast in summer, a late migrant (?) at Sardis Res., in n. Mississippi May 24 (BBC&LC) and a breeding-plumaged individual at Guntersville L., in n. Alabama July 25 (CDC, DCC) were surprises. Brown Pelicans have apparently been doing better in the n. Gulf in the past few years: 30, including mostly brown-headed juveniles but at least ten approaching ad. plumage, were seen June 26 near Petit Bois I., Miss. (JJ, OD); 100+ were reported at Mobile July 8 (B&SO); and 38 were present at Ft. Morgan, Ala., Aug. 14 (TI). Between 300-400 White Pelicans

gathered at Grand Isle, La., July 12 (JR), and a lone bird July 22 provided the second record for the species at Eufaula N.W.R., Ala. (JD). The only Sulid for the season was a **Brown Booby** June 5 at Gulf Islands N. S., Escambia Co., Fla. (MM). Anhingas were reported at 2 localities in Baldwin County, Ala., in July (GJ) and four spent the summer at Eufaula N.W.R., for the first summer records there (DC). More than 20 Great Blue Herons could be seen at a time at the Pascagoula

River Marsh, Jackson Co., Miss. (hereafter, P.R.M.), during early July (JT, JJ, BS, OD), probably birds from the large nesting colony on nearby Round I. The Green Heron colony on some small islands across from industrial Decatur in Limestone Co., Ala., included only 21 nests this year (CDC, SH); last year's 51 nests which fledged 140-150 young represented one of the largest nesting colonies known. Unfortunately, these islands are presently in danger of being developed by barging interests (CDC). A Reddish Egret on Petit Bois I., June 26 (JJ, OD) and three at the w. end of Dauphin I., Ala., July 21 (GJ DBC, BC) provide further hope that we will eventually find the species nesting nearby. A fledgling—barely able to fly—**Louisiana Heron** found in a heronry in the Red River bottoms w. of Lewisville, Ark., July 14 was a rare surprise (WS, KS, MiM). The species has previously nested in n.e. Arkansas. Yellow-crowned Night Herons had a good nesting season in New Orleans, although they are increasingly surrounded by subdivisions (JK).



large number for an area 50 mi n of coastal marshes (BO). The Roseate Spoonbill provides one of the success stories for the season. A pair apparently pioneered a colony in a heronry at Hatch L., Terrebonne Par., about three years ago; this year there were six pairs (AE, *vide* NN). A single Roseate Spoonbill was seen July 6 at the Morganza Spillway bridge, Pointe Coupee Par. (DG).

WATERFOWL — P.R.M. continues to be a Mississippi stronghold for Mottled Ducks; a few are seen on almost any visit. More than 80 adults and 3 groups of 6-8 downy young were seen July 3 (JT, GM). Blue-winged Teal again nested at P.R.M., in 1981. An adult and four half-grown young were seen July 3 (JT, GM) and at least two adults were seen throughout the summer (JT, JJ, OD, BS). Elsewhere on the Gulf Coast, a single Blue-winged Teal was seen July 23 at Pinto Pass, Mobile, Ala. (GJ). Farther n., a single Blue-winged Teal appeared at Hickory, Miss., Aug 9, then there were three Aug. 11, and ten Aug. 14 (JM). Six Blue-winged appeared at Archer I., Chicot Co., Ark., Aug. 16 (N&JH) and at Lonoke, Ark., two early migrants appeared July 3 (WS, Ke&VS). Wood Ducks also thrive at P.R.M.; four adults and as many as 20 immatures were seen during early July (JT, GM, JJ, OD, BS). Two ♀ and one ♂ Ruddy Ducks at Robco L., Memphis, July 3, provided a first July record for the area (CWB).

RAPTORS — Swallow-tailed Kite records came only from coastal areas: two over I-59 at the Honey I. Swamp near Slidell, La., July 3 (JM), one over I-10 in Hancock County, Miss., July 6 (JT), and two over the Tensas Delta, Baldwin Co., Ala., July 1 (GJ). Groups of up to 80 Mississippi Kites were seen between Winterville Mounds S.P. and Rosedale, Miss. (CWB). At Archer I., Ark., it was a disappointing year for Mississippi Kites; the maximum seen there was 25 on June 10 (NH). In the New Orleans area nesting Mississippi Kites appear to have been driven off by increasing urbanization, but the post-breeding dispersal brought birds into the usual areas (JK). Single Bald Eagles were found in Florida at Port St. Joe, June 12 (JS) and at Ft. Pickens (AJ). There was no sign of eagle activity near the blown-down nest at Gulfport, Miss. (JJ). A ♀ Marsh Hawk in Pike County, Ala., June 13 was late, but not unprecedented (BO). Ospreys seem to be doing well on the Mississippi coast with 40 ± active nests evenly divided between the lower Escatawpa R. and the Gulf Is. (JJ, OD). Interior Alabama records of single Ospreys came from L. Martin, Tallapoosa Co., June 17 (BO), and Marion July 5 (G&DJ). Single Am. Kestrels June 6 in Morgan County (CDC, ST) and June 15 in Jackson County (MB) may indicate breeding of this species, which has been increasingly rare in the Tennessee Valley of n. Alabama. Other rare summer records of kestrels include one each near Clarksville, Fla. (GaM, HS), in Houston County, Ala., July 25 (G&DJ), and at Mud I., Memphis, Tenn., Aug. 2 (BF), and three in Jackson County, Miss., July 25 (JT). Two kestrels raised in captivity at the Marine Education Center were from a nest near shore in Biloxi, Miss. (*vide* JT).

GALLIFORMS THROUGH SHORE-BIRDS — Auburn Wildlife Research Unit personnel banded or radio-tagged 220 hen, chick, and gobbler Turkeys at the Skyline W.M.A.—surely an Alabama record! A Black Rail at Heron Bay June 22 (GJ) provided only the second midsummer record for Alabama. In e. New Orleans Purple Gallinules seemed to be more common than in recent years (JK); two young were also seen at P.R.M., June 27 (JT, LG, TF). On July 3, seven adults and 28 young Com. Gallinules of varying ages were counted at a pond at P.R.M. (JT, GM).

The first returning (?) Semipalmated Plovers were noted at P.R.M., July 7 (JT); four were there July 11 (JJ, OD, JT), and eight July 19 (JT); six were at Grand Isle, La., July 12 (JR). Wilson's Plovers nested at P.R.M. again, where young were seen June 27 (JT, LG, TF), July 7 (JT), and July 11 (JJ, JT, OD). Up to 20 Black-bellied Plovers spent the summer along the New Orleans lake-front (JR) and others were seen throughout the summer elsewhere along the Gulf Coast: one June 26 at Petit Bois I. (JJ, OD); 20+ on July 11 at P.R.M., (JJ, OD, JT); and four on July 12 at Grand Isle, La. (JR). The only Ruddy Turnstone to appear during the period was one in breeding plumage at P.R.M., July 25 (JT). A lone Whimbrel was at the w. end of Dauphin I., July 21 (GJ, DBC, BC). An Upland Sandpiper at Point Aux Pins June 27, may have supplied only the second summer record for the Alabama coast (GJ). Early Spotted Sandpipers appeared July 13 along the Escatawpa R., in Mobile Co., Ala. (GJ), and July 15 in New Orleans (JR) and P.R.M. (JT). Thirteen were seen at P.R.M., July 25 (JT). One Solitary Sandpiper checked in at P.R.M., July 25 (JT). The first two Greater Yellowlegs of the season were reported at P.R.M., July 11 (JJ, OD, JT) and two more were noted July 12 at Grand Isle (JR). Lesser Yellowlegs were a bit earlier: one July 3 at Decatur, Ala. (GJ, HK) and one July 8 at New Orleans (JR). At least four fed with Greater Yellowlegs at P.R.M., July 11 (JJ, JT, OD), and by July 12, 50+ had gathered at Grand Isle (JR). JR's July 12 trip to Grand Isle also produced 100 ± Red Knots. Across the lower mid-south, Pectoral Sandpipers set new early arrival records: one July 3 at Decatur, Ala., ties the previous early record (GJ, HK); one July 20 at Mobile furnished the earliest Alabama coast record (GJ); five at P.R.M., July 19 established an early Mississippi record (JT); and these coastal records are all beat by one July 11 at New Orleans (JR).

Six White-rumped Sandpipers appeared in Garland County, Ark. (H & MP) and one in New Orleans (JR), all June 11; farther e., eight + at P.R.M., July 15 (JT) comprised the vanguard of this uncommon fall migrant. A Least Sandpiper at Cape San Blas, Gulf Co., Fla., June 14 was most unusual (JS). Others were not reported from the Region until nearly a month later: one July 3 at Decatur, Ala. (GJ); nine July 7 in Garland County, Ark. (H & MP); 50 + July 7 at P.R.M. (JT); and six July 12 at Grand Isle (JR). A good high count was 200 + at P.R.M., July 15 (JT). One of the more unusual birds of the season was a Dunlin in breeding plumage that appeared at P.R.M., July 7 and remained through July (JT, JJ, OD). A Short-billed

Dowitcher was in New Orleans July 8, dowitcher sp. (18) stopped in at P.R.M., July 11 (JJ, OD, JT) and ten were at Grand Isle July 12 (JR). Thirty Short-billed Dowitchers in mixed plumages were foraging together at P.R.M., July 15 (JT), and one Long-billed Dowitcher was there July 25 (JT). Very early records were set by arriving Stilt Sandpipers near Lonoke, Ark., July 3 (WS, Ke & VS), at P.R.M., July 5 (four birds—JT), and at Mobile July 25 (HK). P.R.M. had a corner on Semipalmated Sandpipers this season with the arrival of 24 birds July 3, a climb to 250 July 7, and a decline to the end of the period 150 + July 15, 100 + July 25 (JT). The only other report was of three at Grand Isle July 12 (JR). Western Sandpipers were more ubiquitous and unusually early. Two at Decatur July 3 marked the earliest fall record for Alabama (GJ, HK), but on the same date 50 had already made it to P.R.M. (JT). Numbers built up at P.R.M., through the period: 75 July 7 (JT); 300 + July 11 (JJ, OD, JT); 500 + July 15 (JT); 100 + July 19 (JT); and 500 + July 25 (JT). Other records included 52 at the L. Hamilton Fish Hatchery in Garland Co., Ark., July 7 (H & MP), four in New Orleans July 8 (JR), and 50 at Grand Isle July 12 (JR). A Marbled Godwit at P.R.M., July 3 may be a first July occurrence for Mississippi (JT, GM). The first Sanderlings of 1981 included eight at Grand Isle July 12 (JR), but elsewhere reports were of birds arriving the last week of July. Among the unusual reports was that of three Sanderlings at an inland sewage pond July 31 in Cottondale, Fla. (MG, JU). The only Am. Avocets reported during the period were three at P.R.M., July 15 (JT). Black-necked Stilts nested at P.R.M., for the fifth consecutive year; as many as 20 adults and eight young were seen during late June and early July (JT, JJ, OD). Two stilts also appeared w. of Lonoke, Ark., July 3, for the third state record (WS, Ke & VS).

Wilson's Phalaropes arrived early and in several areas this summer. The earliest was a female July 3, at P.R.M.; a male was at the same locality July 19 (JT). A juvenile stopped in Lonoke County, Ark., July 12 (H & MP, CM). One at the Monsanto Sewage Pond in Decatur July 18, was the earliest ever in fall for the Tennessee River Valley (MB, CDC, CB). Other Alabama records included one July 28 at Alabama Pt. (OF, MLM) and three Aug. 1, in Mobile (MWG, PB). A jaeger sp provided some excitement at a gull-skimmer colony in St. Andrews S.P., Bay Co., Fla., where it took up residence July 8 and remained at least through the month. It was a very tame sub-adult with very worn plumage. Numerous photos were taken, but there is no consensus on the species as yet (ToF, DS, m.ob.). The first July record of a Parasitic Jaeger was of a bird in near-adult plumage 5 mi s. of the South Pass of the Mississippi on July 13 (DP, NoN).

Twenty Ring-billed Gulls at Eufaula N.W.R., June 30 was a high count for the refuge (BO). Up to ten adults and three dependent young Gull-billed Terns were found at P.R.M., during late June and early July (JT, JJ, LG, m.ob.); none were found nesting on the spoil island at the w. tip of Petit Bois I., where they have nested in previous years (JJ). At least eight adults and five fledged young Com. Terns were at P.R.M., during mid-July (JT, JJ, OD), although none nested

on the spoil island w. of Petit Bois I. this year (JJ, OD). Two Com. Terns were also seen at Grand Isle July 12 (JR). In spite of the reprieve from Gulf hurricanes this year, at least one **Sooty Tern** (banded no less!) ventured as far n. as Alabama Pt., at Gulf Shores, where it was seen and photographed July 26-31 (HK, BD, GJ, m.ob.).

As might have been expected by its proclivity for nesting in unusual places and in areas coveted by human sunworshippers, the Least Tern was again a subject of special notice. A small group of 10-20 attempted to nest at the base of a bulldozed sand ridge in s.w. Lake County, Tenn., June 14-July 26 (WC). The 2 nests found represent only the second mainland nesting attempt in Tennessee. In Metairie, La., Least Terns failed to return to nest on the roofs of 2 major shopping centers, but there were numerous birds using the roof of a nearby new high school and there seemed to be many birds in the area (NN). Three rooftop colonies in New Orleans produced young, but all were interrupted by roof repair work (JK). Along the Mississippi coast, Least Terns fared much better than last year, nesting in several areas along the beach from Biloxi to Long Beach, but abandoning past nesting areas on Deer I., and in Pass Christian. No Least Terns were found nesting on Petit Bois I., Horn I., or the spoil island w. of Petit Bois. About 100 birds were nesting in the interior of a large spoil island near the Pascagoula harbor. Farther inland, several hundred Least Terns attempted to nest at P.R.M., but were subjected to some disturbance from heavy equipment and generally did not seem to do well (JJ, JT, BS, OD). Least Terns also attempted to nest again on the roof of the Singing River Mall in Gautier and on top of a large gravel pile near the mall. Some fledged young were seen near the mall, but success seemed minimal (JJ). At Ft. Pickens, Fla., 582 adults and three chicks were counted June 20 in a nesting colony on the island damaged by Hurricane *Frederic* in 1979 (BT, JoJ, NB).

The only nesting terns on the spoil island w. of Petit Bois I. were 250± pairs of Royal Terns mixed with nearly 6000 pairs of Sandwich Terns. All nests had eggs June 26 (JJ, OD). Single stray (?) Caspian Terns appeared in Arkansas June 16 at the L. Hamilton Fish Hatchery in Garland Co. (MP), and July 12 in Lonoke County (H & MP, CM). Black Terns were reported at the L. Hamilton Fish Hatchery June 20 & July 7 (H & MP). Six were early in the Tennessee Valley when they were seen at Wheeler N.W.R., Limestone Co., Ala., July 6 (CDC). Large numbers of Black Terns were on the Mississippi barrier islands and at P.R.M., in July (JJ), but the highest number reported was 600-800 at Grand Isle July 12 (JR).



Black Skimmers took it on the chin (and everywhere else) in Gulfport this summer. They did not return to the 1980 nesting area in the Least Tern colony, but established a new colony 2 mi to the w. On June 27 there were 120± nests. Many chicks were trampled by swimmers going through the colony. Some were killed by dogs, some were run over by beach patrol vehicles, and the fourth of July brought a rain of rockets and associated debris onto chicks and eggs. But the final insult was observed by JJ and OD July 11. Two young boys entered the colony with clubs and systematically began clubbing and "batting" chicks. At least 25 died before the young vandals could be stopped. Photographs of dead chicks and a sympathetic newspaper article stirred public outrage and a fund was established in an attempt to provide fencing for the colony in the future. The outrage also brought to the surface legislation that had been forgotten many years ago that established beach areas of the Mississippi coast as State Wildlife Sanctuaries. With luck and a concerned public, the birds may fare better in the future. Skimmers did not attempt to nest on Deer I., as they did in 1980, but there were 30 nests on the spoil island w. of Petit Bois I., 12 nests in a new colony on Horn I., and 100± nests in a new colony on a spoil island at the entrance to the Pascagoula harbor. In Florida, skimmers produced at least six chicks in St. Andrews S.P., Bay Co. (m.ob.), and 106 birds were observed nesting at Ft. Pickens, the largest colony ever observed in n.w. Florida (m.ob.).

DOVES THROUGH SWALLOWS —

Why is it that rare birds sometimes seem to seek out the rare-bird watcher? A **White-winged Dove** selected JT's feeder for a 3-day visit in Gulfport June 27-29, thus establishing the third summer record for the species in Mississippi. TF and LG also cashed in on this good bird—I missed it by a day. Darn! BBC & LC again spent the early part of the season driving back roads after midnight and were rewarded by the first summer records of Whip-poor-wills for Holmes County, Miss., with two June 19, and Poinsett County, Ark., with three June 14. H & MP also added a new area for the species in Hot Springs County, Ark., with one bird calling June 17. A most unusual report for the season was that of a ♂ Golden-fronted Woodpecker mated with a ♀ Red-bellied in Pensacola, Fla. He was present Apr. 1 through July and at least one young was produced (MD, *vide* CK, m.ob.). Details were provided; photos were taken, but not submitted with the record. Extreme care must be taken with identification in cases such as this since red on woodpeckers occasionally is replaced by yellow on some individuals. This was an exciting observation, and I await the details and photos which are being published elsewhere. An E. Phoebe at Ville Platte, La., June 7, provided the first summer record for Evangeline Par. (BO). Near Deville, La., PW & KM found four ad. and one fledgling Horned Larks July 13, strong evidence of nearby breeding.

Tree Swallows are continuing their expansion S. Two adults were feeding three fledglings at Camden Landing, Benton Co., Tenn., June 9, and another five adults were seen at North L., in Shelby Co., Tenn., 0.5 mi from the Mississippi line June 18 (BBC, LC). Two new Bank Swallow colonies were discovered this summer in w. Tennessee 94 holes and a maximum of 80 birds at the n. end of Mud I., Memphis (Memphis T.O.S., BBC, LC), and 21 holes (only one bird seen) in s.w. Lake County (WC). Fourteen Bank Swallows were seen at Wheeler N.W.R., Ala., June 6, but no nesting colony was found (CDC, ST). A few Barn Swallows nested at the end of the U.S. 90 causeway over upper Escambia Bay, Santa Rosa Co., Fla., another new site in this species' expanding range (HS). Cliff Swallows also were found at new sites: 40 were seen at the entrance ramp from Miss. 32 onto I-55, June 11; and 16 birds and 22 nests were found at the Miss. 6 highway bridge over Hotopha Cr., e of Batesville, Panola Co. (BBC, LC). None was seen at 1980 nest sites 4 mi downstream from Sardis Dam, Panola Co., Miss. (BBC, LC) Active Cliff Swallow sites in 1980 at Sardis Dam, Panola Co.; Enid Dam, Yalobusha Co.; Yocona R., at I-55; and Skuna R., at Gum Crossing were active in 1982 (BBC, LC).

WRENS THROUGH WARBLERS —

Two House Wrens were singing at Ft. Pillow S.P., Tenn., June 29, the second season and fourth w. Tennessee summer locality (BBC). Another was found e. of Osceola, Ark., June 29, the first e. Arkansas summer site (BBC). Bewick's Wrens in the mid-south are very local; one was heard at Hooker's Bend, Hardin Co., Tenn., June 9 (BBC); another at Bridgetown, Desoto Co., Miss., June 12 (BBC, LC); and one w. of Thyatria, Tate Co., Miss., June 16 (ER, RJ). The first June Alabama record for the **Short-billed Marsh Wren** was of a single bird at Point Aux Pins on the Gulf Coast June 27 (GJ). While Am Robins have been expanding their breeding range S for many years, there are still no nest records for the Mississippi coast. One robin seen July 19 in Vancleave, Jackson Co., suggests that such a record might be close (JT). Loggerhead Shrikes are uncommon breeders on the Mississippi coast, but two were seen in Hancock County June 26 (JT, LG). A Yellow-throated Vireo was singing at Logtown, Hancock Co., June 23 (JT).

There were more than the usual warbler records for the season including some late departures and early arrivals—or did they leave at all? The Black-and-white Warbler near Blakely, Ala., May 30 (GJ), and another at Gulfport July 24 (CT), suggest that it might be worthwhile spending some time in appropriate habitats along the Gulf Coast looking for nesting individuals. A Prothonotary in Memphis coped for a time incubating seven eggs until the three cowbird eggs were removed; three warblers fledged (JE). A single singing Swainson's Warbler was located at Logtown June 26 (JT, LG). Among the early arrivals was a Blue-winged Warbler in New Orleans July 31 following a storm (JR). A Tennessee Warbler heard June 8 on the University of New Orleans campus was exceptionally late (JR). Yellow Warblers returned to New Orleans July 15 (JK), but were not

seen at Gulfport until July 30 (JT). A storm July 30 brought two Cerulean Warblers to New Orleans (JR). Observers at Grand Isle July 19 were treated to a ♂ **Blackpoll Warbler** in breeding plumage; this rare fall migrant is virtually unheard of in the area in July (DP, NoN, SF). While a Prairie Warbler in n.w. Mobile County, Ala., June 25 (GJ), was the only June occurrence recorded for the Alabama Gulf Coast, 18 were counted on the D'Iberville-Jackson Co., Miss., B.B.S. route May 28 (JT) and two others were located at Logtown, Miss., June 23 (JT). A Louisiana Waterthrush in Gulfport July 21 was suspected to be a local breeder (JT).

ORIOLES THROUGH FINCHES — Northern Orioles are rare in the Alabama Piedmont, but one was found June 11 at Lafayette (BO). Only one imm. Bronzed Cowbird was seen this summer in New Orleans (July 18); JK reports that there are 2 locations where they can always be found, with few or none in between. The albino for the season was a Scarlet Tanager seen at the Skyline W.M.A., Ala., June 20 (MB); the bird was pure white with a bright yellow bill and legs, but its song gave it away. This albino was but one of an estimated 80 tanagers seen and heard in the area June 13 & 20, the highest number recorded for the breeding season in Alabama (MB). Tanagers were also added to the breeding season list for Hatchie N.W.R., Tenn., when six singing males were found in flooded bottoms June 13 (BBC, LC, RP).

House Finches continued their expansion to the s.w. with one juvenile appearing in Phenix City, Ala., July 4 (GrM); as yet there are no confirmed breeding records for Alabama (TI). Two ♂ Rufous-sided Towhees were seen and heard July 9 in Hot Springs County, Ark., for a first breeding season record for the county (H&MP). On D'Iberville-Jackson Co., Miss., B.B.S. route, 40 towhees were recorded May 28 (JT). Two

Grasshopper Sparrows were seen and heard in s.w. Decatur County, Tenn., June 9 (BBC, LC) and one was singing n.w. of Paragould, Greene Co., Ark., June 22 (LC); this species is now rare and very local in the mid-south. Another puzzle to whet the appetite for wading through marsh grasses in summer was a glimpse of two or three **Sharp-tailed Sparrows** on the Dauphin I. causeway Aug. 2—one bird seemed to be feeding another (HK, BG)! The earliest prior record for the state was Sept. 9, and the closest breeding area is coastal North Carolina (TI).

The Blue-listed Bachman's Sparrow drew lots of attention this season. One was noted e. of Warren, Bradley Co., Ark., July 28 (WS, JeR). Thirty were counted on the D'Iberville-Jackson Co., Miss., B.B.S. route, May 28 (JT), and a singing male was found as late as Aug. 4 in Hancock County (MH, JT). A single singer was identified w. of Valhermosa Springs, Morgan Co., Ala., June 6, where the species has been extremely rare in recent years (CDC, ST). Another singing Bachman's was found on Wheeler N.W.R., Ala., July 18 (CDC, MB, CB). Two males were repeatedly seen and heard throughout the period in a clearcut area with many new pines and hardwoods s.e. of Mooresville, Limestone Co., Ala. (CDC, ChB, MB, m.ob.). Twelve were seen and heard in n. Baldwin and Mobile cos., June 25 (GJ). White-throated Sparrows also set a few records around the Region. One was seen and heard throughout the summer in Memphis (BW, WW) and Aug. 12 one was banded 6 mi away (BBC); it was a dull morph bird. Another White-throated was recorded on a B.B.S. n.e. of Sanburg, Lake Co., Tenn., June 11 (R & BP). And at last we come to the Song Sparrow—also a bird on the move. New localities for the species in n. Alabama include: Wheeler N.W.R., 2 mi w. of Mooresville, Limestone Co., one bird June 6 (CDC, ST); McFarland P., Florence, Lauderdale Co., two birds June 23 (CN); and

Decatur, one bird July 3 (GJ, HK) & July 18 (CDC, MB, CB). Twenty-one Song Sparrows were recorded on the Guntersville B.B.S. route in Marshall County, Ala., June 13 (CDC). Last year there were 25 reported on this route.

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PRAIRIE PROVINCES REGION /Bernard Gollop

Weather: Precipitation in June was near normal and at least one station in each province had more than 100 mm (4 in.) for the month. Temperatures averaged 1°C below normal. July had frequent showers and near normal temperatures.

Wetlands: Aerial surveys were made of July ponds by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife and Canadian Wildlife Services. South of 54 ± ° N latitude, there were an estimated 876,000 ponds, practically the same number as last summer, one-quarter of the peak in 1955 but one-third more than the lowest year, 1961.

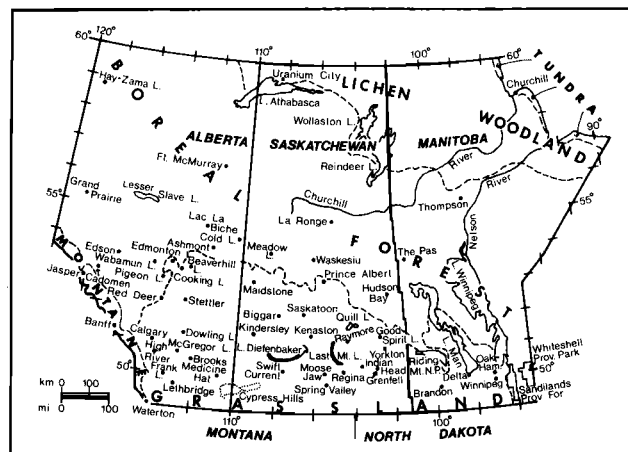
Owing to a 42-day mail strike beginning June 29, 25 of the 36 reports were obtained by telephone, increasing the possibility of error.

LOONS THROUGH DUCKS — For the second year in a row a Yellow-billed Loon showed up at Churchill (June 19, KK, m.ob.). Eared Grebes have increased from 6 to 20 to 60 pairs from 1979 to 1981 on a 5500-

acre plot near Ft. McMurray, at the n. edge of their breeding range (JG). In Regina, 244 pairs had an estimated 481 young from 509 nests in Wascana P. (RKR, TR). A flock of 500 ± W. Grebes on Wabamun L., Alta., had only 50 ± young July 19 (RE). At Redberry L., Sask., pelican production was good (154 young) while Double-crested Cormorants had an above-average 41 young (SH). The first Double-crested Cormorant for Churchill was a bird seen July 7 (CF). Finally! The first nest of a **Cattle Egret** in the Prairie Provinces: Bob Kreba found two adults with three eggs on the island in Old Wives L., Sask., June 30. The only other records were at Bissett, Man., (ph., June 6-9, MW) and near Regina (late June, FS). Each province has fewer than 30 rec-

ords of this species. Manitoba's tenth **Louisiana Heron** was carefully studied at Churchill July 19 (AC, DP). A White-faced Ibis with down on its head was seen at Pakowki L., Alta., July 3 (TS, fide PSt).

The Trumpeter Swans on Adams L., Cypress Hills, had no young with them July 31 (SS). Possibly because of drought in the s,



Gadwall, Blue-winged Teal, Am. Wigeon, Canvasback, Redhead and Ruddy Duck were reported up over last year in the Grande Prairie-Ft. McMurray area (KL, JG). There was an unusual concentration of 1000 Redheads on Cypress L., Sask., June 24 (CH). The third Churchill record for Ring-necked Ducks was of five birds June 13 (JLe). July 4 was an unusual date for an Oldsquaw at Seven Sisters, s.e. Man. (PTa). For the third consecutive summer, Harlequins have been found at Churchill (five males, one female, July 24, BC). Seven Com. Mergansers June 13 were also rare for that area (BC).

VULTURES THROUGH JAEGERS —

The most northerly Turkey Vultures were near Cold Lake (one on June 13 and two on June 23, PA, JLG) and one near Wabowden, Man., June 15, (SS). Eighty-seven Buteos were seen in a 60-mi drive n.w. from Moose Jaw July 31 (GZ). Swainson's Hawks had average success in s. Saskatchewan with 123 young banded in 58 nests and Ferruginous Hawks had a good year—44 young produced in 15 nests (SH). Ospreys had a still better year around Loon L., Sask., with 33 young in 15 nests plus five that failed (SH). On July 30 near Saskatoon a wild Gyrfalcon flew with a trained Gyr for several minutes (PTh). The pair of Peregrines that set up housekeeping on the roof of a 14-story building in Edmonton did not produce eggs in the scrape they made. They were then given three 3-4-week-old young from the Canadian Wildlife Service station at Wainwright and reared all of them successfully (RF). An adult-plumaged Whooping Crane spent May, June and July on the n. side of Little Quill L. with Sandhill Cranes (RBr, JE).

The first **Semipalmated Plover** nest (4 eggs) for Alberta was found in Wood Buffalo N.P. by Ernie Kuyt June 23. Two of three other injury-feigning pairs were also seen with at least two downies. Upland Sandpipers were widely reported, including 23 along 10± mi of road near the n. end Last Mountain L., July 3 (WH, SL) and a straggler at Churchill June 5 & 24 (PR, BC). Also at Churchill was Manitoba's first **Wandering Tattler** June 14 &

15 (BFe, DW, BC, m.ob.). There were concentrations of 2000± Long-billed Dowitchers and 500± Marbled Godwits on McDonald L., near Calgary, July 10 (JS). A rare straggler to Churchill was a Marbled Godwit June 29 (RTa, m.ob.) while the area's first Am. Avocet was found June 4 (LA, BC). In addition to Beaverhill L. again this year (RF), Black-necked Stilts nested s.e. of Sterling, Alta., where a downy young was photographed (CG, *vide* PSI). A Pomarine Jaeger was another rarity at Churchill June 7 & July 10 (DMc, P&DS).

GULLS THROUGH WOODPECKERS

— Both Herring and California gulls doubled their numbers over 1980 near Ft. McMurray (JG). A dog or coyote destroyed an island-nesting concentration of Ring-billed Gulls and ducks on Redberry L., Sask. (SH). Wandering flocks of 400 Franklin's and 400± Ring-billed gulls appeared in Waterton Lakes N.P. for one day only, June 25 (TH). Both Little and Ross' gulls visited Churchill again this year. The first Manitoba nest of a **Little Gull** was found there; none of the Ross' Gull's nests succeeded (BC). Other Churchill rarities included six Mew Gulls July 7 (DMa, AR) and a Forster's Tern July 9 (DMc, BC). Single extra-limital Band-tailed Pigeons were seen June 20 & 21 near Herbert, Sask., 50± mi w. of where one was seen last year by the same observer, (BFO, *vide* EK) and at Churchill June 29 & July 3 (LA, m.ob.).

Stuart Houston beat his previous record of banding 402 young Great Horned Owls by five birds; production was early and high—2.5 young per successful nest. Burrowing Owls apparently had an excellent year in Saskatchewan with 43 active burrows, two-thirds with young, reported in the Moose Jaw area (EK). Short-eared Owls continued to be scarce in Saskatchewan. Whip-poor-wills were heard n. of their published breeding range at Gimli, Hodgson and Hecla Is., Man.—five birds from June 4-8 (RKO, IW, DF, HC). A pair of Lewis' Woodpeckers was seen at Sundre, Alta., June 24, possibly e. of their breeding range (FH). The first Saskatchewan record of the "*nuchalis*" sub-

species of Yellow-bellied Sapsucker included three males and one female June 18 in the Cypress Hills (R&AKr).

FLYCATCHERS THROUGH SHRIKES

— A Yellow-bellied Flycatcher in Moose Jaw was far s. of its breeding range June 15 (EK). Also in Moose Jaw, observers reported that Tree Swallows were down and that many of the adults were not nesting (EK). A Cliff Swallow colony at Ft. McMurray was down to half of the 260 birds present in 1980 (JG). The Purple Martin colony at the s. end of Buffalo Pound L., Sask., which was apparently decimated by blue-green algae last summer has not recovered, e.g., two nests this year where there were 24 in 1980 (BSc, *vide* EK). Common Crows have become such an abundant breeding species in Saskatoon that a bylaw has been introduced to allow police to shoot "nuisance" birds (BGI). Clark's Nutcrackers showed up in two unexpected places in Saskatchewan July 21: a flock of at least 25 in the Cypress Hills (GS, BSh) and a single at Biggar (GW, RW). A Winter Wren was out of habitat and range when it was found on the provincial museum's lawn in Regina July 23 (RKr). A Mockingbird sang for about three weeks until July 2± on a farm 45 mi s. of Saskatoon (RTi).

A Swainson's Thrush, s. of its breeding range, appeared to be on territory in June at Raymore (WH, SL) and another was n. of its normal range at Churchill June 8 (TF). Around Grande Prairie Swainson's Thrushes and Veeries were noticeably down (KL). Based on 107 nestings in the Saskatoon area, Mountain Bluebirds had a very good year with a high percentage of the pairs nesting twice (MH). However, at Raymore the nestlings in five of six boxes died during a heavy 3-day rain in mid-June (WH, SL). The first indication of Golden-crowned Kinglets nesting in the Saskatchewan Cypress Hills was three males on territory June 17-19 (RKr). A Sprague's Pipit singing at Churchill was far n. of normal breeding grounds July 7-10 (CF). Loggerhead Shrikes were reported up in Alberta (RBU, AW); in Saskatchewan conflicting reports from seven observers suggest an increase over last year.

VIREOS THROUGH SPARROWS —

A **White-eyed Vireo**, heard and seen in a Winnipeg park July 3 & 4, furnished Manitoba's first confirmed record, with Iowa the closest breeding state (GHI, DH, WN). A Solitary Vireo singing June 13 was a rarity in the Cypress Hills, Sask. (CE). The S warbler migration was apparently on in late July: 23 Yellow Warblers headed SW across a point of land in Prince Albert N.P. during 1.5 hours July 25 (MS) and a concentration of 20+ Tennessee Warblers was observed in an Edmonton ravine July 29 (PA). The Turtle Mountains in Manitoba are w. of the usual breeding range of N. Parulas but three were heard there June 26 & 27 (DD, WN, JZ). A Yellow-rumped Warbler brood of three was found at Pike L., Sask., s. of its normal breeding area July 13 (PO). Yellow-breasted Chat nests were found n. of their published breeding ranges at Rosebud and Drumheller, Alta. (*vide* AW) and July 18 near Saskatoon (BGd, SS). Another Manitoba first was an **Eastern Meadowlark** taped June 13 & 14, 40



Wandering Tattler, Churchill, Man., June 15, 1981. Found by Kenn Kaufman, June 14. Photo/Alan Brady.

mi e. of Winnipeg (PTa, RKO, PH, GHI). A ♀ Yellow-headed Blackbird June 10 provided the fifth Churchill record (BC).

Single ad. ♂ Scarlet Tanagers w. the normal breeding range were found at Souris, Man., June 26 (LS, PSA) and at Turtle L., Sask., June 6 (MC). What represents probably Alberta's ninth House Finch record was a male singing June 3, 6 & 7 at Canmore, Alta., (GHR, KV, JS). White-winged Crossbills made an unusual appearance in the Raymond-Wynyard area: three birds July 9 & 31 (WH, SL) and eight birds July 22-31 (JG). Sharp-tailed Sparrows were found s. and n. of their breeding range: one near Priddis, Alta., July 7 (AS) and at least two at Churchill June 20 (BC, m.ob.). Chipping Sparrows were apparently moving July 25 in Prince Albert N.P., with the Yellow Warblers mentioned above; more than 100 passed the point between 8:30 and 10:00 a.m. (MS). The first

Field Sparrow in Manitoba in seven years was singing e. of Beausejour June 21 & 22 (PTa, NC, AB, RKO, DG).

ADDENDA — A European Wigeon was far n. Apr. 5 at Grande Prairie as were a Wood Duck Apr. 26 and three Cinnamon Teal in May at Ft. McMurray (KL, JG). Perhaps the most northerly record of a Prairie Falcon for the three provinces was of a bird near Grande Prairie Apr. 17 (KL).

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NORTHERN GREAT PLAINS /Craig A. Faanes

This spring's drought across most of the Region finally broke in early June. Although there was ample precipitation in most areas, much of it came too late to replenish levels of many prairie wetlands. At Fargo, rain totaling 2.56 inches fell on 24 days in June. The prairie grasses responded nicely to the ample rainfall. Comments from eastern Montana included "grasslands look better now than they usually do in 'normal' years." Temperatures throughout were generally cool—quite different from the last two-three years. At Fargo the highest June temperature was 80° F. July was also comparatively mild except for a 5-day period around the 4th when successive 100+° days stressed both wetlands and prairie vegetation.

One impact of the past dry weather was that normally productive Prairie Pothole breeding habitat was left in less-than-optimum condition. Aerial waterfowl pair counts conducted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service indicated that total breeding populations were 29% below the 1967-79 mean in North Dakota; 26% below in South Dakota, but 6% above in Montana. Those species experiencing the greatest declines were Pintail, Mallard, and Blue-winged Teal. The North Dakota Game and Fish Department reported that waterfowl brood production this year was 25% below that of 1980—also a very poor year.

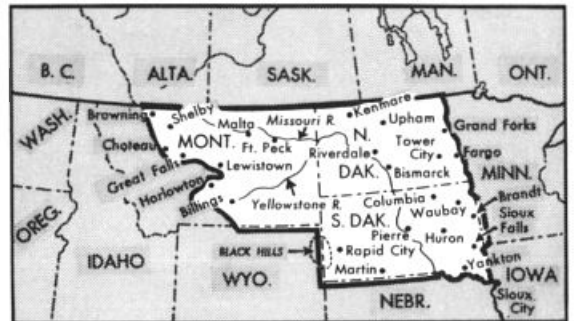
The breeding season brought out a feeling of wanderlust in many observers which resulted in increased activity in several areas that have been largely neglected in the past. Among the surprises were Little Blue Heron and Yellow-crowned Night Heron, increased knowledge of the distribution of Piping Plover and Least Tern in South Dakota, and several "eastern" warblers in northeastern North Dakota.

LOONS THROUGH IBISES — A Com. Loon at Deerfield Res., S.D., July 16-18 (R&DR) provided apparently the second Black Hills record; the first was also obtained

by R&DR in June 1980. The only breeding pairs were observed in the Turtle Mts., N.D., June 20. Red-necked Grebe reports included a nest in Rolette County, N.D., June 19; one pair in Bottineau County, N.D., June 20, and two adults with three young in L. Metigoshe S.P., N.D., during July (DNS, BGI). The White Pelican colony at Chase Lake N.W.R., N.D., supported 5900 ± nests this year (*vide* JGS).

Great Egret reports included six at Sand Lake N.W.R., S.D. (hereafter, Sand Lake), July 15-31. A single Snowy Egret was in McCook County, S.D., June 11 (R&DR), and two at Sand Lake July 24 (WAS). Fifteen pairs of Cattle Egrets were found nesting at Sand Lake June 29. A breeding-plumaged Little Blue Heron at the Hazen sewage lagoons June 7, provided the fourth North Dakota record (†DNS, GBB, BGI). Green Herons included two at Jamestown, N.D., July 23 & 29; and two at Lake Andes N.W.R., S.D., June 22. Yellow-crowned Night Herons were seen at Fargo June 21 & 28 (†PWA), and Benson County, N.D., July 3-4 (†GSL, DOL, GBB, JEB). These represented the sixth and seventh North Dakota records. White-faced Ibises included four at Bowdoin N.W.R., Mont., June 14 (CMC, JCC) and two nesting pairs at Sand Lake.

WATERFOWL — Interesting Anseriforms included a late Snow Goose in Griggs County, N.D., June 7 (CAF). Three Black Ducks were seen in e. North Dakota June 25-July 5. A female with eight young on L. McDonald in the Turtle Mts., represented the first state breeding record since 1968. More exciting was the ♀ Black Duck accompanying five young July 17 at Sand Lake (SJW). This was reported as the first breeding record for that state, although Whitney *et al.* (1978, *Birds of South Dakota*) cited Sand Lake records indicating broods there in 1939 and 1940. Eight Cinnamon Teal were reported across the Region June 5-28; the most easterly, a male at Grand Forks, N.D., June



28 (DOL, GSL). Out-of-place Wood Ducks included a molting male July 10 in s.e. Fall River County, S.D. (R&DR). Wood Duck broods in e. Montana included three near Glasgow (J. Little), and a brood of three near Miles City July 13 (SJG).

A ♂ Com. Goldeneye was found in Rolette County, N.D., June 20 (CAF), where breeding was last reported in 1967. Hooded Mergansers nested at Arrowwood N.W.R., N.D., and a female with three young was found on Upper Souris N.W.R., N.D., June 30 (IOR). Surprising were the single Com. Mergansers June 5 at Angostura Res. (R&DR); June 23 at Lindsay, Mont. (SJG), and July 29 on Canyon L., at Rapid City (RDM, EMS).

HAWKS — A ♀ Goshawk with young was found July 14 near Lion Coulee, Mont. (CJH). Four Cooper's Hawk pairs were seen through the summer in the Pembina Hills, Cavalier Co., N.D. (hereafter, Pembina Hills) (CAF, JMA), a pair was at a nest w. of Glendive, Mont., June 24-July 23 (SIG), and one near Rapid City June 7 (PFS). Sharp-shinned Hawk observations included four in North Dakota, and one each in Montana and South Dakota. REM's observations of a Broad-winged Hawk near Sawyer, N.D., June 11-July 19 raised speculation of nesting; there are no previous breeding season records for the Souris R. loop. An Osprey July 3 at Angostura Res., was "unprecedented" according to observers R&DR. One was also seen June 19 in the Pembina Hills (CAF, JMA). Three Prairie Falcons in widely scat-

tered areas of Grand Forks County, N D., July 18, 21, & 26, were the "earliest ever" post-breeding season observations there (JFK, DOL). A Peregrine Falcon June 18 in the N. Unit of T. Roosevelt N.P., was a disappointment to visiting Virginia birders hoping to add a Prairie to their life lists (*vide* R L. Ake), but was exciting for North Dakotans because no breeding season records have been reported since 1954.

GROUSE AND PHEASANTS — Sharp-tailed Grouse brood survival appeared to exceed that of 1980. SJG found ten including one female on a lek s.w. of Glendive, Mont., in *mid-July*. The only report of a Sage Grouse brood was of one near Webster, Mont., July 8 (MEK). Eighteen ♂ Bobwhite were calling n. of Bonesteel, S.D., June 28, and 56 were heard along census routes in Herrick and Burke cos., July 9. Guesstimates of Gray Partridge production varied with area; GBB reported a "banner year in the Minot area", but near Chester, Mont., nesting was reported as "very poor".

CRANES THROUGH RAILS — The first migrant Sandhill Crane was reported in Wells County, N.D., July 13 (CAF); one was at Sand Lake July 29. Largest counts of Virginia Rails included six or more July 3 in the Big Coulee region of Benson County, N.D., and 11 at Arrowwood N.W.R., July 30. Those of us who braved the mosquitoes and wet tennis shoes associated with North Dakota wet meadows were treated to several Yellow Rails. Two were heard July 4 in the Big Coulee (GSL, DOL, GBB, JEB). Two and probably a third were heard during mid-morning n. of Minnewaukan, N.D., July 22 (CAF, JMA). The latter area is a previously unreported locale.

SHOREBIRDS — One pair of Black-necked Stilts was found on Bowdoin L., Mont., June 4 & 10 (TWP). Four-six ad. Am. Avocets were found during the season at Angostura Res. Two downy young were found there July 3, and one July 10. There also were two young near Oelrichs, Fall River Co. (R&DR). These provide apparently the first breeding records for s.w. South Dakota (Whitney *et al.*, 1978). A group of 140 avocets on the Grand Forks A.F.B. sewage lagoon June 17 (JFK) probably represent unsuccessful nesters that had begun fall flocking.

Encouraging reports of nesting Piping Plover included three young at Ft. Peck, Mont. (CMC), where they have nested the last 3 years. One was noted June 26, e. of Dagmar, Mont. (PDS). Thirty-one, including five young, were reported in South Dakota June 13-July 11 along the Missouri R., at Moberidge, Ft. Sully, Cow Creek and Peoria Bottoms (*vide* EMS).

Post-breeding flocks of 50-75 Marbled Godwits were forming in Stutsman County, N D., by June 20, and most had departed by Aug. 1. The first migrant flock (10) of Long-billed Curlews was found July 10 in Fall River County (R&DR). CMC believed that curlews were seen more commonly than in the last 2 years, and wondered if nesting was enhanced by the 2 previous dry years. Three B B.S. routes in Grand Forks and Nelson

Table 1. Summary of Late and Early Shorebird Migrants, Summer 1981.

Species	Late spring	State	Early fall	State
Semipalmated Plover			July 2	N D
American Golden Plover	June 11 (3)	S.D.	June 28 (2)	N D
Black-bellied Plover			June 17	N D
Solitary Sandpiper			June 24	S D
Greater Yellowlegs			June 28	N D
Lesser Yellowlegs			June 18 (125)	N D
Stilt Sandpiper			June 25	N D
Short-billed Dowitcher			June 28 (3)	N D
Long-billed Dowitcher	June 10	N.D.	June 25	N D
Pectoral Sandpiper	June 16	N.D.	June 25 (2)	N D
Dunlin	June 16	N.D.		
Sanderling	June 17	N.D.	July 3	S D
Ruddy Turnstone	June 16 (2)	N.D.	July 27 (2)	N D
White-rumped Sandpiper	June 26	N.D.		
Baird's Sandpiper	June 10	N.D.	June 24	S D
Least Sandpiper	June 10	N.D.	July 2	N D
Semipalmated Sandpiper	June 10	N.D.	June 24	S.D., N D
Northern Phalarope	June 17	N.D.	June 28	N D

cos., N.D., showed record high numbers of Upland Sandpipers (JFK). A visiting Australian birder was treated to a migrant flock of 42 Uplands in Kidder County, N.D., July 28 (CAF). An Am. Woodcock at Lake Andes N.W.R., June 7 provided one of the most westerly records for that state. A male was netted and banded June 17 in the Pembina Hills (CAF, JMA). Western Sandpipers were reported June 25, July 8 & 10 at Fargo (MAB, CAS), six each were at Edgemont and Igloo, S.D., July 10 (R&DR), and three were at L. Oahe July 11 (RLS). A Buff-breasted Sandpiper was at Grand Forks July 27.

Enough observers are spending time with migrant shorebirds during June and July so that the Northern Great Plains Region can now boast the same problem that the rest of the nation has—we can't tell which way they're going either! Rather than take up space with dates and locations, I have summarized apparent north and southbound species in Table 1.

GULLS AND TERNS — Unusual during summer were single Herring Gulls at Angostura Res., June 5 (R & DR) and an immature in Kidder County, N.D., July 28. Three were found at the L. Oahe Dam July 11. Among the first breeding season California Gulls in South Dakota were 11 adults and three immatures at Angostura Res., June 20; two adults and an immature June 24 and two adults July 3 (R & DR). The possible origin of summer California Gulls at Grand Forks was located July 4, when DOL and GSL found a colony of 100± pairs and at least 10 young on L. Laretta, Nelson Co. This is the most easterly breeding locale for this species in North Dakota. Also present was a colony of 100+ Ring-billed Gulls. Young of that species were found on July 4 & 26.

Interesting were the two Least Terns near Stanton, N.D., July 11. Twenty-two were found in scattered locations along the Missouri R., between Moberidge and Gavin's Pt. Dam, S.D., and 50+ were found in 3 colonies on Minnconjou Bay, L. Oahe July 26 (RLS, BC). Caspian Tern observations included one near Sturgis, S.D., and two on Newell L., near Newell, S.D., June 8 (PFS). Whitney *et al.* (1978) consider this a rare spring and summer visitant in South Dakota.

CUCKOOS THROUGH OWLS — Yellow-billed Cuckoo observations included one in Bottineau County June 20; one s. of Broadus, Mont., June 22 (PDS); two adults feeding a nestling in Hughes County, S D., June 25; and two in the Pembina Hills July 20. One ad. Barn Owl, three young and one egg were found below Big Bend Dam, Brule Co., S.D., June 14; and two nestlings were in Gregory County, S.D., in July (*vide* RLS). One pair of Burrowing Owls July 16-Aug 1 on the Oakville Prairie, Grand Forks Co., were quite unexpected that far e. (DOL, SOL). Most surprising, was the ad. Saw-whet Owl heard and then seen June 19 in Pembina County, N.D. (CAF). Other breeding season records for that state, all from the n.e., were in 1898, 1915, and 1961.

CAMPRIMULGIDS THROUGH WOODPECKERS — Whip-poor-wills were heard through the period at Gavin's Pt., Yankton Co. (JEW), and 6-8 were heard calling June 10 in Newton Hills S.P., Lincoln Co., S D (R & DR). Rather far w., were the Chimney Swifts at Hot Springs, S.D., July 3 (R & DR), Sidney, Mont., June 25 (PDS), and Ft. Peck July 23 (CMC). Two Ruby-throated Hummingbird nests were found 150 ft apart in a bur oak-green ash forest in the Pembina Hills July 20 (CAF, JMA). The most westerly record was of one June 5 at Sawyer, N D (REM). A female or imm. hummingbird sp was found July 12 in Lawrence County, S D (NMB). Pileated Woodpeckers were unreported from their normal Fargo haunts, but one was in Pembina County June 17. The only Lewis' reported was found on Canyon L. Drive near Rapid City June 14. Two male Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers were at Newton Hills S.P., June 11 (R & DR), and one was at Sawyer, N.D., July 5 (REM).

FLYCATCHERS THROUGH SWALLOWS — One W. Kingbird was found at 6300-6600 ft in the Black Hills July 18 (R & DR). Two adult and three young Cassin's Kingbirds were in the Pine Hills near Miles City, Mont., July 25 (SJG), and PDS found one along the Powder R., near the Wyoming border June 22. Say's Phoebe made a surprising showing at the e. limit of their range, including a nest with four young in w. Grand

Forks County July 11 (JFK), a pair at the same location s.e. of Jamestown for the seventh consecutive year produced two broods, and they were found in extreme n.e. Barnes County, N.D., for the sixth consecutive year (DLK). Four Yellow-bellied Flycatchers were banded and an estimated 25 more were present in a migrant flock at Bright Image P., Grand Forks Co., June 1 (RKC).

S.A.

Stewart (1975, *Breeding Birds of North Dakota*) speculated that **Alder Flycatchers** may occur in that state, but provided no conclusive evidence of nesting. This species was found in surprising numbers and densities in willow thickets in the Pembina Hills and a recently fledged young was found July 21, providing a first nest record for North Dakota. At least 12 were recorded June 20 in the Turtle Mts., in Bottineau and Rolette cos. No Willow Flycatchers were found in either the Pembina Hills or Turtle Mts. They were found, however, in similar habitats off the Turtle Mt. escarpment near the towns of Bottineau, St. Johns, and Dunseith, and at Langdon on the Northeastern Drift Plain.

Two Purple Martin pairs were in a nest box at Martin, Bennett Co., S.D., where they have been present yearly since 1968.

CORVIDS THROUGH THRUSHES —

Two Blue Jays feeding young in the Black Hills July 21 were the most westerly reported. Early migrant Red-breasted Nuthatches included singles June 20 in Bismarck (RNR), July 5 in Grand Forks (DOL) July 27 (RLQ) at Bismarck. A family group of 3-4 Pygmy Nuthatches plus a single were found June 24 near Cascade Springs, S.D. (R & DR).

A pair of Short-billed Marsh Wrens was found at Medicine Lake N.W.R., Mont., June 26 (PDS, ph.) in the same Baltic rush patch where found June 15, 1972. This represented the 6th state record; the first photographically documented. Four Sage Thrashers were reported from s.w. South Dakota (R & DR); one July 16 near Glendive, Mont. (SJJ), and North Dakota's first since June 14, 1963, was found June 19, s. of Marmarth, Bowman Co. (*vide* R.L. Ake). The only Wood Thrush reported was one singing July 20 in the Pembina Hills. Late Swainson's Thrushes were at Fargo June 20 (EMW), and near Glendive June 25. One Veery near Springfield, Bon Homme Co., S.D., was hard to explain. This was reported as a "phenomenal" nesting year for Townsend's Solitaires in the Black Hills with young of several ages July 16-18 (R & DR).

GNATCATCHERS THROUGH VIREOS

— A territorial ♂ **Blue-gray Gnatcatcher** in Newton Hills S.P., June 11 represented the first summer record for South Dakota (R & DR). A late Ruby-crowned Kinglet was in the Pembina Hills June 7 (CAF). Sprague's Pipits were reported from several locations through the Region. GBB found them in 12 McHenry County, N.D., areas July 19, and they were found on 11 occasions s.w. of Glendive (SJJ). Loggerhead Shrikes were

"seen more commonly than usual" in e. Montana (CMC). Two Bell's Vireos were singing near the Farmingdale Bridge, S.D., June 2 (JLB). Yellow-throated Vireos were found in numerous e. Dakota locations; nests were found near Minot and Fargo. Solitary Vireos were found June 17 in Pembina County; June 20 in the Turtle Mts.; June 21 n.w. of Mizpah, Mont., and June 28 at Grand Forks, and at Forsyth, Mont. Philadelphia Vireos were recorded through the period in the Pembina Hills, and five were heard in the Turtle Mts., June 20.

WARBLERS — This group provided the most excitement of the summer in this Region, with 2 first state breeding records, a fourth state occurrence, and 2 e. species oblivious of birder geography. The mystery of whether Black-and-white Warblers nest in South Dakota, was solved June 17-July 1, when two adults and one young were found at Farm I. Nature Trail near Pierre (RLS, CAS, BC). A pair of **Golden-winged Warblers** observed June 6-July 2, in the Pembina Hills fledged two young about June 30, thus providing the first state nesting record (CAF). At least 15 pairs of Orange-crowned Warblers were in the Pembina Hills through the period (CAF). Stewart reported breeding season adults at that location in June 1962, 1964 and May 1971. Early Nashville Warblers were in Grand Forks July 24 & 28 (GSL, DS, SOL).

Probably the most frustrating records for state list-conscious birders were the singing ♂ N. Parula and Black-throated Blue Warbler found by Dupree and 5 other Maryland birders on the Canadian side (!) of the International Peace Gardens June 25.

A late Myrtle Warbler was singing at Arrowwood N.W.R., June 10, and one was in Slope County, N.D., July 12 (GBB); only Audubon's Warblers have been identified from the latter location in summer. One **Chestnut-sided Warbler** in Phillips County, Mont., May 29 provided the fourth record for Montana (D.M. Prellwitz, ph.). Two territorial males were found through the period in the Pembina Hills, establishing one of about 6 breeding season locations for North Dakota. Mourning Warblers were found fairly commonly in the Pembina Hills. One pair of Canada Warblers occupied a territory in an aspen forest in the Pembina Hills during June and July (CAF). The 2 previous breeding season records for this species in North Dakota were from the Turtle Mts., and Walhalla; both in 1917.

BLACKBIRDS THROUGH TANAGERS

— Two E. Meadowlarks were at La-Creek N.W.R., S.D., June 13 (R & DR). This was apparently a good year for Orchard Orioles. They were reported to be more common than Northerns near Bismarck (RNR), and "increasing quite a bit in the e. parts" of Montana (CMC). Scarlet Tanagers were found in several e. North Dakota locations; a singing male July 5 and a female July 17 at Sawyer provided the first recent indication of nesting in the Souris R. loop (REM).

FINCHES — A ♂ Cardinal July 28-30 at L. Metigoshe S.P., furnished the second record for the North Dakota section of the Turtle Mts. (BGI). A young Indigo Bunting at the Rapid City Fish Hatchery July 31 was the

most w report (RDM). Dickcissels made a modest showing in North Dakota, with two near Stanley, June 20 the farthest n.w. (GBB). A Purple Finch nest was found in the International Peace Gardens, N.D., June 20, where they have been suspected of nesting previously (CAF). An immature ♂ House Finch was at Edgemont, S.D., July 10 (R & DR). Red Crossbills were abundant in the Black Hills (R & DR); two were in Cavalier County June 30; 14 at Hope, N.D., June 13-17, and four at Grand Forks July 1. Lark Buntings made a rather dismal showing at the e. edge of their range in North Dakota. However, one June 20 in Cass County was quite far e. (DLK). Farther w., RNR found numbers greater than during last 4 years; 129 on the Zap B.B.S., was a three-fold increase over recent years.

SPARROWS — This was a "banner year" for Grasshopper Sparrows in Grand Forks County (DOL). Reports from elsewhere in the Region tend to substantiate this. How this species finds its way to the Blue List each year is a mystery, considering its abundance in the principal breeding range.

Baird's Sparrows were found in good numbers, again in wet meadows. One at Hope, N.D., in the heavily farmed Drift Prairie, was the first there since 1972 (DLK). Eight males were found in an area near Minot in early July where they had been absent earlier. Le Conte's Sparrows were found in wet meadow habitats in northern North Dakota, including 11 in Towner County, June 19, and 31 near Minnewaukan July 22. They were also reported as locally common in Grand Forks and Benson cos. A ♂ **Henslow's Sparrow** at Woodworth, N.D., June 10-14, provided the third North Dakota record (R. Renken). The 2 previous observations were Sept. 22, 1962 near Kenmare (AFN 17:44) and July 5, 1978 in the Sheyenne Nat'l Grasslands. Four Sharp-tailed Sparrows were found near Minnewaukan July 22, and they were reported as fairly common in the Big Coulee, Benson Co., and in Kelly's Slough, Grand Forks Co. (DOL). They were also found in 7 other Grand Forks County locations; four were birds singing from grain fields in July (JFK).

Field Sparrows were very common along the L. Missouri R. (GBB), and PDS found them fairly well distributed in e. Montana. White-crowned Sparrows were in the Bearpaw Mts., Mont., July 16. Swamp Sparrows were found through the period in Kidder County; at least 10 males at Kelly's Slough and one at Lake Andes N.W.R., June 22. The only McCown's Longspur reported was one near Edgemont, S.D., July 10 (R & DR).

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SOUTHERN GREAT PLAINS
/Frances Williams

West-central Kansas received 10 to 25 inches of rain during June and July, resulting in extensive flooding at Cheyenne Bottoms Wildlife Management area and Quivera National Wildlife Refuge. Nesting of nearly all birds in the area was disrupted. Elsewhere rainfall was average and temperatures were back to normal after last year's merciless heat.

Each year a few more observers discover that it is as challenging to study nesting birds as it is to tally a big list during migration, and each year a little is added to the knowledge of the breeding birds of the Southern Great Plains.

GREBES THROUGH ANHINGA — Eared Grebes had a remarkable nesting year in Sheridan County, Neb. On June 26 there were approximately 500 nests in the sandhills (R&DR). At the Midland, Tex., sewage ponds, there were ten Eared Grebe nests July 31. Egg laying had just begun (JC). A W. Grebe in breeding plumage was found at Black Mesa S.P., Okla., June 21 (JHG). At Box Butte Res., Dawes Co., Neb., there were 80 ± juv. Pied-billed Grebes July 28. As many as 1000 White Pelicans summered at Crescent Lake N.W.R. (hereafter, Crescent L.), Neb., although the species has never been known to nest in the State. A few White Pelicans had returned to n. Texas in early July. Olivaceous Cormorants were nesting in Henderson County, Tex., June 9 (WP *et al.*) and others were present in Archer and Clay cos., during the period.

HERONS — In the Texas Panhandle, heronries occupied by Great Blue Herons were discovered in Wheeler and Hemphill cos. (KS). Green Herons were present in the Davis Mts., Tex., all summer but no nest was found (GW). Hoffman censused 3 heronries in n.e. Oklahoma and estimated their total population to be 2300 Little Blue Herons, 14,500 Cattle Egrets, 163 Great Egrets, and a few Snowy Egrets, Black-crowned Night Herons and Green Herons. A heronry discovered at Wichita Falls, Tex., was inhabited by Little Blue Herons, Cattle, Snowy and Great egrets (WP *et al.*). Newell commented that Cattle Egrets now outnumber all others at heronries in the Oklahoma City area, but that this increase has not been at the expense of native species. A Cattle Egret in Potter County, Tex., July 12 provided a first summer record for the Texas Panhandle (KS). A Cattle Egret was sighted in Big Bend N.P., July 27 and one appeared briefly near Crescent L., June 17. Louisiana Herons again nested in Henderson County. A single Louisiana Heron remained at Quiv-

era N.W.R., throughout June (RB *et al.*). In Deaf Smith County, Tex., 20 ad. Black-crowned Night Herons were seen July 19. Add Yellow-crowned Night Herons to the list of species which are tolerant of human presence. A pair successfully raised three young in Oak P., Wichita, Kans., and there were 3 nests in a very busy section of Mother Neff, S.P., Tex. This species was observed in Val Verde County, Tex., throughout July. A Least Bittern inhabited the marsh in Mohawk P., Tulsa during June.

IBISES THROUGH WATERFOWL — Thirteen nesting pairs of White-faced Ibises at Quivera had fledged young by July 16 (RBr *et al.*). Six White-faced Ibises remained at Midland all summer, but no evidence of nesting was found. A Wood Stork was sighted in Walker County, Tex., June 27. A pair of Trumpeter Swans remained near Crescent L., throughout the period, but no nest was located. A pair of Black-bellied Whistling Ducks with 12 ducklings was present in Dallas County July 13 (PJ *et al.*). On June 16 a nest box in Burleson County, Tex., contained 28 Black-bellied Whistling Duck eggs, surely the product of more than one hen (KA *et al.*). In Val Verde County, a pair of this species with ten ducklings was observed Aug. 10 (GB). About 15 adults summered in the county. Mexican Ducks with six almost fully-grown young were present at Alpine, Tex., July 15. A ♀ Pintail with eight half-grown ducklings were observed at Midland June 26. Five broods of Blue-winged Teal ducklings were hatched at Midland and one family was observed at Big Lake, Tex. A Wood Duck was noted in Sheridan County June 26, only the second sandhills record of this species (R&DR). Wood Ducks nested successfully in boxes at the North Platte N.W.R., Neb. (FZ). There are more and more Wood Ducks in the Texas Panhandle in all seasons (KS). A flock of 50 Redheads, mostly males, remained at Midland all summer. A ♀ Bufflehead at Crescent L., July 11 was extremely early. Five pairs of Ruddy Ducks successfully raised young at the Midland sewage ponds. A ♀ *Mergus* species with six young was seen at Tulsa May 15. A Hooded Merganser in Dawes County, Neb., July 28 provided a first summer record there.

HAWKS — Mississippi Kites nested in parks in Wichita and Oklahoma City and in a cemetery in Midland. Immature Mississippi Kites were observed in Big Bend N.P., during July. A Cooper's Hawk nest was discovered in Cimarron County, Okla., June 6 (JT *et al.*). A Zone-tailed Hawk nest 60 mi n.w. of Del Rio, Tex., was 24 ft above ground in an oak tree. When discovered Aug. 6, the



nest contained one juvenile (SHS). Two young Ferruginous Hawks were in a nest in Dallam County, Tex., June 11. A Gray Hawk in Big Bend N.P., in July was noteworthy. An Osprey visited a lake in Kiowa County, Okla., June 21 (JT). Caracaras nested in Kaufman County, Tex., and one was seen in Kinney County, Tex., June 1. Four downy Prairie Falcons occupied an old eagle nest in Cimarron County, Okla., June 6 (JN *et al.*). Single Prairie Falcons were seen in Meade County, Kans., June 13 and Clark County, Kans., July 21.

RAILS AND GALLINULES — Six King Rails were counted at Quivera in early August (J&ES). Virginia Rails are now found in Hutchinson County, Tex., the year around (KS). Virginia Rails and Soras were present at Quivera July 18-31+. Black Rails were discovered at Quivera June 22-23 (RB, DS). Five ad. Com. Gallinules with seven chicks were seen at L. Meredith, Hutchinson Co., July 5. This species was present in Val Verde County all summer.

PLOVERS THROUGH TERNS — Shorebirds are expected in July, but this summer the S movement was unusually early and impressive. Piping Plovers appeared in Barber County, Kans., July 10, Quivera July 16, Tulsa July 26. There were at least 60 breeding pairs of Snowy Plovers at Quivera (RB). A single Snowy Plover was seen in Cotton County, Okla., July 1 (JT) and four were in Wichita County, Tex., July 11 (WP). The Mountain Plovers which nested in the Davis Mts., could not be found after their eggs hatched, but it is difficult for one observer to cover 3 pastures that are each nearly 640 acres in size (PE). Black-bellied Plovers visited Quivera May 30 & Aug. 6. Three Ruddy Turnstones appeared in Kiowa County June 1 (DM) and one was at Quivera July 29. Several pairs of Long-billed Curlews with chicks were present in Cimarron County June 4-5. At Crescent L., the late June population of curlews peaked at 130,

about 30% higher than in 1980 and the population along the Dallam County Breeding Bird Survey route was also above average. On July 19 there were 450 Long-billed Curlews at a prairie dog town w. of Hereford, Tex (KS). This species was surprisingly present in n. Texas in June. The June population of Upland Sandpipers at Crescent L., was about double that of 1980 and production of young appeared to be good. One pair of Spotted Sandpipers nested in Meade County, Kans. (J&ES). Four Solitary Sandpipers in Sheridan County June 26 were very early. Sanderlings were seen in Dawes County on the late date of June 2 and the early date of July 21 (R&DR). Four Short-billed Dowitchers visited Quivera July 14 (J&ES). Marbled Godwits arrived at Quivera July 13 and Midland July 17.

At the Midland sewage ponds, Cys discovered different microhabitat preferences for nest sites for Am. Avocets and Black-necked Stilts. Avocets nested on top of the dikes, laying their eggs in small scrapes among the rocks. Stilts nested at the water's edge, amid thick clumps of grass. At Quivera, Boyd discovered a Black-necked Stilt nest containing seven eggs. The normal clutch is four. Black-necked Stilts were present at Dallas July 18. Wilson's Phalaropes had downy chicks at Quivera July 14.

Twelve breeding pairs of Forster's Terns at Quivera had produced five chicks by July 9 (RBR). There were 16 breeding pairs of Least Terns at Quivera, seven in Meade County and 24 in Clark County. In Comanche County, Kans., 102 ad. Least Terns and 75 juvenals were counted July 24. On a sandbar on the Arkansas R., at Tulsa June 16, there were 16 incubating Least Terns and two young being fed (FP). Although Least Terns were present along the Canadian R., in Hemphill County, no nests were found. Black Terns summered in several counties in the Texas Panhandle. There were two nests of this species at Quivera July 23 (J&ES *et al.*).

DOVES THROUGH KINGFISHERS —

An unusual concentration of White-winged Doves was present in Medina County, Tex., but no evidence of breeding was seen (E&KM). Five contributors noted an abundance of Yellow-billed Cuckoos. A Black-billed Cuckoo was observed in Osage County, Kans., June 5 (SK). Groove-billed Anis were present in Kinney County, Tex., June 12-July 12 (DB) and Val Verde County June 11-July 30 (GB). More than two dozen nests of Lucifer Hummingbirds were found in Big Bend N.P., during May and June (PS). Rufous and Calliope hummingbirds arrived in the Davis Mts., June 17 (PE) and a Rufous Hummingbird reached Walker County, Tex., July 25 (RM). White-eared Hummingbirds are reported from Big Bend N.P., each July and August. Belted Kingfishers remained in Brewster County, Tex., during June and in Jeff Davis County during July. Observers speculate the birds may be nesting. A Ringed Kingfisher provided a new record for Big Bend N.P., July 28 (RD *et al.*).

WOODPECKERS THROUGH FLY-CATCHERS — Unusual summer sightings of Com. Flickers occurred in Abilene, Tex.,

Wilbarger County, Tex., and Marshall County, Okla. A ♀ Pileated Woodpecker with young was observed at Tulsa June 3. A Hairy Woodpecker provided a first record in Rush County, Kans., July 18 (SS). Downy Woodpeckers carried food into a nest hole in Grayson County, Tex., Apr. 19. A Ladder-backed Woodpecker in Johnson County, Tex., June 15 was at the e. limit of its range (CWE). The most surprising record of the summer was provided by a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker at Waco, Tex., July 14 (JO).

About 30 Tropical Kingbirds concentrated near a residence in Del Rio July 31 (GB). Nesting W. Kingbirds were found in downtown Tulsa and in an outlying shopping center. At Keene, Tex., 7 nests of W. Kingbirds were located in about 4 mi². There were only 3 E. Kingbird nests in the area. An unusual W. Kingbird nest in Abilene, Tex., was described as "a sloppy looking conglomerate of weed stems and at least 4 pieces of plastic and paper approximately 2 ft in length hung from the nest" (BV). A Cassin's Kingbird in Dallam County, Tex., June 11 constituted a first record (KS). Scissor-tailed Flycatchers again nested near Baldwin City, Kans. Two pairs of Great Crested Flycatchers spent the summer at Crescent L., but nesting was not confirmed. Four Great Crested Flycatchers were observed in Hutchinson County, Tex., June 19. A Black Phoebe at Buffalo Lake N.W.R., Tex., July 26 provided a first summer record for the Texas Panhandle (KS). Say's Phoebes nested in Rush County, Kans., which is near the e. edge of their breeding range. A Vermilion Flycatcher brightened Huntsville S.P., Tex., July 19 (RM).

SWALLOWS THROUGH VERDINS —

There were 4 nests in the Tree Swallow colony in Nowata County, Okla. (JCH). A pair of Rough-winged Swallows attempted to nest in the bank of a sand pit at Crescent L., but the nest was believed to be unsuccessful owing to human activity. At Abilene, Tex., most of 109 nests of Barn Swallows in a culvert were destroyed by a flood, but 2 weeks later there were 111 nests in the culvert. At Balmorhea S.P., Tex., a pair of Cave Swallows built a nest under the eaves of the motel. The Cave Swallow nest was shaped like a small bowl and was so close to the eave that the birds could not perch on the rim of the nest but had to squeeze inside each time (N&JS). The Muellers noted that the Cave Swallow population in w. Kerr County was the lowest in many years. Two Black-billed Magpies appeared in Stafford County, Kans., June 4. Verdins were absent or in very low numbers on most w. Texas Breeding Bird Surveys.

WRENS THROUGH THRUSHES —

During early June, House Wrens were singing in 5 counties in the Texas Panhandle. A House Wren nested at Tulsa in July. In Keene, Tex., a Bewick's Wren built a nest just 12 in. from a Scissor-tailed Flycatcher's nest. The wrens harassed the flycatchers. Both species fledged young. A Rock Wren in a Tulsa County quarry July 3 provided a first summer record (AH *et al.*). Two ad. Curve-billed Thrashers with young were observed in Randall County, Tex., May 25. Ten years

ago this would have deserved bold face type, now it is expected. A Curve-billed Thrasher in Norton County, Kans., just 20 mi s. of the Nebraska line, June 6 is awarded the bold face this year (SS). A Crissal Thrasher in Presidio County was feeding fledglings Apr 4 (JM, m.ob.). American Robins nested in Abilene and Midland. Two broods were fledged in Midland.

VIREOS THROUGH TANAGERS — A Black-capped Vireo was seen in Val Verde County July 5 (V&BH). Four contributors noted a good population of Bell's Vireos although the species is still absent in Tarrant County, Tex. Singing ♂ Gray Vireos were discovered at 2 new sites in Crockett County, Tex. This species appears to be well distributed on the w. Edwards Plateau (CCW). Warbling Vireos were singing in Hemphill, Hutchinson and Randall cos., Tex., during June and July.

Blackburnian Warblers remained at Crescent L., through June 29, their only appearance there in any month except May. Parulas and Kentucky Warblers were in low numbers in n.e. Kansas. A N. Waterthrush in Crockett County July 30 was early (WRS). Three newly fledged Bobolinks were seen in Stafford County July 14 (J&ES). Scott's Orioles continue to increase in Kerr County, Tex. In Johnson County, Tex., N. Bullock's Orioles fed in cornfields, eating the worms found in ears of corn. Brown-headed Cowbirds increased greatly in the Nebraska sandhills. Bronzed Cowbirds at Alpine, Tex., June 19-July 31+ (GW) and in Presidio County July 6-14 (JM) were newsworthy. At Abilene and Midland, Com. Grackles were present all summer and a fledgling being fed by an adult was noted at Midland. Great-tailed Grackles were seen in these Kansas counties: Butler, Douglas, Kiowa, Pratt and Stafford. A small colony in Washington County, Okla., disappeared by May 24, but the colony in Presidio County increased. Scarlet Tanagers lingered into June at Crescent L., and Ft. Worth.

FRINGILLIDS — Singing ♂ Indigo Buntings were seen in Big Bend N.P., June 13 and July 4 & 29 (m.ob.). This species was seen on the Gordon, Neb., Breeding Bird Survey and at several locations in the Texas Panhandle. Dickcissels were abundant at Midland and Del Rio throughout the season. House Finches were feeding young at Temple, Tex., Aug. 17 (JK). This is at the e. limit of the species' range. A ♂ House Finch was observed in Meade County, Kans., June 10. A Pine Siskin at Buffalo Lake N.W.R., July 26 was unusual for the date. The colony of Lesser Goldfinches at Red Rock Canyon S.P., Caddo Co., Okla., has disappeared (JN). A flock of 15 Red Crossbills appeared at Crescent L., June 21-July 7 and one was seen on the Gordon B.B.S. Two were in Guadalupe Mountains N.P., Tex., in July (BE). A Brown Towhee provided a first record in Tarrant County July 6 (RDC).

Thousands of Lark Buntings summered in Crockett, Schleicher, Reagan, Upton and Irion cos., Tex., which may explain the absence of the species in the Texas Panhandle. Fledgling Grasshopper Sparrows were present in Midland June 20 and Kerr County July 9. Several pairs of Henslow's Sparrows

breed on the Kanza Prairie s. of Manhattan, Kans. This is a Kansas State University study area and groups are only allowed access by appointment. The population of Cassin's Sparrows was very low in the Texas Panhandle, but was average or above in the Texas s. plains. A brightly-colored Gray-headed Junco appeared at Crescent L., June 5. Two singing Field Sparrows in s.e. Hutchinson County June 19 were unusually far w. (KS).

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SOUTH TEXAS REGION

/Fred S. Webster, Jr.

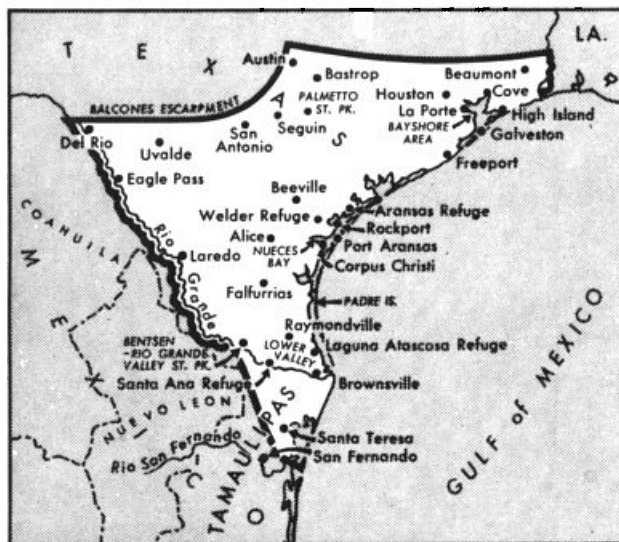
Most observers rated the season "normal" or "average", indicating good nesting results with weather-related disasters occurring only on a local scale. Temperatures averaged near normal. Rain fell abundantly from late May until mid-July when upper level high pressure became the dominant weather factor. Rains came again in late August with a tropical depression, causing abnormal amounts in many localities. Overall, environmental conditions favored nesting activities in upland areas, and water birds found abundant pond and marsh habitat on the coastal plains.

A cyclic decline of xeric species continued in the Coastal Bend (central coast area). Blacklock credits its inception to hurricane *Beulah* in 1967, and its continuation to the wet cycle which has persisted despite intervals of drought. Referring to vegetative changes on Welder Wildlife Refuge as typical of the entire area, he described the displacement of waist-high prickly pear (*Opuntia* sp.), mostly short grasses and low xerophytic chaparral by taller grasses and tall chaparral. With mesquite savannah giving way to hackberry savannah, the countryside has assumed some characteristics of the normally wetter upper coastal area. One effect of altered habitat on avifauna has been the population decline of such xeric species as Verdin, Bewick's Wren, Cactus Wren, Curve-billed Thrasher, and Cassin's Sparrow; these have not been replaced by other species.

GREBES THROUGH CORMORANTS — Observers reported Least Grebes mostly absent from their usual haunts. Breeding Pied-billed Grebes were particularly numerous in "hurricane lakes", flooded areas left by hurricane *Allen* in August 1980, w. of Mission, Hidalgo Co.; here "hundreds" of young were produced (JA). A heavy infestation of ticks and pouch lice among White Pelicans caused virtual abandonment of the important South Bird I. sanctuary and partial desertion of 2 lesser sites. Amid the confusion of relocating and late nesting, accurate production figures were not possible. On an island s. of the sanctuary, downy young were still in nests Sept. 1 (EP). Total breeding pairs of White Pelicans remained at 250 ±, as in recent seasons (GWB). Peak Brown Pelican count for the entire Texas coast was 425

individuals (DB); presumably many of these were non-breeders. A total of 46 young pelicans fledged, compared with 76 in 1980, and these were from 56 breeding pairs. The Pelican I. sanctuary at Corpus Christi held 43 active nests at one time but ectoparasites prompted a cycle of deserting and re-nesting (EP, *vide* KM). About 45 nests of the Olivaceous Cormorant were located in a new colony at Corpus Christi (see Cattle Egret); young were still in the nest Sept. 1 (GWB). Eleven nests with eggs were reported at Rollover Pass, a colony consisting of 4 spoil islands, on Bolivar Pen., May 5 (TG).

HERONS THROUGH SPOONBILLS — Herons had a very successful nesting season on the upper Texas coast (JM). Some herons still occupied nests in the Corpus Christi area Sept. 1 (EP); parasitism is the likely cause for this late nesting. Hurricane *Allen* killed shrub vegetation on the Nueces Bay islands and along the lower coast, and caused some erosion. This alteration of traditional nesting sites often left birds the choice of nesting on the ground or moving elsewhere. Many Cattle Egrets chose the latter and established a colony at the water plant oxidation ponds within the Corpus Christi city limits where 4000 ± were at home with lesser numbers of other species. A new inland heronry was discovered s. of Taylor, Williamson Co., in a large grove of cedar elms surrounded by farm and pastureland (HF, *vide* EK). This site was used for the fourth year with ever-increasing numbers of birds (RN, *vide* EK). Improved crops and less insect infestation of cattle have attended the birds' presence. On Aug. 5, estimated numbers included 7200 Cattle Egret adult and 3600 pre-flight immatures of various ages; toward sunset the population swelled to 20,000 ± as other birds flew in to roost. About 50 Little Blue Herons and 10 Great Egrets, both with nearly grown young, shared the heronry (EK). Reddish Egrets were nesting at South Bird I., May 27 (27



pairs—JW), Pelican I., Corpus Christi (34 pairs), San Antonio Bay sites July 17 (3 nests with seven eggs or young—SL), and Rollover Pass May 5 (10 nests, most with young—TG). Most White-faced Ibises were at Pelican I., Corpus Christi (250 pairs) and most Roseate Spoonbills were at Rollover Pass (183+ nests with young). Note that many colonial nesting sites were not reported.

WATERFOWL — Last year, nesting boxes were erected at Aransas N.W.R., for the benefit of Black-bellied Whistling Ducks. This year a pair accepted a box and produced a clutch of 16 eggs, from which 11 ducklings were observed Aug. 15 (SL). This species was common throughout its range, but the Fulvous Whistling Duck was scarce. About 12 pairs of Ruddy Ducks nested in flooded fields w. of Mission with "many" young produced (JA); apparently this is a new breeding record for Hidalgo County. Three broods were noted at an industrial oxidation pond in Corpus Christi (JU).

HAWKS — A pair of Hook-billed Kites nested at Rancho Santa Margarita, Starr Co., as in the past 2 years. A pair was present and presumed nesting in the Anzalduas unit of the new Rio Grande N.W.R. (JA). Harris' Hawk continued a downward trend in the Coastal Bend, possibly because of habitat destruction and the wet cycle (GWB). On the other hand, this species appears to be thriving

ing in Webb County after several years of relative scarcity (JB). In the latter case, an unusually wet spring and summer for this usually dry area doubtless stimulated more than average production of plant and animal food sources.

QUAIL THROUGH SHOREBIRDS — Bobwhites had a good season in most areas, but Scaled Quail are merely holding on as habitat dwindles. Common Gallinules flourished in the Coastal Bend and on the hurricane lakes of Hidalgo County. American Coots were tending young in the Rockport area in late August (C&HK). American Oystercatchers fledged young on an island in Matagorda Bay (F&CL), but several other nests on the c. coast were flooded out. Downy chicks of the Snowy Plover were noted on South Padre I., May 19 (two) and July 28 (one), but Arvin commented that this species and Least Terns were "suffering greatly from the proliferation of rental 3-wheel motorcycles that have turned the sandy flats into sterile wastelands." Willet and Black-necked Stilt numbers indicated a good breeding season on the c. coast (KM).

GULLS, TERNS, SKIMMERS — An ad. Pomarine Jaeger was feeding on fish heads, in company of Laughing Gulls, on the Mustang I. beach, June 26; photographs show oiling on its left flank, possibly from resting on oiled *sargassum* weed (AFA). From 5000 to 6000 pairs of Laughing Gulls nested at Galveston's Pelican I. colony. Production was quite good on higher ground where nests nest among thick patches of *Baccharis*; however, success was minimal in a new site adjacent to a fresh spoil disposal area as young birds, when alarmed, tended to swim out into the spoil and become trapped (TE). The Rollover Pass islands had possibly 1500 nesting pairs; all nests had eggs May 5, but many subsequently were lost to high tides (TG). Corpus Christi's Pelican I., had 2800 nesting pairs, and South Bird I., had 2600 (JW). Least Terns persisted at Rockport Beach, an area prone to human disturbance, with at least 120 nests. Early July rains

caused some second nesting and chicks were seen as late as mid-August (C&HK). The Royal Tern was by far the most numerous tern reported. The Rollover Pass colony had 1200 adults, with eggs in the nest May 5 (TG), and Pelican I., Corpus Christi, had 2500 birds with 970 chicks June 5. Sandwitch Terns moved from Pelican I. to Shamrock I. and were reported in good numbers (*vide* KM). Black Skimmer nests at Pelican I., Galveston, were destroyed by high tides and no renesting was observed (TE).

PIGEONS, DOVES — Red-billed Pigeons were absent from Bentsen-Rio Grande Valley S.P., this year, and numbers were reduced along the river below Falcon Dam. At least one pair bred at the Anzalduas unit of Rio Grande N.W.R. (JA). White-winged Dove production was up substantially from 1980, according to Texas Parks and Wildlife officials. During the annual September hunt, particularly high kill totals were realized in areas where landowners had planted domestic sunflowers adjacent to native brush, which is used by nesting doves. Increased corn plantings in the Rio Grande Delta (Lower Valley) was partially instrumental in increased feeding on the Texas side of the international boundary; normally, many doves that roost in Texas feed in Mexico where planting of sorghum has "exploded" in recent years. White-wingeds prefer sunflowers, corn and sorghum, in that order, and will perch on the heads of sunflowers to feed (RG).

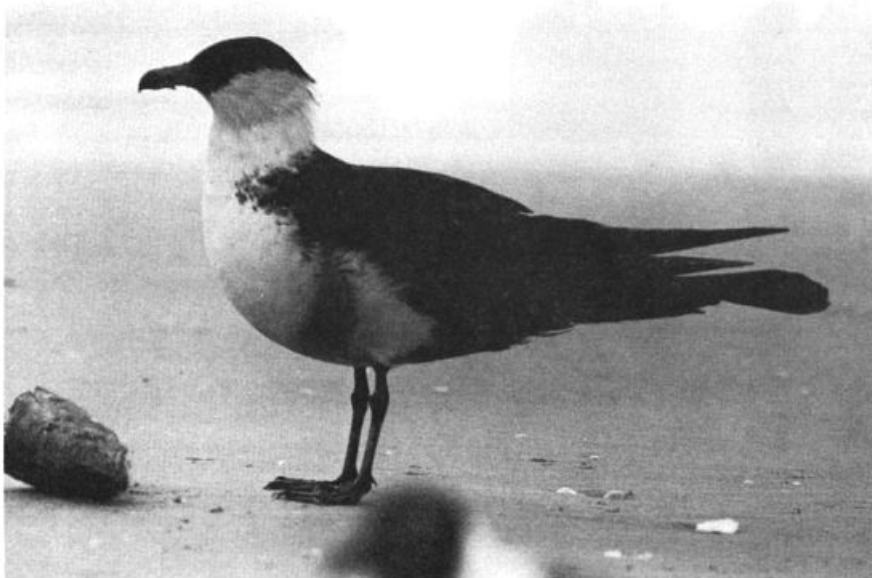
PARROTS THROUGH HUMMINGBIRDS — A small colony of Monk Parakeets nested at Austin (CS *et al.*), presumably for the first time. A Red-crowned Parrot was spotted below Falcon Dam July 4 (CS) as it flew into Mexico; this seems to be the farthest upriver occurrence of a presumably wild *Amazona viridigenalis*. Groove-billed Anis expanded N. They were found at several sites in Frio County; at one, a nest with four eggs—with hatchlings reported Aug. 29 (DS). Anis were present "in willows at virtually every stock pond" checked in Maverick

County July 3 (CS). Anis were unknown in these counties until recently. Despite extensive coverage in the Lower Valley, Arvin found only one pair of Ferruginous Pygmy Owls, located below Falcon Dam. A young Elf Owl was found roosting at Bentsen-Rio Grande Valley S.P., Apr. 15 (J&PG). Buff-bellied Hummingbirds were seen regularly at Aransas N.W.R. (SL) and at Beeville (DR, *vide* VG) without evidence of nesting.

WOODPECKERS THROUGH SWALLOWS — A Pileated Woodpecker was observed entering a nest hole in a utility pole where Texas highway 35 crosses the Guadalupe R., May 22 (DW, PY). Breeding has been suspected in this area at the s. limit of the species' range. The apparent absence of Red-cockaded Woodpeckers from Jones Forest, Montgomery Co., this summer was very unusual; one had been seen at a nest hole in April (MA). Western Kingbirds doubled their nesting population in Beeville with seven pairs observed in early July (VG). Cave Swallows, formerly restricted to a very few localities, extended their range s. of Zapata County; three pairs were nesting with Barn Swallows in a road culvert near San Ygnacio June 13; also, a scattering of individuals were seen along U.S. 83, s. of San Ygnacio where a 7-in rain the night before had washed away all swallow nests under the culverts (JA). Three nest sites were discovered at culverts on U.S. 277 in Dimmit County and four on U.S. 83 in Webb County (RH, GS). An apparently sizable colony was located under a bridge on Ranch Road 191 just within Zavala County (JA). Several culverts on state highway 16 s. of Jourdanton, Atascosa Co., were frequented by Cave Swallows (KB). Purple Martins, unknown as breeding birds in the Rio Grande Delta until a few years ago, are firmly established in McAllen, Edinburg and Harlingen, thanks to a nest box campaign sponsored by the local Audubon Society (JA).

JAYS THROUGH STARLINGS — Blue Jays nested in Beeville for the first time, a single pair fledging four and three young (VG). Green Jays nested on the w. side of L. Corpus Christi (KM). Two jays visited feeders in Beeville mid-June-Aug. 15, a first summer record, but no nesting activities were observed (VG). Long-billed Thrashers nested in a thicket on the w. side of Corpus Christi, while a pair of Curve-billed Thrashers hatched 3 clutches in the same area (AC, *vide* KM). Starlings nested in Laredo for the second year (JB). Several small colonies are established in the Rio Grande Delta; "invariably they nest in dead palms in which Golden-fronted Woodpeckers have made holes" (JA).

WARBLERS, ORIOLES — Prothonotary Warblers were on territory along the Guadalupe R., in Victoria Co. (GWB) at the s. extremity of their range. A pair of Tropical Parulas nested in Bentsen-Rio Grande Valley S.P., first known nesting in the Rio Grande Delta since 1966. Two broods were produced; the second was known to have fledged two warblers (JA). Since the summer of 1977, Am. Redstarts have been found in territorial song along the Brazos R. at the



Adult Pomarine Jaeger, Mustang Island Beach, Tex., June 26, 1981. Photo/A. F. Amos.

Hale Ranch, Fort Bend Co Three males were heard June 20 and a pair observed June 27 (TG *et al.*). A Hooded Oriole pair fledged three young at Mission May 25 (GD). Scott's Orioles have been seen at Canyon L., Comal Co., for the past 5 summers. A pair with one imm. male was observed Aug. 8 (MW, *vide* EK).

FRINGILLIDS — A Pyrrhuloxia with three young was seen near Rockport (C&HK). Rank growth of weeds and grasses favored retention of migrating Dickcissels. A few stayed in Hidalgo County where fledglings were noted July 13 (GD). Apparently

the species nested all along the n tier of counties from Uvalde to San Antonio and s.e. to Alice and Corpus Christi. A small but widespread breeding population of Brown Towhees was discovered in w. Travis County (CS). As Bermuda grass plantings increase on the c. coast, more nesting Grasshopper Sparrows are noted (GWB). Seaside Sparrows could be found in good numbers at Rockport (C&HK).

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NORTHWESTERN CANADA REGION

/Helmut Grünberg

The northern and southeastern parts of the Region received very good coverage by bird-watchers. The traditional strongholds in the southern Yukon got just enough attention that a number of rarities could be picked out and that the current abundance of most species could be recorded. With the inclusion of the Fort St. John area in northern British Columbia we managed to register a record high of 223 species observed.

The weather conditions of the Region, represented here by the meteorological data of Whitehorse, did not deviate much from the long-term averages. The mean temperature of June was slightly below normal while that of July was very close to normal. Precipitation was one-third higher than normal in June, while it was 20 per cent lower in July. These weather data do not allow any obvious conclusions with respect to the bird occurrences.

LOONS THROUGH COOTS — The observation of two Com. Loons on the Yukon North Coast at Clarence Lagoon near the Alaska border June 28 was somewhat unusual, while that of two Yellow-billed Loons was less surprising (AM). A **Western Grebe** was reported from Johnson's Crossing, Alaska Hwy., Yukon, June 28 (HJ). This is one of very few observations of this accidental species. Two W. Grebes that were seen at Cecil L., near Fort St. John July 6 were also considered accidental (CS). A rare Am. Bittern was heard at Boundary L., near Fort St. John July 9 (CS).

For the second year in a row a pair of Trumpeter Swans was seen in July on Cecil L., this time July 6 (CS, confirmed by BC). (Black) Brant were seen regularly at Clarence Lagoon June 25-July 2 (AM), and a flock of at least 50 flew over Whitehorse July 23 (RCar). Nineteen ad. and five downy young Snow Geese were seen in the n. MacKenzie Delta July 18 (HG, WH). On July 22, flocks of 17 adults and 30 young, 15 adults and 30 young, and 60 adults with 120 downy young were observed in the same general area (HG, WH). The latter flock of 180 geese was watched as it was attacked by an arctic fox on

a mudflat: the Snow Geese formed a very tight group, gave loud alarm calls and made threatening movements towards the fox. This, to the surprise and delight of the partial observers, discouraged the fox from approaching closer.

Common Eiders were regularly seen at Clarence Lagoon June 25-July 2 (AM). Common and King eiders were noted at nearby Komakuk Beach, Yukon North Coast, June 24 (RH). The unusual sighting of a ♂ Ruddy Duck was recorded at Swan L., near Whitehorse June 21 (HG).

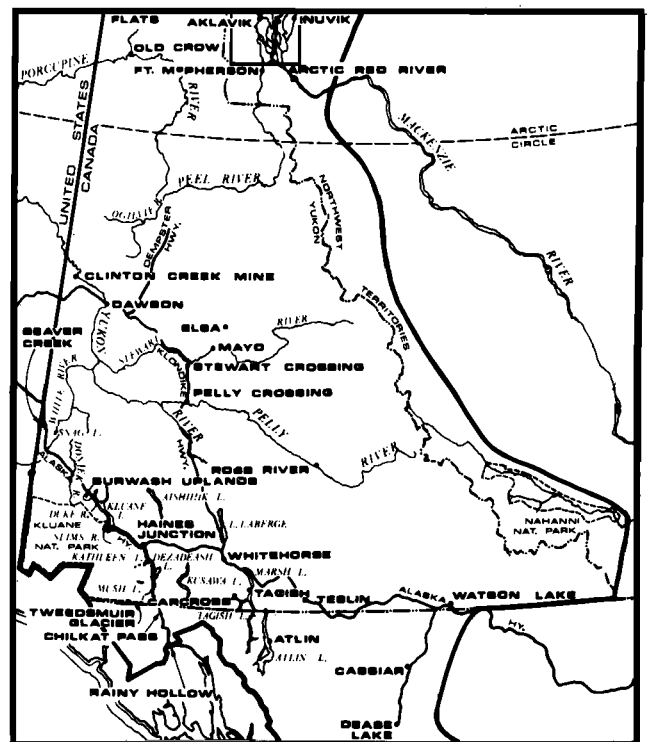
An Osprey was observed in the Sheldon L. area, Yukon, in May and June (RH). Gyrfalcon and Peregrine Falcon sightings were reported from several areas (SC, HG, RH, WH, KO).

Rock Ptarmigan appeared common at Clarence Lagoon June 25-July 2 (AM), while only three birds were recorded in the coastal MacKenzie Delta area during 3 weeks of observation on Kendall I., July 20 (HG, WH). One individual in winter plumage was noted at Mile 75 Haines Rd., June 2 (RCan). A Sora with three young was observed in a pond at Wolf Cr., 10 km. s. of Whitehorse July 20 (SW), and one was seen near Carcross, Yukon, July 31 (Mber). American Coots were nesting at a lake 9 km s. of Pelly Crossing, Yukon. At least 18 adults and two small downy young were seen here July 2 (HG, WH).

SHOREBIRDS — Four Black-bellied Plovers were noted on Tent I., n. Yukon July 30 (HG, WH). The sighting of two Surf-birds was reported for Primrose R., near Kusawa L., Yukon, in July (GC). Ruddy Turnstones were observed near Komakuk Beach June 13

(RH). One Ruddy Turnstone was noted at Clarence Lagoon July 1 (AM), and two were seen on Tent I., July 30 (HG, WH). A **Whimbrel** observation at Charlie L., near Fort St. John, June 17 provided only the second record in that area (CS). Whimbrels were more common in the MacKenzie Delta where at least seven showed territorial behavior near a pingo on Richards I., July 16. They were repeatedly seen and heard until the end of the month in various areas of the delta (HG, WH). One Baird's Sandpiper was recorded at Charlie L., June 18, and eight were present here July 18 (CS). At least one was observed on Kendall I., July 20-21 and up to four on Tent I., July 29-30 (HG, WH).

A Short-billed Dowitcher was seen at Mile 79 Haines Rd., B.C., June 1, and two were noted at Mile 85 Haines Rd., June 2 (RCan). Four to five Short-billed Dowitchers were observed at Swan L., near Whitehorse, June 7 (Mben, HG) & June 21 (HG). Only one Stilt Sandpiper was reported from Charlie L., July 18 (CS). This rare species was observed several times in the n. Yukon and in the



Northwest Territory portion of the MacKenzie Delta: 5-10 were noted at Clarence Lagoon July 1 (AM). Two showed territorial behavior near a pingo on Richards I., July 16. Another one was observed in a different area of Richards I., July 17. Up to two were seen on Kendall I., July 18-20. One was almost in basic (winter) plumage on Tent I., July 31 (HG, WH). The appearance of a **Western Sandpiper**, documented by photograph, at Charlie L., July 8 was considered accidental (CS). A W. Sandpiper was also seen and photographed in alternate (summer) plumage in the MacKenzie Delta at Langley I., July 24 and one on Tent I., in changing plumage July 29 (HG, WH). Two Hudsonian Godwits showed territorial behavior near a pingo on Richards I., July 16, and eight were seen on Tent I., July 29 (HG, WH). Wilson's Phalaropes were locally common at Swan L., near Whitehorse where 20 were observed June 7 (MBen, HG) and 10-15 on June 21 (HG).

JAEGERS THROUGH WOODPECKERS — Parasitic Jaegers were common from the MacKenzie Delta to the Alaska border (HG & WH, RH, AM) while Pomarine Jaegers were common only at Clarence Lagoon (AM). Glaucous Gulls, including many nesting pairs with young, were the most common gulls at or near the Arctic Coast from the MacKenzie Delta to the Alaska border (HG & WH, RH, AM). A Glaucous-winged Gull appeared at Charlie L., June 9 (CS). A "probable" Thayer's Gull was observed at Kendall I., July 21 (HG, WH). Up to two California Gulls were reported from Charlie L., June 10, 18 & July 8, while Ring-billed and Franklin's gulls were observed here regularly, the latter species mostly during June in numbers up to 400 (CS).

Four Black Guillemots were seen at Clarence Lagoon June 26 (AM). An extremely unusual and unverified report of the sighting of a Kittlitz's Murrelet without detailed description was received from Kusawa L., s. Yukon, for July (GC). This is the first report of this species in the Yukon and must be considered hypothetical at best. A Mourning Dove ventured to Yellowknife and was seen here June 20 (DM).

NORTHERN ROCKY MOUNTAIN-INTERMOUNTAIN REGION

/Thomas H. Rogers

Eastern Washington, northern Idaho and northwestern Montana had a cool, wet June that interfered somewhat with nesting success but the rest of the Region generally reported normal weather and good-to-excellent nesting conditions. Southern Idaho had a hot, dry summer with extensive fires that consumed over 400,000 acres of desert.

LOONS AND GREBES — A pair of Com. Loons spent the summer on L. Wenatchee, Chelan Co., Wash. (WD) and a few of the

A Snowy Owl observation was reported for Komakuk Beach June 23 (RH) and that of a Great Gray Owl for Wolf R., s. Yukon, July 17 (HJ). An "almost perfect" identification of a ♀ Rufous Hummingbird was reported 40 km e. of Hudson Hope, B.C., July 29 (CS). Pileated Woodpeckers were considered rare in the Fort St. John area (CS).

KINGBIRDS THROUGH WHEATEARS — Eastern Kingbird and E. Phoebe were seen only in the extreme s.e. part of the Region (CS). One Hammond's Flycatcher was reported from Pleasant Camp, Haines Rd., B.C., June 2 and one was noted at tree line in the Slims R./Sheep Mt. Area, Yukon, June 4 (RCan). A Dusky Flycatcher was identified by voice and habitat 10 km n. of Whitehorse June 7 (MBen, HG) & 21 (HG). Four W. Flycatchers were observed at Pleasant Camp June 2 (RCan). A rare Rough-winged Swallow eluded an attempt to photograph it for 20 minutes at Swan L., near Whitehorse June 7 (MBen, HG).

A Blue Jay was observed 45 km w. of Fort St. John July 22 (WD, *vide* CS) and the observation confirmed July 31 (CS). House Wren and Long-billed Marsh Wren were only reported from the Fort St. John area, as might be expected (CS). The observation of a Veery was reported for Pine Lake Rd., 15 km s. of Salt R., Wood Buffalo N.P., June 4 (*vide* MBo). Although Mountain Bluebirds are common in the s. Yukon, we do not want to withhold the following observation from the readers: a pair of bluebirds was nesting and feeding nestlings under the tail of a DC-3 airplane which is mounted on a pedestal at Whitehorse Airport. A Wheatear was seen at km 95 Dempster Hwy., July 3 (HG, WH). One ad. with at least two fledglings was noted near the headwaters of Boulder Cr., Barn Mts., Yukon, July 18 (SC), and a Wheatear brood (flying young) was reported near Kusawa L., in July (GC).

VIREOS THROUGH LONGSPURS — Two ad. Philadelphia Vireos were spotted feeding a young bird at the Peace R., 12 km s. of Fort St. John July 23 (WD, CS). Warbling Vireos were again observed in the s. Yukon: one to two at Swan L., near Whitehorse June

birds appeared on lakes in Okanogan and Grant cos., Wash. Coeur d'Alene L., Ida., had one July 13 (AT) and "very few" were reported for Kootenai N.F., in n.w. Montana (CW). Spectacle L., e. of Loomis, Wash., had an ad. Red-necked Grebe June 3 (RF) and an ad. and two imm. of the species were on Fish L., n. of Conconully, Wash., on the same day (JK). A small lake 10 mi s. of Chewelah, Wash., supported two ad. and three imm. Red-necked Grebes July 13 (JN) and one was seen on Duck L., 8 mi w. of Harrington, Wash. (JAD,SZ). Three or four times the usual number of the species were sighted on Kootenai N.F. lakes (CW) and five were near the s. end of Flathead L., in w. Montana in June (BD). A hundred W. Grebes were on C. J. Strike Res., w. of Bruneau, Ida., July 3 (J&NH). Western and Pied-billed

7 & 21 (MBen, HG) A "very likely" Tennessee Warbler was seen as far n. as Keno Hill, c. Yukon, June 21 (PM). Black-throated Green Warblers were observed in the Fort St. John area as follows: two males June 1, a male and a female June 30, the latter feeding a newly-fledged young warbler; a male feeding a recently fledged Brown-headed Cowbird July 1 (CS). An ad. ♂ Bay-breasted Warbler was seen carrying food at Beaton P.P., July 4 (CS). A ♂ Connecticut Warbler was observed singing at Tom's L., s. of Pouce Coupe, B.C., July 7 (CS). A ♂ Canada Warbler was seen near Fort St. John June 1 and a pair at the same location July 1 as well as a female almost 2 km e. from the pair. A male was noted at the same location July 3 (CS) and two males July 24 (WD, CS).

Pine Siskins were very common in the Yukon this summer (m.ob.) Two singing ♂ Le Conte's Sparrows were observed in the Fort St. John area July 7 and one July 9 (CS) for the first record in several years. Perched next to the latter sparrow was a **Sharp-tailed Sparrow**, which could be studied in detail and compared with the Le Conte's. This was the first record of a Sharp-tailed Sparrow in the area for many years. A ♂ Clay-colored Sparrow, the fourth record for the Yukon and the third this year, was observed singing at Sheldon L., North Canol Rd., June 4-8 (RH). A Harris' Sparrow was seen and heard e. of Campbell L., Dempster Hwy., N.W.T., July 8 (HG, WH). A pair of Smith's Longspurs was noted at Mile 79 Haines Rd., June 1-2 (RCan). At Chapman L., Km 117 Dempster Hwy., a pair was on territory July 4, and up to five birds in winter plumage were noted on Tent I., July 30-31 (HG, WH).

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grebes nested successfully at Carty Res., Boardman, Ore. (RJK) and a Western on Wenas Res., n.w. of Yakima, Wash., June 21 was unusual (Y.A.S.).

PELICANS THROUGH IBISES — Lake Walcott and Am. Falls Res., on the Snake R., s.c. Idaho had "hundreds" (WHS) and "flocks of 60-70" (CHT) White Pelicans, normal for the area. Two added eggs, not in a nest, on the gull island in L. Walcott suggested an incipient breeding colony but Double-crested Cormorants and California Gulls have preempted the space (CHT). Twenty White Pelicans were on the Columbia R., near Umatilla N.W.R., Ore., June 26 (RJK) and 18 were on Frenchman Hills Wasteway w. of Potholes Res., s. Grant Co., Wash., July 13 (GC). Highly unusual were two on



White-faced Ibis, near Ephrata, Wash., June 6, 1981. Photo/Edward Miller.

Sullivan L., Pend Oreille Co., Wash. (*vide* JAd). Double-crested Cormorant colonies at Am. Falls Res., Blackfoot Res., and Mud L., Hamer, Ida., were expanding (CHT). The colony at the N. Potholes comprised 25± adults with at least 23 nestlings in a minimum of 9 nests (RF). The pair on the Kootenai R., near Libby, Mont., stayed into early June (CW).

Miller I., s. of Goldendale, Wash., had 6 active Great Blue Heron nests (BE, PMi). New colonies were developing in the Libby area (CW). Single Green Herons were sighted along the Yakima R., w. of Cle Elum, Wash., June 7 (EH) and at Lake of the Woods, w. Klamath Co., Ore., along Hwy. 140 June 21 (SS). Two nestlings believed to be Cattle Egrets were banded on L. Walcott's gull island (CHT). The Great Egret colony at the N. Potholes had at least five nesting pairs; 4 nests averaged three young per nest (RF). Only one bird was seen near Pocatello, Ida., but a presumed nesting bird was at Mud L., Hamer, Ida., June 26 (CHT). Snowy Egret numbers showed severe declines in colonies in the Pocatello-Hamer area (CHT). Two Black-crowned Night Herons near Cataldo were n. Idaho's first (GHa, *vide* SGS) and one imm. bird at Chewelah, Wash., July 29 was Nisbet's second for the county. Trost banded 350 in s.e. Idaho, yet the number of imm. birds was down and several thin-shelled eggs were found. White-faced Ibis seemed to be doing well in s.e. Idaho. A flooded field near Mud L., yielded 200 and Trost banded 141 at Market L., Roberts June 28. Sightings of up to five were made in June in the Ephrata-Quincy-Winchester-Potholes area of Washington (JA, RF, EH, BM *et al.*). One at Red Rock Lakes N.W.R., Lima, Mont., was the first since 1976 (RS).

WATERFOWL — Two Whistling Swans spent 2 weeks in mid-June at Minidoka N.W.R., Minidoka, Ida. (JHi). Trumpeter Swans at Red Rock Lakes and vicinity produced 116 cygnets; the early July swan population there was 357 (RS). A pair that nested again at Market L., had three young June 28. Turnbull N.W.R., Cheney, Wash., counted eight Trumpeters (JRR). Canada Goose numbers were definitely up from last year at Minidoka and Turnbull and at Deer Flat N.W.R., Nampa, Ida. Nesting of the species continued to climb in Boundary County, Ida., in response to erection of nest structures (JM). The ad. Ross' Goose at Ladd

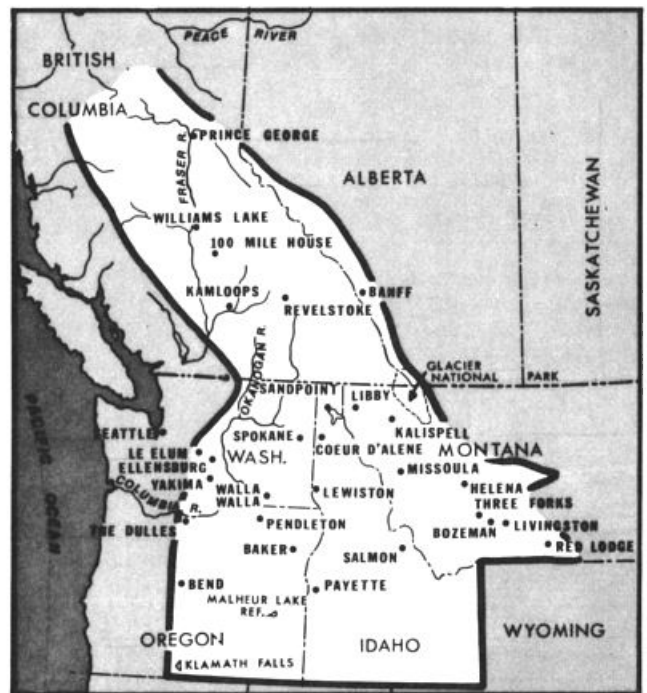
Marsh W.M.A., Union Co., Ore., remained at least until June 12 (JE). Total duck numbers were up at Turnbull, down at Minidoka and near average at Columbia N.W.R., Othello, Wash. In the Fortine, Mont., vicinity duck numbers were decidedly down (WW) but ducks enjoyed excellent success around Chewelah, Wash. (JN).

About 12 pairs of Ring-necked Ducks nested at Morgan L., s.w. of La Grande, Ore. (JE). An ad. ♂ White-winged Scoter was spotted on Sidley L., near Molson, Wash., July 8 (JK). Hooded Merganser eggs were found in 2 Wood Duck nest boxes near Cardwell, Mont., for the first evidence of breeding or even summering in the Bozeman latilong (RLE).

VULTURES AND HAWKS — A count of Turkey Vultures at P-Ranch, Malheur N.W.R., Burns, Ore., June 9-11 found about 50, down 50% from 1976 (CHT). A nest found at Coeur d' Alene L., Ida., contained two young (PH). Goshawks "seemed to be everywhere" in Kootenai N.F. (CW). In Grant, Baker, Union and Malheur cos., Ore., 23 different Swainson's Hawks were counted, up from last year (RDP) and two sightings were made at Salmon, Ida., where the birds are rare (HBR). The Dept. of Game found 30 successful breeding pairs of Ferruginous Hawks on an intensive survey in s.e. Washington but the species was reported "hard to find" in n.e. Oregon; a pair appeared near Pilot Rock July 5 (RDP) and a pair was near Enterprise June 13 (B.M.A.S.). The species was a successful breeder in the Boardman, Ore. area (RJK).

Kootenai N.W.R., Bonners Ferry, Ida., reported the first summer use by Bald Eagles, an ad. and an imm. bird (LDN). In Oregon an adult was soaring over Summer L., Lake Co., July 24 (SS) and an adult was near Starkey June 25 (VS). In n.w. Montana the species reestablished a nest on L. Kookanusa near the Canadian border and a completely new nest at Bull L., s. of Troy produced two young. A mature bird was established at Libby Dam, another just downriver from Libby, and a third in Pleasant Valley n. of the Thompson Lakes (CW). A pair attempted to nest in the Salmon, Ida. vicinity gave up around mid-June (HBR). An Osprey carrying a fish over Richland, Wash., July 6 made Woodley's first observation there for that month; he also saw one over The Dalles, Ore., July 19. One Peregrine Falcon and two Merlin sightings were reported for the Region.

GALLINACEOUS BIRDS — The cold, wet summer was hard on broods of Blue,



Spruce, and Ruffed grouse in Kootenai N.F.; at Kootenai N.W.R., and in Pend Oreille County, Wash. Broods of two were usual—six to eight is normal for Kootenai N.F., where Sharp-tailed Grouse broods were also small. A single White-tailed Ptarmigan was observed on Mt. Nebo in Eagle Cap Wilderness s. of Joseph, Ore., July 25 (U.S.F.S. rangers, *vide* JE). In the Mahogany Mts., n. of Jordan Valley, Ore., three Sage Grouse and four ad. and 16 imm. Mountain Quail were observed July 13 (RDP). A Bobwhite was found along Wild Horse Cr., n. of Pendleton, Ore., July 3 (CC). California Quail showed up in and near Coeur d' Alene; they had not been noted there previously and the game department has not released any (SGS). A Turkey was observed in Cochran Gulch 15 mi n.e. of Helena, Mont.; the species was planted there several years ago (CB, *vide* GH).

CRANES THROUGH TERNS — The 2-year-old Whooping Crane from Grays Lake N.W.R., s.e. Idaho, remained at Red Rock Lakes N.W.R., through the summer (RS). A ♀ Whooper from the Patuxent, Md. Wildlife Research Center was released near Grays L., in hopes she will mate with one of the males there (Ornithological Newsletter of Am. Ornithologists' Union *et al.*). A flock of Sandhill Cranes was sighted near Wiley City w. of Yakima, Wash., June 8 (Y.A.S.) and the species was seen in the Salmon, Ida., vicinity June 27 (HBR). Sandhills produced young at Pleasant Valley, Kootenai N.F.; seven or eight cranes were present there in June-July (CW).

Snowy Plovers were reported only at Summer L.; ten birds June 20 (RDP). Only two Upland Sandpipers were found at the little breeding colony in the Spokane Valley e. of Spokane (JA). The species was again found in Bear Valley 30 mi s.w. of John Day, Ore. (C&MC). The first "fall" movement of shorebirds at the Joseph, Ore., sewage ponds came July 7 with a big thunderstorm. It included a Greater and a Lesser yellowlegs,

five Least and 150 W. Sandpipers, two Long-billed Dowitchers, and a Marbled Godwit (FC). Toppenish N.W.R., Wash., had a Willet June 17 (ERC). A Sanderling in partial summer plumage was at Summer L., July 24 (SS). Black-necked Stilts have rebounded from the effects of Mt. St. Helens' ash in the breeding territory in the Potholes Res. area; at least six were along Dodson Road in June (JA, EH, BM m.ob.). In Whitman County, Wash., one was sighted at Texas L. 5 mi s.e. of Revere (JA, SZ). An estimated 50,000 Am. Avocets were distributed along 10-15 mi of shore at Summer L., July 24 (SS). A ♀ Red Phalarope in breeding plumage photographed on a small pond near Anatone, Wash., June 14-15 made the fourth sighting for the area and the first in summer (SM, PD, LC *et al.*).



Red Phalarope, near Anatone, Wash., June 14, 1981. Photo/Shirley Muse.

Glaucous-winged Gulls were reported breeding on Miller I., in the Columbia R., along with California and Ring-billed gulls (BE). The gull colony at Deer Flat N.W.R., produced 3000 California and 1000 Ring-billed young (ECB). Ring-billed Gull numbers in the Libby Dam vicinity were twice last year's; the birds found much food in turbine-killed fish (CW). A Bonaparte's Gull appeared at Helena July 1 (G & NN) and two in breeding plumage were at Summer L., July 24 (SS). A Com. Tern was along the Columbia R., at Boardman July 5 (RDP). Some 220 pairs of Caspian Terns at N. Potholes Res., produced 150± young (RF). Five, an increase, were at Blackfoot Res., on the Snake R., but none were found on Am. Falls or Island Park Res., Ida. (CHT). A Caspian at Warm Springs and another at Silver L., w. of Anaconda in mid-July were the first for that part of Montana (JVH, DS, LJ).

DOVES THROUGH OWLS — Single Band-tailed Pigeons were discovered at Klamath Falls, Ore., July 18 (SS); at Calispell L., Pend Oreille L., Wash., June 5 (JN & SZ) n. of Chewelah, Wash., July 15 (JN), and in Gallatin Canyon 25 mi s. of Bozeman, Mont., June 17 (PDS) for the first local record. The species was also reported at Tucanone Game Range e. of Dayton, Wash. A Yellow-billed Cuckoo was heard along the Portneuf R., near Pocatello, July 3 (CHT) and one was found the same day 16 mi e. of Pendleton (C & MC). A Black-billed Cuckoo was reported for the Boise area July 11 (A & HL).

It was an excellent summer for finding Flammulated Owls in n.e. Oregon. One was heard June 8-12 at Spring Cr., w. of La Grande (JE). In the Starr Campground vicinity 9 mi n. of Seneca at least three were



Band-tailed Pigeon, Gallatin Canyon, south of Bozeman, Mont., June 17, 1981. Photo/P. D. Skaar.

calling in early June (m.ob.) and one suspected of nesting was in a snag June 26 (JG *et al.*). A nest with three nearly fledged young was found along Big Cr., 4 mi n.e. of Medical Springs, Union Co., July 10 (JE). One or more of the species was calling at Loup Loup Campground w. of Okanogan, Wash., the night of June 17 (BW) and in the Rupert, Ida. area a Flammulated Owl nest held two young July 25 (WHS). Two ad. and two imm. Burrowing Owls were observed at Jordan Valley, Ore., July 13 (RDP). Two juv. Barred Owls with downy white feathers on the head were attracted by taped calls of ad. birds at Calispell Bog, Pend Oreille Co., Wash., July 3 (JA). A pair was observed at Loup Loup Campground June 6 & 17-18 (B&GR; BW). At Crawfish L., 15 mi n.e. of Omak, Wash., one was observed; its calling was answered by another in the distance (RF). The species appeared to be spreading in Kootenai N.F., and one was sighted at Lolo Pass on the Montana-Idaho border June 14 (BD). Two Spotted Owls were found in Gifford Pinchot N.F., Wash., July 18 (EM, RJ). The Great Gray Owl at the nesting site on Spring Cr., Union Co., Ore., was seen again June 10-13 but apparently had not found a mate (LPa, MCA). An imm. Saw-whet Owl was found along the road 16 mi e. of Pendleton July 3 (C & MC).

POOR-WILLS THROUGH HUMMINGBIRDS — The only Poor-wills reported were in the Nampa, Ida. area; near Selah, Wash.; w. of Spokane, and n. of Ennis L., Ennis, Mont. (WEH, ETH, PDS). Several hundred Com. Nighthawks were over Bridgeport, Wash., the evening of July 15 (RF). Flocks of 15-75 Black Swifts were active over Wenatchee June 15-July 31 (PC). A loose group of 400± was low over the orchards 6 mi w. of Bridgeport June 18 in 50°F., cloudy, rainy weather (BW). Four Chimney Swifts over Livingston, Mont., July 2 were well west of previous sightings (WEH). About 50 White-throated Swifts were in the colony at Succor Creek S.P., s. of Adrian, Ore., July 13 (RDP). The species was seen at Salmon June 21 & 23 (HBR). Anna's Hummingbirds were present in good numbers in Klamath Falls where they are now regular (SS). A

male was on territory at Hood River, Ore., May 31 (RDP) and a female visited a Nampa feeder July 16 (J & NH).

WOODPECKERS AND FLYCATCHERS — Six Lewis' Woodpeckers were seen on Magic Mt., 28 mi s. of Hansen, Ida., an unusual location July 29 (JR). Very few of the species were noted anywhere; most of the reports were from the Yakima and Salmon areas. Single "Red-breasted" Sapsuckers were sighted at Clear L., between Yakima and White Pass June 14 and at L. Kachess near Easton, Wash., June 24 (Y.A.S.). In the Ketchum, Ida. area at 8000 ft Williamson's Sapsuckers were feeding nestlings and White-headed Woodpeckers were nesting in the same tree (EZ, WHS). A N. Three-toed Woodpecker was sighted on Mt. Fanny near Cove, Ore., July 5 (RDP).

An Ash-throated Flycatcher s. of Moses L., Wash., June 11 was the only one reported (JA). Up to three singing ♂ Least Flycatchers were observed several times at the beaver pond along the road to Sun Mt. Lodge near Winthrop, Wash., in June (EH, B&GR, RT, m.ob.). A nesting pair of W. Flycatchers at Hilgard Junction S.P., Union Co., Ore., June 10 provided the first evidence of breeding for the county (JE *et al.*). An Olive-sided Flycatcher on Mt. Harrison July 31 was apparently the first ever reported for Cassia County, Ida. (JR).

SWALLOWS THROUGH WRENS — Two hundred pairs of Bank Swallows were frequenting the mouth of the Okanogan R., n.c. Washington June 12 (RF). A few White-breasted Nuthatches reappeared in the Fortine area after several years' virtual absence (WW). Four B.B.S.s in n.e. Washington and n. Idaho indicated continuing increase in Red-breasted Nuthatch numbers there and the species was "extremely common" in Kootenai N.F. The first summer records of Wrentits for the Klamath Falls area were of one along the Link R., July 14 and two in Klamath Falls July 18 (SS). A Bewick's Wren along the s.w. shore of Summer L., in Oregon July 24 was out of the species' normal range (SS). Rock Wrens may have reached a low point in n.e. Washington. None have been found on the Keller B.B.S., for the last 2 years and none on the Reardan B.B.S., reactivated this year. The Dishman Hills-Tower Mt. area at Spokane yielded only one sighting. A pair nested n. of Chewelah, however, for apparently the first breeding record for that latilong (JN).

MIMIDS AND THRUSHES — A Mockingbird was observed July 15, 10 mi s. of Othello, Wash. (JC). In Boardman, Ore., one that had established a territory was photographed June 22 (RJK); probably the same bird was seen there July 14 (MC). Gray Catbirds were sighted in 3 places in Okanogan County, Wash., June 4: two at Palmer L. (RF), one 2 mi s. of Winthrop, and one 3 mi s. of Twisp (GB). The next box project at Boise-Cascade Campground on Wenas Cr., n.w. of Yakima provided homes for 20 broods of Western and 25 broods of Mountain bluebirds (BT).

VIREOS AND WARBLERS — Solitary Vireo numbers dropped sharply on the Kel-

ler, Wash., Mivoden B.B.S.s (Coeur d' Alene latilong) but Warbling Vireos plunged only on the Keller route. Red-eyed Vireo numbers remained steady for Keller and Mivoden. Yellow Warbler totals have declined quite steadily over the last 4 or 5 years on the Mivoden, Keller and Reardan, Wash. surveys but were steady for the Avery, Ida. B.B.S. The trend for Townsend's Warbler was definitely down for Mivoden and Avery. Wilson's Warbler numbers on the Avery B.B.S., dropped sharply (a clear day) but climbed somewhat on the Mivoden route (cloudy and cold), causing one to wonder about possible weather effects. A well-described singing ♂ Northern Parula at Kamiak Butte, Whitman Co., Wash., June 21 was apparently the state's first (RSc). Ovenbirds again summered at Cottonwood Cr., s. of Bozeman (PDS). A N. Waterthrush was again found along the Little Deschutes R., near Gilchrist, Ore., June 20 (RDP). The first Am. Redstart nest for n.e. Oregon was found along the Grande Ronde R., w. of La Grande; it contained four nearly fledged nestlings (JE).

BLACKBIRDS — Bobolinks s. of Chewelah, Wash., apparently left without breeding but Calispell L., to the e. had possibly as many as 28 (JN). A few were in the usual area near Cusick, Wash., and one was sighted between Springdale and Hunters, Wash., June 18 (JA). A few were noted at Toppenish N.W.R., Wash. June 17 (Y.A.S.). In Oregon a few pairs were again nesting near Enterprise and Union (FC,JE,CC). In Idaho three were sighted near Bruneau June 21 (A&HL), the species was seen at Salmon June 26-27 (HBR), and 2 small nesting colonies were again found on the Pocatello B.B.S. apparently nesting in wheat fields (CHT). Tricolored Blackbirds were locally common in flocks up to 500-1000 in the Klamath Basin throughout the summer and a flock of 200±

was at Summer L., July 24 (SS). A Scott's Oriole was banded at Pocatello June 2 (JJ).

FINCHES — A ♂ Rose-breasted Grosbeak put in an appearance at Spokane July 4 for the latilong's second record (JA). A pair of Blue Grosbeaks again nested near Buhl, Ida.; two-three fledglings attended by both ad. birds were observed July 22 (TR). An Indigo Bunting was photographed at Idaho Falls, Ida., May 20. It stayed a week in company with three Lazuli Buntings (LP). Three Purple Finches along the Lost R., 15-20 mi e. of Klamath Falls were e. of their normal range (SS). Singles of the species were sighted at Nile, Wash., and to the w. at Clear L. (Y.A.S.). Many flocks of Cassin's Finches and Pine Siskins were seen in the mountains w. of Yakima and the former species was "literally everywhere" in Kootenai N.F.; 50 were banded in one hour in the latter area (CW). Pine Siskins were far more numerous than usual in the Helena area and many were found on Mt. Harrison, Ida., July 31 (JR).

SPARROWS — Up to four Grasshopper Sparrows, some singing, were observed in the Pilot Rock, Ore., vicinity July 5 (RDP) & 26 (CC). About eight singing males and three believed to be females were found in Esquatzel Coulee 3 mi n.e. of Mesa, Wash., June 10 (RF), and a singing male was at the Moses L., Wash., airport June 7 (EH). A small population of Black-throated Sparrows was discovered 4 mi e. of Carey, Ida.; two males were present May 22 and the last seen, a male July 1, was territorial on every visit. No breeding was noted there but the birds were there last summer also (TR). One of the species was sighted at the Boardman, Ore., Navy Bombing Range July 10 (GG). Several singing ♂ Sage Sparrows were in sagebrush e. of Columbia N.W.R., and s. of the O'Sullivan Dam road, Grant Co., Wash., June 23 (PC,HO) and five were found n.w. of Ep-

hrata, Wash., June 7 (EH). The species was also seen near Anatone, Wash., June 14 (B.M.A.S.). Gray-headed Juncos were more common than Dark-eyed on Magic Mt., and Mt. Harrison in s.c. Idaho at July's end (JR). This is apparently the first record of the former species in that area. A Swamp Sparrow, new to the park list, was carefully identified at L. McDonald, Glacier N.P., Mont., June 26 (TS).

OBSERVERS CITED — James Acton, Jack Adkins (JAD), Eugene C. Barney, Charles Beveridge, Blue Mt. Audubon Society (B.M.A.S.) George Brady, Gretchen Call, Lois Campbell, Mike Carmody (MCA), Phil Cheney, Frank Conley, Craig & Marion Corder, Emily R. Cragg, John Coykendall, Priscilla Dauble, Brennan Davis, Wayne Doane, Mark Egger, R.L. Eng, Joe Evanich, Bob Everitt, Ron Friesz, Jeff Gilligan, Greg Green, Gertrude Hanson (GHa), W.E. Harper, Paul Harrington, John V. Hartman, E.T. Hays, James & Naomi Heckathorn, John Hill (JHi), George Holton, Eugene Hunn, Lois Jenkins, Joe Jeppson, Ray Johnson, Jerry King, Ronald J. Klein, Al & Hilda Larson, Jack McNeel, Phil Mattocks, Ed Miller, Pat Miller (PMi), Bob Morrison, Shirley Muse, Larry D. Napier, Jack Nisbet, Gene & Norma Nixon, Howard Oswood, Richard D. Palmer, Leonard Paul (LPa), Lona Pierce, James R. Rees, Bill & Geness Reichert, Terrell Rich, Hadley B. Roberts, Jeff Ruprecht, Rusty Scalf (RSc), Terrence Schiefer, W.H. Shillington, Richard Sjostrom, P.D. Skaar, Verna Slane, Eugene Smirnov, Don Stoecher, Shirley G. Sturts, Steve Summers, Bill Thoren, Allen Toole, Ron Toonen, C.H. Trost, Winton Weydemeyer, Bart Whelton, Carl Wolf, R.E. Woodley, Yakima Audubon Society (Y.A.S.), Steve Zender, Eleanor Zimmerly.—**THOMAS H. ROGERS, E. 10820 Maxwell Ave., Spokane, WA 99206.**

MOUNTAIN WEST REGION /Hugh E. Kingery

Each year the new knowledge of Mountain West birds shows how much more remains to be learned. This season we have filled in innumerable gaps, and extended some breeding ranges, added one possible new Regional and two new state breeders. In huge areas of the Mountain West, the potential for new information remains immense.

Broerman and Fitton roamed over a 15,000 square mile area of southcentral Wyoming (larger than Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island combined), as part of a raptor survey team of the federal Bureau of Land Management (hereafter, B.L.M.). During their raptor summer they fortunately had horizons broader than raptors; they added to five latilongs a cumulative total of 143 new species and confirmed 59 new breeders. In a juniper woodland on Powder Rim, 20 miles west of Baggs, they found a southwestern nesting association—extending six species as new or likely breeding birds into Wyom-

ing: Ash-throated and Gray flycatchers, Scrub Jay, Plain Titmouse, Bewick's Wren, and Black-throated Gray Warbler.

The Wards visited a ranch in one of the same latilongs and came up with 13 new latilong species and one new breeder—in three days at the end of July.

Generally the Region's hot, dry weather meant excellent nesting conditions for songbirds and water birds. Precipitation gyrated wildly, however. In western Colorado, Grand Junction had 33% of normal while ten miles away, Palisade had 361%! In eastern Colorado, Kit Carson had .07 inch while 60 miles away, Holly had 4.16 inches!

RECORDS DEPOSITORY — I have deposited the reports which form this column, from 1973 to date, with the Zoology Dept., Denver Museum of Natural History, City



Park, Denver, Colo 80205 Any researchers who wish to check or evaluate reports firsthand may review these reports by mail or in person. The reports contain a wealth of data which *American Birds* space limitations have not permitted me to mention in these accounts.

LOONS TO CORMORANTS — All 4 states had summering Com. Loons, including three at Gunnison, Colo., June 10-July 13 (BB), four at Vernal, Utah July 7 (E&RS), and five at Hawthorne July 21 (GP, LS, CS). Tersely described Red-throated Loons were reported at Bear River N.W.R., Utah Apr. 4 (B&CE) and at Hawthorne July 21 (LS). Western Grebes nested for the first time, at Fish Springs N.W.R., Utah with two nests fledging two young (KF). One of each color phase was at Lovelock, Nev., June 18 (WT). Many locations reported summering, non-breeding W. Grebes, including 1557 at Hawthorne (GP, LS, CS) and 570 at Gunlock, Utah (JLi). White Pelicans had great success at Anaho Island N.W.R., Nev., where 3100 young made it to flight stage (ML) and Riverside Res., Colo., where they produced a record 700 young (RAR). Summering non-breeders included 150 at Kortess Dam, Wyo. (FB&SF) and 40-50 at Vernal, the first since 1963 (U.D.W.R.). A nesting colony of Double-crested Cormorants at Provo, Utah dropped from 47 nests last year to 30 this year. An Olivaceous Cormorant appeared at Crook, Colo., June 28-30 for viewing on a bird convention field trip (C.F.O., †PG, BW, TM, JL, KH).

A one-day waterbird census July 21 of Walker L., near Hawthorne, Nev., by foot and by boat turned up a count of 12,280 birds, including 2278 grebes, 3409 coots, 2915 ducks, 2051 gulls, and 914 shorebirds (GP, CS, LS).

HERONS — Great Blue Herons nested in normal or increasing numbers throughout the Region. At Provo 25 Cattle Egrets nested (DN) and in Colorado four pairs nested at Riverside Res., four at Platteville, and 6-8 at Saguache (Russell L.) the latter two the state's fourth and fifth nesting sites (RAR, CC). Snowy Egret nesting news was largely good: 462 young produced at Fish Spgs., 40% more than last year (KF); 94 nests at Monte Vista, none last year (JK); 100 nests at Saguache (CC), and 150 pairs at Ruby Lakes N.W.R., Nev. (SB). Bear R. reported fewer than normal and only 50 young; along with Black-crowned Night Herons and White-faced Ibises, Snowies probably nested in marsh habitat adjacent to the refuge (RV). Julesburg had two ad. Yellow-crowned Night Herons June 29-July 3 (C.F.O., †PG, JL, TM, KH).

IBISES — White-faced Ibises erupted over the Region. Nesting reports included 6600 reaching flight stage at Fallon, Nev. (Stillwater W.M.A., and Walker L.—ML), 150 young at Ruby L. (SB), ten young at Fish Spgs. (none in 1980 but 80-100 in 1978—KF); but Bear R. had none (thought to have nested off-refuge—RV). The most striking feature of the ibis' summer, were widely scattered birds and flocks apparently not nesting. These included 518 at the Salt Lake City

airport June 25 (E&RS), 375 at Springville, Utah July 25 (MW), and groups of 1-25 in July at 5 Colorado mountain and 2 Colorado plains locations; eight at Sheridan June 9, and 55 at Las Vegas July 20.

WATERFOWL — Utah waterfowl counts ran 50,000-60,000 above last year's, peaking at 170,326 (U.D.W.R.). Alamosa and Monte Vista N.W.R.s, Colo., reported increased production, the 16,000 young representing a 50% increase from last year. Since the habitat was not as good as last year, the increase probably resulted from a predator control program aimed at coyotes, skunks, raccoons, magpies, and ravens.

The cygnets fledged by Trumpeter Swans during the past few years at Ruby L., have found one new probable nesting site, the Newark Valley near Eureka (MP). National Elk Ref., had only one successful Trumpeter nest, with three cygnets (BR); we have no data for the rest of Wyoming. Nesting reports of Wood Ducks came from Sheridan and Denver (BS, F&JJ). Common Mergansers nested on the plains at Denver and Ft. Collins (F&JJ, RAR) and nested commonly on the N. Platte and other large streams in s.c. Wyoming (FB, SF). A ♀ merganser, apparently Red-breasted, with eight half-grown young burst out of tall grass and willow shoots on the Wind R., near Dubois July 9; by July 30 the brood had dropped to seven young (†MB). This would provide the first regional and Rocky Mountain nesting record.

HAWKS, EAGLES — In the Ely, Nev., B.L.M. district, overall raptor production seemed good: "upward trend for Goshawk, Burrowing and Great Horned owls, Ferruginous about the same, Cooper's Hawk falling off" (MP). At Seedskaadee N.W.R., Wyo., raptors declined, with 7 species producing 103 young (including 30 Red-tailed Hawks, 30 Great Horned Owls, and 20 Am. Kestrels) compared with 142 last year, mostly owing to a drop in Marsh Hawk young from 30 to 9 (JBR). A Red-tailed Hawk fledged three young from a nest at Sheridan from which a Great Horned Owl successfully fledged young earlier in the year. The Swainson's Hawk nest near Ely with two young was the first in White Pine County in several years (MP) and a pair nested to the n. at Halleck, Nev. (SB). In s. Wyoming, research teams turned up 76 Ferruginous Hawk nests in the Rawlins and Medicine Bow areas (FB, SF, DR); at Ely, 27 Ferruginous sites produced 69 young (MP).

Bald Eagles in Wyoming produced 21 young from 31 nests; only 11 pairs produced young. The highest failure rate occurred in Yellowstone N.P., where 14 out of 15 nests failed (BO). Colorado reported two nests, one of which failed. Ospreys in Pinedale and Jackson, Wyo., attempted 24 nests; 15 succeeded, fledging 24 young—showing a stable population (BO). In the Grand Lake and Walden areas of Colorado, six Osprey nests produced ten young, for the best year yet (DJ *et al.*). A pair near Cedar City, Utah fledged two young at a site used for 4 years within 100 yards of a highway and 10 mi from the nearest large lake where they usually fish (SH). We have no report from N.P. strongholds like

Yellowstone, Grand Teton, and Flaming Gorge. A total of 13-16 young have successfully fledged from the Sheridan nest in 5-6 out of 9 years. Merlins had four nests in w Wyoming and three in n.e. Wyoming (BO)

CRANES — Whooping Cranes summered at Dubois and Daniel, Wyo. (AS, RD). Ruby L. had 100-150 nesting Sandhill Cranes with production from almost every pair, and four nested to the s. near Eureka (SB, MP). In w Wyoming single pairs were scattered over a number of drainages, and a pair nested, successfully, for the first time at Seedskaadee Ref. (BO, JBR).

SHOREBIRDS — Southbound shorebirds appeared even earlier than normal. Scattered birds arrived in June, and flocks of migrants had appeared, *e.g.*, at Denver July 3, Delta July 6, and Eagle, Colo., July 11. July 16-21 brought reports like 246 birds of 11 species at Delta, 471 of 10 species at Cedar City, and 914 of 15 species at Hawthorne.

A Piping Plover visited LaBarge, Wyo., May 2 (†JRo). Snowy Plovers nested at Fish Spgs. (25 adults—KF), Bear R. (only two young—LM), and Hawthorn (18 on July 21—LS), and probably at Sunset Beach on Great Salt L. (100, many immatures July 19—E&RS) and Cheraw, Colo. (25 pairs—CC). They also occurred at Rawlins, Wyo., May 26 (†FB, SF) as well as at other usual sites. A Ruddy Turnstone visited Rawlins May 28 (†FB&SF), for Wyoming's seventh record. A Wyoming Fish & Game Dept. survey turned up a substantial population of Long-billed Curlews in w. Wyoming, especially around Cokeville and Daniel (BO). In Baca County, Colo., 23 congregated June 14 (MHo). Pairs at Lund and Enterprise, Utah (not known as breeding areas) acted territorially June 3 & July 15 respectively (SH). A visitor to Bear R., described two Whimbrels June 23 (†TSL). A Spotted Sandpiper at Delta with jet black underparts from bill to undertail coverts, with white spots, "while not an important observation in itself, does point to the difficulty of identifying shorebirds whose differences are subtle and minute when aberrations like this occur" (MJ). The last Solitary Sandpiper was at Evergreen, Colo., June 3 (SBr) and first return was at Ft. Morgan, Colo., July 2 (JCR). Willets probably nested at Antero Res., near Fairplay, Colo. (CC). On June 29 a flock of 40 Willets sojourned briefly at Eldora, Colo. (GS). First (last?) Greater Yellowlegs arrived at Denver June 20 (F&JJ). By July 20, 200 Long-billed Dowitchers had arrived at Ogdan Bay (JN), and 10,000+ W. Sandpipers at Bear R. (KC, KV). A few Marbled Godwits summered at Antero Res., Lamar, and Rocky Ford, Colo. (CC). The first n.e. Colorado nesting of Black-necked Stilts came at Windsor, Colo., with two pairs hatching young in late June (RAR). July 21 found 89 N Phalaropes at Hawthorne (GP, LS, CS).

GULLS THROUGH CUCKOOS — A midsummer gull with white primaries, probably Glaucous or albino Herring, stayed at Antero Res., July 17-24 (ph., CC). Franklin's Gulls reportedly breed now at Fallon, Nev (*fide* WT), a w. extension of the range of that expanding species; they may have bred at

Sheridan (HD) Bonaparte's Gulls dotted the Region, with one at Sheridan June 5 (HD, MC), three at Fallon June 19 (WT), one at Hawthorne July 21 (GP, CS, LS), and two at Antero Res., July 25 (RA). At Sheridan, a Sabine's Gull, compared with Franklin's Gulls June 7-19, set a second latilong record (JD, HD, †MC). A Com. Tern was at Enterprise, Utah July 15 (SH). The **Least Tern** at Fish Spgs., June 3 gave Utah its first record. "Prior to that date we had a series of storms from the SW. The bird was fishing over a refuge impoundment, flying 30-50 ft high, then diving to catch minnows" (†LM, GE). A small pond at a hotel at the Salt L. airport attracted up to 17 Caspian and 2-3 Forster's terns until the hotel "added a put-put boat for guests' paddling fun." The Caspians were fishing 6 in. goldfish out of the pond. (E&RS).

Band-tailed Pigeons made breeding season visits to the lowlands in Las Vegas, Zion, and Delta. Rare White-winged Doves appeared June 11 at St. George, Utah and June 30 at Denver (SH, †JS). Yellow-billed Cuckoos did not repeat their dramatic influx of last year, but observers still reported large numbers. Durango, which had its first record last year, reported its first breeding record this year (EF). Wyoming had 2 reports, compared with 9 last year. Utah did not share in last year's bonanza of records, but this year reported six scattered from Logan to St. George. Utah's fourth and fifth Black-billed Cuckoos were described from Brigham City June 8-10 (KC, †KV, JN) and, seen but identified by call only, from Logan June 15 (†AS). C.F.O. observers in late June confirmed nesting in n.e. Colorado by finding a nest with two young and 2 eggs (PG, JL).

OWLS THROUGH SWIFTS — The known distribution of Flammulated Owls continues to expand in the Colorado Rockies, this year the Ft. Collins latilong added it as a suspected breeder, along with an assessment that it is "probably the most common owl in the Colorado mountains during the breeding season" (KCo). Pygmy Owls were found near Boulder, Lyons, and Divide, Colo. (HS-W, MG, RB). At Bear L., Utah a 15-20 second observation of a large owl in flight led the observers to peg it as a Great Gray (†KV, KC). A **Whip-poor-will** called and flew for a host of observers at Colo. Spgs., July 10+ (S&JB, RB, WWB, KK *et al*), providing Colorado's third record. Its call suggested the s.w. race, (*C.v. arizonae* (D F.O.)). Two **Black Swifts** described from n.e. Bighorn County, Wyo., with White-throateds July 3, were not in breeding habitat; the state has only one other record (†DF). Colorado Black Swifts added a new breeding latilong: Great Sand Dunes Nat'l Mon., near Alamosa (†JMa).

HUMMINGBIRDS — Beulah, Colo., may rival Springdale, Utah as a hummingbird center. Feeders at 18 houses sported 403 hummingbirds of four species; probably 125 homes have hummingbird feeders. (WS). The mass included 100 Rufous at one house (CC). Black-chinneds appeared throughout the regular range, n. to Beulah in e. Colorado, Logan and Ogden, Utah and Eureka and Reno, Nev. The Black-chinned at Encampment, Wyo., May 16-17 added an e.

extension to its Wyoming range. Rufous arrived 3-4 days earlier than usual: June 21 at Logan (KD), June 27 at Evergreen and Steamboat Spgs. (DK, CA), and June 28 at Story, Wyo. (KG). A ♂ Calliope displayed to a ♀ Broad-tailed at Boulder July 19 (LHa). A pair of Rivoli's Hummingbirds spent the summer at L. Isabel, Colo. (CC).

FLYCATCHERS — A pair of E. Kingbirds fledged four young from a nest at Fish Spgs., the westernmost nesting site reported in the Region in several years (KF). The nest at Ignacio, Colo., gave Colorado its most s.w. confirmed nesting (*vide* EF) and fit into the season's pattern of more than the usual w. Colorado observations (CC). A Wied's Crested Flycatcher at La Sal Jct., May 24 gave s.e. Utah its first record (†E&RS). At Powder Rim, frequent observations of **Ash-throated Flycatchers** included a pair feeding recently-fledged young, a first Wyoming breeding record (FB&SF). Reports of E. Phoebes came from Rocky Mountain N.P. June 2 and Pueblo July 23 (at the same site where Black Phoebes nested several years ago (†HL, RB)). Willow Flycatchers sang persistently and visibly in a willow and tamarisk streambottom at Escalante Ref., near Delta for a first latilong record (MJ) and nesting W. Flycatchers were confirmed in the Glenwood Spgs. latilong (RP). Powder Rim's Gray Flycatchers were "common to abundant" (FB&SF). Years ago Boulder had many nesting W. Wood Pewees, but in recent years they have disappeared; this year Hering could find only three, June 1-3.

LARKS THROUGH THRASHERS — Breeding Bird Surveys (hereafter, B.B.S.) at Iron Spgs., Utah and Dobbin Cr., Nev., showed Horned Larks up over 50% from recent years (SH, JE). Purple Martins nested again near Mancos, Colo., and probably nested at Fairfield, Utah (EF, MW, KJ). One Steller's x Blue Jay hybrid continues to appear at Grand L., Colo., this year on June 6 (DJ). At Powder Rim, 1-4 Scrub Jays were seen 3 times (FB&SF). Counts of 40/ day reflected that at Cedar City Com. Ravens "nested in every available site, including several nests occupied by raptors last year . . . nearly every windmill in the deserts of w. Iron and Beaver Cos. has a raven nest" (SH). Sharply increased Piñon Jay numbers at Radium, Colo., and Cedar City followed a bumper pinyon nut crop (SH, DJ). Clark's Nutcrackers wandered into lower elevations than usual in several areas bordering the pinyon forests. At Radium one Black-capped and one Mountain Chickadee were feeding four young Black-cappeds July 25; while Mountains occur commonly, these are the only Black-cappeds seen there (DJ). Young **Plain Titmice** at Powder Rim provided Wyoming's first confirmed breeding record (FB&SF). A flock of 12 Bushtits moved rapidly through the junipers at Powder Rim July 19. (FB&SF). Pygmy Nuthatches summered and may nest near Seminoe Dam, Wyo. (FB&SF). Winter Wrens are rare in summer in the Region, except for an isolated population at Zion; a vigorous singer, heard but not seen, graced Grand Teton N.P., Wyo., June 24 (†SFn). Bewick's Wrens probably nested at Powder Rim (FB&SF). Brown Thrashers strayed W to Gunnison,

Colo., June 20 and Skull Valley, Utah June 13 (BB, MW). Two Bendire's Thrashers at Randlett, Utah July 7 echoed similar records from last year (E&RS).

THRUSHES THROUGH VIREOS — The Wasatch Front, Utah held conspicuous numbers of Swainson's Thrushes during June (JN, GK, JB). Mountain Bluebird numbers varied from "few" to "plentiful." At Sheridan a pair nested in a guard rail for the third straight year, the defective post still undiscovered by the Wyoming Hwy. Dept (JD). At Ogden 3-4 pairs of Blue-gray Gnatcatchers were feeding young during the summer (MK). Loggerhead Shrikes show a slight decline on the Dobbin Creek B.B.S.: they averaged 1.7 for 1968-74 and 0.5 for 1978-81 (JE). At Sheridan Loggerheads picked the same perching posts in the same places used by Northern's in the winter (FH). A concerted search for Bell's Vireos in s.w. Utah failed to turn up any in suitable habitat in the Zion area (JG, J&RT). *Birds of Utah* classed it as an "uncommon summer resident" in s Utah, but cited only 4 records for the state (Hayward *et al.* 1976).

WARBLERS — Black-and-white Warblers visited Boulder June 15 and Lyons, Colo., July 12 (LHa, HLC). First latilong Orange-crowned Warblers were rated as uncommon nesters in mountain shrubs in s.c. Wyoming (FB&SF). A Tennessee Warbler sang at Eldora, Colo., June 21-28 (MF). Summer Nashvilles were at Ft. Morgan June 4 (JCR) and Salt Lake City July 11 (JB). Seminoe Dam provides only the third location where Virginia's Warblers have occurred in Wyoming (FB&SF), and the nest at Radium July 9 gave the Eagle latilong its first nesting record (DJ). A N. Parula sang from trees along a Golden, Colo., street May 29-June 5 (PH, *AB* 35: 848); 12 mi away at Eldorado Spgs., another sang July 3-5 (JKr), possibly the same bird. Black-throated Gray Warblers, common at Powder Rim and Seminoe Dam, probably nested in both places (FB&SF). A Chestnut-sided Warbler, seen May 25-July 11, "obviously nested" at Loveland, Colo. (RH). Single Chestnut-sideds visited Eldora June 12 (GS) and Jackson, Wyo., June 20-21 (KD *vide* BR @), the first for w. Wyoming. A Prairie Warbler was reported from Crook, Colo., July 4 (SL @). Found June 11, a Kentucky Warbler sang vigorously at Boulder, Colo., through July 16 (BW, LH, CC m.ob., @). Another was at Durango, Colo. June 1 (†GC, LS). Yellow-breasted Chats seem abundant at Utah locations like Ouray N.W.R., Vernon, and some other remote areas (E&RS); abundance at Zion they have disappeared (JG).

BLACKBIRDS — A colony of Bobolinks at Lamoille, Nev., sported 37 males and three females June 13 (WT). Steamboat Spgs. had two males June 15, and two females on June 28, and appeared to be nest building (CA). A meadowlark at Gunnison, Colo., June 7-11 sang the "clear, three-syllable whistle" typical of the e. species, the diagnostic call note was not noted (†BB). Western Meadowlarks increased over B.B.S. averages for the last 2 years at Dobbin Cr., Iron Spgs., and Sheridan, but the Sheri-

dan numbers are only 10-30% of the 1974-76 counts. The Orchard Orioles nesting at Berthoud, Colo., extended the nesting range westerly one latilong (CCu, RM). A pair of Great-tailed Grackles arrived in July in Durango (EF). Common Grackles continued their W increase by nesting for the first time at Cody, Wyo. and Eagle, Colo. (UK, JM) and possibly nesting at Radium and Georgetown, Colo., and Lander, Wyo. (DJ, D F O., SFn). First records came from Jefferson and McCoy, Colo. (CH&KH, ME) and Laramie reported 109 July 26 (DM). Brown-headed Cowbirds "continued their range expansion into the pinyon/juniper woodland" at Zion (JG).

FINCHES, SPARROWS — Colorado had six summer Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, Las Vegas had two, and Dubois, Wyo., one. Singing ♂ Indigo Buntings sang territorially at Delta, Las Vegas, and Sheridan; a nesting ♀ bunting at Sheridan may have been an Indigo (MJ, VM, MC, DKn). Red and White-winged crossbills erupted, especially in the ponderosa pine country, from Sheridan to Beulah, Colo., and w. to Fairplay, Colo. Ten Reds appeared on the campus at Laramie June 10 (DI). At Grover, Colo., 65 mi e. of their preferred ponderosas, a pair of Reds with three new fledglings June 19 had come to, and possibly nested in, a very strange place (RAR). Discovered at Promontory, Utah were two singing Grasshopper Sparrows July 6; two adults and an immature July 15 (†KV, KC), and birds still there Aug. 8 (SH). This may locate a resurgent population of a species formerly common in n. Utah. A singing Baird's Sparrow June 2 & 25 was

reported from a tall-grass prairie at Dubois (†MB). At Pueblo, Colo., three singing **Black-throated Sparrows** in June gave way to two adults and two immatures in July; the adult feeding young June 27 moved the confirmed breeding range E 200 mi from the only other known regional breeding area around Grand Jct. (†RB). Brewer's Sparrows increased on the Dobbin Creek B.B.S., from an average of 12 from 1968-74 to 79 this year (JE). McCown's Longspurs were confirmed as breeders in the Muddy Gap, Wyo., latilong (FB&SF) and reported as more common this year at Cheyenne and Laramie.

CORRIGENDUM — Change the Great Egret at Jackson May 7, 1981, from ‡ to † (AB 35: 847).

ABBREVIATIONS — †: written documentation received by regional editor; ‡ written documentation on file with C.F.O.; @ no documentation received.

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SOUTHWEST REGION

/Kenneth V. Rosenberg, John P. Hubbard and Gary H. Rosenberg

Early summer saw a continuation of the hot and dry conditions that prevailed in spring. However, the late June-July monsoon brought more rain to the Region than normal, allowing excellent vegetative growth and plentiful surface water in some areas.

When the summer picture was finally complete, we had learned much about the breeding species in several new areas. We want to express special thanks for detailed reports received from areas subjected to intensive inventory; especially to **M. Kasprzyk et al.**, in the lower Colorado Valley (hereafter, L C V.), **W. Howe et al.**, in the middle Rio Grande Valley (hereafter, R.G.V.), **J. Trochet** and **A. McCallum** in the Zuni Mountains area, **J. Egbert** in the lower Gila Valley of New Mexico (hereafter, G.V.), and **C. Hunter et al.**, in the Pecos Valley.

We also appreciate the increase in reports by our visiting birders, but we cannot stress enough the importance of including documentary photographs or detailed descriptions, so these may be reviewed by our local committees.

LOONS THROUGH HERONS — A winter-plumaged Arctic Loon at Ramah Res., June 16 (†JT) and a White Pelican at Blue-water L., July 10 (DAM) were unusual summer stragglers in New Mexico. After several summers of residency at Abiquiu L., **Double-crested Cormorants** bred successfully for the first time in n. New Mexico, with 60 birds and 3 nests with young found there July 22 (*JPH et al.).

A Great Blue Heron colony near Glenwood, N. Mex., containing 11 nests and several large young July 27 (JPH, D. Nelson) is the first known from the San Francisco drainage. At least 12 ad. and imm. Black-crowned Night Herons along the Little Colorado R., near St. Johns, Ariz., June 12 may have represented a new breeding locality (DT). Reports of these herons in unusual places and/or numbers in New Mexico included three at Zuni June 29 (JT), two near Cliff July 26 (JE, JPH), and 12+ near Mesilla July 27-29 (DJ).

Unusual were lingering summer White-faced Ibises, with eight at Zuni June 2 and ten there June 26, and singles near Isleta, N. Mex., June 25 & July 10 (WHO et al.).

WATERFOWL — Blue-winged Teal were reported to have nested in Arizona, near Show Low (LP), with other birds in June at

suitable lakes near Flagstaff (JS). A ♀ Wood Duck remained at Nogales, Ariz., through the period (KK). At least 80 Com. Mergansers at Abiquiu L., N. Mex., July 22 included a female attending 35+ small young (*JPH et al.).

Up to 30 Redheads were at Zuni through early July (JT), and some may have bred. Apparent summer stragglers there in June included small numbers of Ring-necked Ducks, Canvasbacks and Buffleheads (JT). The latter two were also on several n. Arizona lakes, where not known to breed (JS).

RAPTORS — A count of 160+ Black Vultures near Nogales July 18 (GP) was exceptionally high for Arizona. Mississippi Kites have apparently declined in the R.G.V. in recent years, so up to four near Los Lunas June 26-July 16 were notable, as were singles at Bernalillo June 23 and near Isleta June 14 (WHO et al.). In addition, 1-2 near Mesilla, N. Mex., July 5 & 26-27 (DJ) and a probable one near Ft. Sumner June 23 (TH) were of interest.

Single Ferruginous Hawks at St. Johns, Ariz., June 12 (DT) and nearby Springerville June 28 (KR, ST) were in areas where breeding is possible but unrecorded. A Com. Black Hawk again summered in the Bill Williams

Delta, L.C.V., where first recorded in 1979 (MK *et al.*). Another 25 were counted in the G.V., May 15-June 16 (JE).

Central Arizona's desert-riparian nesting Bald Eagles had their best season in 5 years of study, with 14 young fledged from 7 active nests (*vide* R.D. Ohmart). Also in suitable breeding habitat was a ♂ Marsh Hawk flushed near St. Johns June 12 (DT); Arizona's first nest was found in 1980. A Peregrine visited Tucson July 23-30 (KK).

GALLINULES TO GULLS — An ad. Purple Gallinule spent the period at a ranch pond near Hereford, Ariz. (E. Lehner *et al.*, ph., KR). A surge of early fall shorebirds was

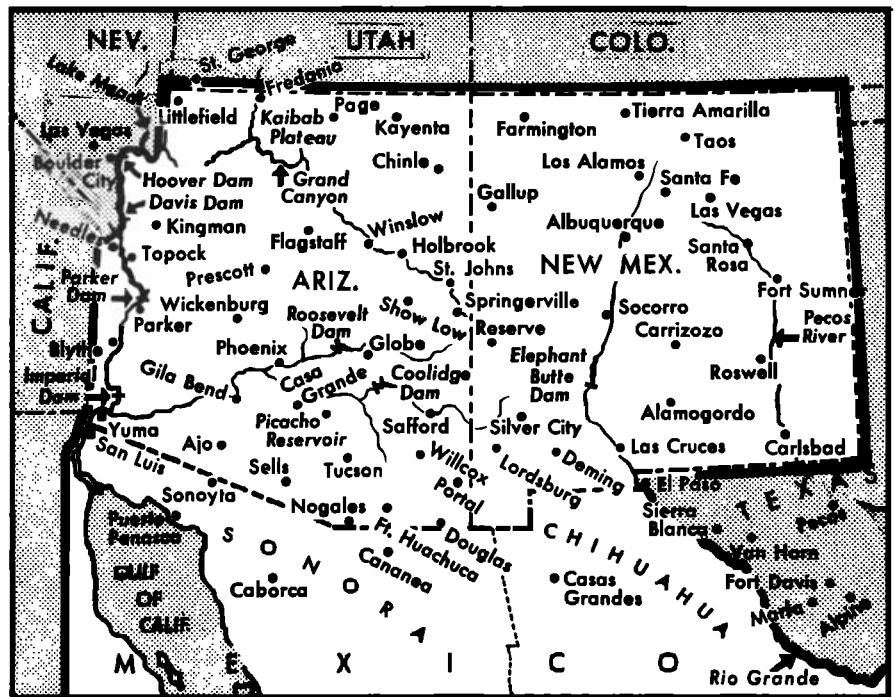


Purple Gallinule, Hereford, Ariz., June 14, 1981. Photo/Ken Rosenberg.

noted regionwide, beginning in late June. For example, 400 birds of 8 common species were at a Phoenix pond by July 1 (KR). Among the rarities in New Mexico were single Am. Golden Plovers at Zuni June 24-26 (†JT) and Bosque del Apache N.W.R., June 17 (†JND *et al.*), the latter along with a Red Phalarope (ph., JND *et al.*); all were still in full breeding plumage. Other notables included a local first Short-billed Dowitcher at Zuni July 1 (†JT) and a total of five westerly Stilt Sandpipers in breeding plumage in late July at Abiquiu L. (*JPH), Cochiti (V. Hink), and Hatch (†RH). Late spring holdovers were a Stilt Sandpiper, a Baird's Sandpiper and three Long-billed Dowitchers at Bitter Lakes N.W.R. (WCH *et al.*), plus a Long-billed Curlew and a N. Phalarope at Zuni (JT), all June 2.

Common Snipe were again present at Parkview, with three there July 14 (JPH, J. Vaught), but breeding in New Mexico is still not confirmed. A flightless young Spotted Sandpiper at 8200 ft in Rice P., July 17 (DAM) was evidence of the first breeding record for the Zuni Mts. Wilson's Phalarope was added to the breeding avifauna of Arizona when 2 nests were found at Pintail L., near Show Low in June (LP). At Blue-water L., site of New Mexico's first nesting in 1980, a possible incubating male was flushed June 22; however, no nest could be found and no bird was seen there later (DAM). American Avocets also bred at Pintail L., as well as at several other new locations in n. Arizona.

California Gulls, first noted in summer in n. New Mexico in 1975, continue to build there with 60+ at El Vado-Heron lakes and small numbers at Eagle Nest and Abiquiu lakes in July; most birds were sub-adults and there was no evidence of breeding. Two second-year birds at Painted Rock Dam, Ariz.,



June 16 (DS) were also noteworthy. Arizona's third Laughing Gull was a breeding-plumaged adult at Cibola N.W.R., June 16 (†MK *et al.*). An imm. Heermann's Gull was reported from Nogales July 31 (†J. Johnson, J. Ivanov); virtually all Arizona records are in late fall.

DOVES THROUGH NIGHTJARS — A N-straggling White-winged Dove was between Grants and El Morro, N. Mex., June 1 (†JT). Common Ground Doves are now rare in New Mexico; two were in the Alamo Huecos Mts., July 7-8 (RH), and another was near Rodeo in mid-July (*vide* RH). A sensitive species in our Region, the Yellow-billed Cuckoo, was described as down by half in s.e. Arizona (RS), but numbers were the highest in 6 years in the L.C.V. (MK *et al.*). This illustrates the problem of making regional generalizations from local impressions. In the R.G.V., transects averaged three per 0.5 mi in riparian areas, and cuckoos were regularly present in treed residential areas of Albuquerque (WHO *et al.*).

A Ferruginous Owl in Sycamore Canyon, Atascosa Mts., July 4 was in a new Arizona locality (DS). Only 13 Elf Owls were counted in the G.V., May 15-June 16 (JE). Elf Owls have summered in Water Canyon, Magdalena Mts., since 1976, and in July a nestling was photographed there to substantiate breeding (PS), some 135 mi n.e. of the nearest known breeding areas. A Long-eared Owl on the San Francisco peaks n. of Flagstaff June 6 (DS) was one of few ever reported from the boreal forests of Arizona. Two Spotted Owls on the Zuni Reservation June 5 (JT) constituted the second record there and the first in summer.

An organized search for Buff-collared Nightjars in s.e. Arizona June 14-20 resulted in the discovery of 2 new United States localities. Three birds were seen and heard in the Baboquivari Mts., w. of Nogales (*vide* SM) and one was near Tucson at Tanque Verde Wash (C. Dewoerd, S. Spitzer). In

addition, two singing birds were in Aravaipa Canyon (RD, DL), where first found in 1980, and one was reported from the New Mexico portion of Guadalupe Canyon (T. Kent). Most of these birds were relocated through the summer by many visiting birders. Local first Whip-poor-wills n. of their normal range were in 3 canyons in the Zuni Mts., in June-July (DAM).

SWIFTS THROUGH KINGFISHER — Five Black Swifts were seen over Lake Peak July 31 (JPH, W. Baltosser), for the fourth summer of record in the Santa Fe area; breeding is still unproven for the species in New Mexico. A *Chaetura* swift was in Albuquerque June 13 (HS), where no member of the genus is known in summer.

Hummingbirds of note were an imm. ♂ Costa's near Rodeo, N. Mex., July 21-27 (*vide* RWH), a ♀ Violet-crowned on a nest in Garden Canyon, Huachuca Mts., July 13, and two more at Ramsey Canyon July 23+ (RS) and a male in Water Canyon in July (ph. PS). A White-eared stayed for 3 weeks at Ramsey Canyon beginning July 5 and the May bird at Summerhaven remained through summer (m.ob.). The rarest hummer was a Berylline far from feeders in Carr Canyon, Huachuca Mts., July 31-Aug. 7 (†R. Linfield *et al.*).

Surveys of Arizona's Coppery-tailed Trogons this summer tallied 84 birds and 12 nests (R. Taylor); the densest United States population may be in remote Sycamore Canyon w. of Nogales where 20 were counted July 4 (DS). A nest of Belted Kingfisher at Blue-water Cr. furnished a first for the Zuni Mts. (DAM). A bird was seen entering a possible nest cavity near Sedona June 12-13, where Arizona's first 20th century breeding occurred in 1980 (JC, S. Emslie). Kingfishers also summered in the R.G.V. (WHO *et al.*) and in the Gila drainage, where a nest was found in the latter (JPH *et al.*).

WOODPECKERS AND FLYCATCHERS — The Red-headed Woodpecker is a declining species in parts of New Mexico; as shown by the presence of only five (all adults) seen in the R.G.V. this summer (WHO *et al.*). New southerly nest records of woodpeckers in the R.G.V., included a Lewis' at Belen July 6, and a Downy at Los Lunas June 12 (WHO *et al.*). Surprisingly, Downy Woodpeckers far outnumbered Hairies in that valley, with the latter reported only twice (WHO *et al.*). A first local nesting by Downy Woodpecker occurred in the Zuni Mts., at Ojo Bonito Canyon May 15-July 4, and the first definite Ladder-backed for the Zunis were two at Bonita Canyon July 14-15 (DAM). An early lowland Yellow-bellied Sapsucker was near Glenwood, N. Mex., July 28 (JPH).

There were nine reports of E. Kingbirds in summer in the R.G.V., but only four Cassin's there through the period were fewer than expected (WHO *et al.*). Straggling kingbirds included an Eastern at Richville, Ariz., June 13 (SB *et al.*), and single Thick-billed near Portal July 1 (†KG) and e. of there in New Mexico, at Double Adobe Ranch July 14 (†J. Cook, P. Packard). Similarly, Scissor-tailed Flycatchers appeared at Sonoita, Ariz., July 28 (†D. Patten) and near Sherman, N. Mex., June 11 (*vide* JE). A Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher summered in Harshaw Canyon near Patagonia, Ariz. (KK).

A Hammond's Flycatcher nest and four singing birds in Big Water Canyon June 18-19 constituted a first breeding in the Zuni Mts. (DAM) and the southernmost ever for the species. Four singing males and a pair were also near Washington Pass June 10 (JT) for the first summer record in the New Mexico portion of the Chuska Mts.; Arizona's first nesting occurred nearby in 1980. Dusky Flycatchers in new areas of occurrence in New Mexico were up to four on the Zuni Reservation June 5-28 (JT), four on Mt. Taylor June 28-29 (DAM), and one in the Chuska Mts., June 11 (DAM).

Several Willow Flycatchers were at Zuni in June (JT) for a new probable breeding area in w. New Mexico. Seventy-eight territorial Willows were censused in the G.V., in the period (JE), whereas only seven were in the R.G.V. (WHO *et al.*). An active nest of Buff-breasted Flycatcher was found in Cave Cr. Canyon, Chiricahua Mts., July 1-3 (†KG), while 11 pairs were located by intensive searching in the Huachuca Mts., this summer (R Bowers). An Olive-sided Flycatcher nest in Cottonwood Canyon July 8 (DAM) was a first for the Zuni Mts.

SWALLOWS THROUGH PARIDS — An ad. Tree Swallow feeding young near Redrock June 23 (RH) confirmed the second breeding record for the Gila drainage in New Mexico, and the species was apparently nesting at Clayton L., June 12 (K. Seyffert), for a local first. In Arizona, where nesting was first noted in 1973, 50+ Tree Swallows at Sunrise L., White Mts., May 30 (KR, DS) seem too late for spring migrants and suggested that the breeding population there may be larger than previously suspected. Five birds were at Long L., near Flagstaff June 10 (JS) and several were in the Zuni Mts., June 15-July 7 (DAM), but no evidence of nesting was found.

Black-billed Magpies now appear to be

resident at Cochiti in the R G V , where 30 were counted July 30-31 (WHO *et al.*). The only White-necked Raven report from the R.G.V., was of five near Bernardo June 28 (WHO). However, Com. Crows with young, were widespread there s. to Belen (WHO *et al.*). Noisy juv. Clark's Nutcrackers in Cottonwood Canyon in late May were the first suggestion of nesting in the Zuni Mts. (DAM).

Black-capped Chickadee, only a recent resident in the R.G.V., was found to far outnumber Mountain Chickadee, with 300 vs 15 records there this summer. Most intriguing was the presence of mixed flocks and pairs in the area of overlap, with a probable hybrid seen and heard near Albuquerque July 8 (WHO *et al.*). Mountain Chickadees at Aguirre Spring June 28 & July 4 (DJ) suggested that the species is resident in the Organ Mts., N. Mex. Bushtits were rare in the R.G.V., with ten at Corrales July 5 being the only ones reported (WHO *et al.*).

WRENS THROUGH VIREOS — Bewick's Wrens in the R.G.V., were confined to the Cochiti area, except for one near Corrales June 2 (WHO *et al.*). Most unusual were single singing Long-billed Marsh Wrens at Black L., Colfax Co., July 18 (JPH) and at Zuni June 2 (JT); breeding is known in New Mexico only in the San Juan Valley.

A pair of Gray Catbirds nested at Zuni in June (JT) for the first proven breeding in w. New Mexico. A Brown Thrasher at Petrified Forest N.P., June 14 (ST, LT) provided one of very few summer records for Arizona. A juv. E. Bluebird near Ft. Sumner, N. Mex., June 2 (TH) confirmed only the second local breeding record.

The prolific pair of **Black-capped Gnatcatchers** in Chino Canyon, Ariz., fledged their second brood of four, and were lining their third nest at the end of the period (SM, KK). Two Golden-crowned Kinglets on Mt. Taylor June 28-29 (DAM) and two on Sandia Crest, Sandia Mts., July 5 (HS) were only the second summer records for each New Mexico range.

Thirty-one Bell's Vireos were counted in the G.V., May 15-June 16 (JE). Most unusual were single **Yellow-throated Vireos** at Madera Canyon, Ariz., June 4 (†S. Gaulia) and at Zuni June 8 (†JT). Also out-of-range was a Bell's Vireo near Albuquerque June 22 and one-two Red-eyeds near Belen June 26 (WHO).

WOOD WARBLERS — Regularly breeding species offered few surprises this season. An Orange-crowned nest in Big Water Canyon June 18 (DAM) provided the first breeding record for the Zuni Mts. Some 58 Virginia's Warblers in lowland riparian areas of the R.G.V. June 23-July 31 are best considered early fall migrants, since this species was not present there earlier in June and is not known to breed in such riparian areas. Yellow Warblers were surprisingly rare in the R.G.V., with only 11 reported (WHO *et al.*); this sensitive species deserves close monitoring in the Southwest.

Other notable finds were single Prothonotary Warblers in Arizona near Eagar June 12 (GR), Ramsey Canyon June 18-19 (*vide* J. Epler) and Patagonia June 19 (†C. Stewart),

and a Worm-eating at Richville, Ariz., June 28 (KR *et al.*). Also, single ♂ **Black-throated Blue Warblers** were at Richville June 28 (ST) and near Santa Fe June 3 (†A. Bissell); this species is very rare as a late spring vagrant in the Far West. Arizona's sixth and seventh **Yellow-throated Warblers** were at the s. rim of the Grand Canyon June 6 (†C. Staicer, C Benkman) and in Cave Cr. Canyon July 11 (S. Cardiff). The state's sixth **Louisiana Waterthrush** also turned up in Cave Cr. Canyon July 25 (†RS).

S.A.

It seems appropriate that Arizona's first **Swainson's Warbler** would appear at the confluence of South Fork and the Little Colorado rivers above Eagar. This unique pocket of deciduous growth at 7500 ft is home for the Region's only breeding Veeries and Am. Redstarts. Its attraction to other "eastern" species is exemplified by the occurrence of Worm-eating, Yellow-throated, and Kentucky warblers this past May, in the very same trees that produced the Swainson's June 12. The singing bird was studied at close range and tape-recorded (†GR *et al.*) for the first record w. of the Great Plains (details to be published elsewhere).

Single Ovenbirds were noted at Prescott, Ariz., in early June (CT), Madera Canyon June 11 (S. Lambeth), and in the R.G.V., at Belen June 19 and near Los Lunas July 2 (WHO *et al.*). Yet another Kentucky Warbler (the fifth in Arizona since early May) was at Cave Cr. Canyon June 29-July (†KG *et al.*) Hooded Warblers continue to appear in summer with females at Socorro, N. Mex., June 10 (†P. Basham), Patagonia June 19 (J Drewek), and near Corrales, N. Mex., July 31 (WHO *et al.*).

Less spectacular were single Black-and-White Warblers at Cave Cr. Canyon June 10 (*vide* SG) and Richville June 13 (ST *et al.*), single N. Parulas at Prescott in early June (CT), and Garden Canyon July 16 (C. Gambill), and single Am. Redstarts at Richville June 13 (ST *et al.*), Ganado, Ariz., June 14 (ST *et al.*), and near Albuquerque June 17-18 (WHO *et al.*). Unseasonal Townsend's Warblers were near Casa Grande, Ariz., June 30 (DL) and near Corrales July 5 (T Weaver). A Wilson's Warbler at Ramsey Canyon July 13 (RS) was an extremely early fall migrant, as was a Hermit Warbler in the Chiricahua Mts., July 25 (RS).

ICTERIDS AND TANAGERS — Notable June records of presumed breeding species on the Zuni Reservation included up to six E. Meadowlarks, six Com. Grackles, and three Great-tailed Grackles (JT); all were only recently reported in that area. A ♂ N. (Baltimore) Oriole photographed there was paired with a ♀ N. (Bullock's) Oriole and they are thought to have bred (JT). Summer Tanagers were present again in the Ft. Sumner area, N Mex., with four there June 2-3 (WCH *et al.*)

FRINGILLIDS — Single Cardinals at Albuquerque July 27 (WHO) and in the Alamo Hueco Mts., N. Mex., July 9 (RH), were stragglers at best. A singing ♂ Pyrrhuloxia n. of Ehrenberg July 4 (MK) provided the

second record for the immediate L.C.V., and the first for the Arizona side. The seventh United States occurrence of **Yellow Grosbeak** was a male at Madera Canyon June 20-26 (R. Newcomer *et al.*, ph., KR).



Yellow Grosbeak, Madera Canyon, Ariz., June 26, 1981. Photo/Ken Rosenberg.

Two imm. ♂ Varied Buntings in the Alamo Hueco Mts., N. Mex., July 7-8 (RH) were local firsts. A ♂ Painted Bunting at Leasburg June 29 (†K. Gould) was the second recent reported in summer in the lower R.G.V. of New Mexico. Another male at the tiny oasis of Sanders in n.e. Arizona June 14 (CT, ST) was unexpected. Lazuli Buntings considerably outnumbered Indigos in the Sandia Mts. (HS) and at Zuni (JT), but the reverse was true in the R.G.V. (WHO *et al.*).

An Evening Grosbeak at a nest at Capulin

Spring, Sandia Mts., June 21 (HS *et al.*) furnished a first breeding record for that range. A very late ♀ Purple Finch at Richville, Ariz., June 13 (ST *et al.*) furnished perhaps a second summer occurrence in the Region. Cassin's Finch reports included small numbers near Zuni in June (JT), at Capulin Spring, Sandia Mts., June 1 (HS), and at Santa Fe July 18-19, including a full-grown fledgling (JPH).

Rufous-sided Towhees were widespread and numerous in the R.G.V. (WHO *et al.*) in contrast with their spottiness farther s. in the valley. Savannah Sparrows again summered at Bluewater L. (DAM), where first recorded in 1980 for New Mexico's first proven breeding; several at Black L., Colfax Co., N. Mex., July 18 (JPH) were also probable breeders. Extraordinary were three Vesper Sparrows in grassland at Elgin June 27-28 (JBD) providing first summer records in s.e. Arizona.

An ad. Cassin's Sparrow with three dependent young near Hachita July 14 (RH) represented one of the few known instances of breeding in s.w. New Mexico. This species was substantially scarcer than usual on June breeding surveys in e. New Mexico. A Gray-headed Junco near Redrock, N. Mex., June 24 (RH) was very early and unusual in the lowlands. Chipping Sparrows were present in the R.G.V., during most of the period, but were not thought to have nested there (WHO *et al.*). Late migrant Brewer's Sparrows in-

cluded three s. of Ft. Sumner June 2 (TH), whereas singles at Bernalillo July 15 and Los Lunas July 28 (WHO *et al.*) were early. Two singing Lincoln's Sparrows in Diener Canyon June 26, with one remaining all period, were summer firsts for the Zuni Mts. (DAM).

ERRATUM — Prothonotary Warbler, Albuquerque May 2, 1981 (AB 35: 851) was banded by T. Bidell, not W. Howe.

ABBREVIATIONS — †, written details on file with New Mexico Ornithological Society or Arizona Bird Committee, *, specimen.

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ALASKA REGION

/D. D. Gibson

Summer 1981 began warm and dry—a forest fire summer—but changed abruptly in the third week of June, after which time the weather was very wet and cold throughout much of the Region for the rest of the season.

GREBES, ALBATROSSES — A Horned Grebe that lingered in Womens Bay through June 3 was latest ever in spring at Kodiak (RAM). A W. Grebe, loosely associated with ten Arctic Loons at Eagle R. Beach, Juneau area, June 5 (RJG) was exceptionally late. On June 7 a sub-ad. Short-tailed Albatross was observed at 50°46'N 179°31'E (*i.e.*, s. of Amchitka Pass, c. Aleutians) for 45 min. in company with ten Laysan Albatrosses (WTE). Photos were taken, and J.R. Jehl and R.G. McCaskie have concurred with the observer's identification.

STORM-PETRELS, PELICANS —

S.A.

Based on a census of 89 4-m² plots, a *minimum* breeding population of 1,600,000 Fork-tailed and Leach's storm-petrels was estimated at St. Lazaria I., Sitka Sound, June 19-20 (JLT, DRN, ALS,&JWN). This island thus supports what is probably the largest known breeding colony of Hydrobatidae in the world, certainly the largest in Alaska and North America (*vide* JLT).

The Petersburg White Pelican (see Spring Migration) was present there through July 13 (*vide* SK).

WATERFOWL — This Region "... experienced another atypical year by providing habitat for drought displaced waterfowl for the second year in a row and the third out of the last five" (B. Conant and R. King 1981, "Alaska-Yukon waterfowl breeding pair survey, May 18-June 7, 1981, U.S.F.W.S., Fairbanks). According to the authors, Mallards were up 21% from 1980 and 76% above the 11-year average of these surveys, Am. Wigeon +17% and +99%, Green-winged Teal +65% and +108%, N. Shoveler +57% and +335%, Pintail -20% but +42%, Canvasback -13% but +54%, and scaup -17% but +11%. Only hinted at by widespread peripheral records this spring (*q.v.*), Red-

head, a normally rare duck in Alaska, was up 329% from 1980 and 665% above the 11-year average! Distinct exceptions were Bufflehead (-34% and -31%) and Oldsquaw (-48% and -16%), for unknown reasons.

A Canada Goose was seen July 31 at Aik-



take I, e Aleutians, where three were seen in summer 1980 (ARD). No Canada Geese are known to breed in the Aleutians e. of far-western Buldir, where the remnant population of endangered *B. c. leucopareia* nests, so the racial identity of these e. birds would be most interesting to determine. A pair of Blue-winged Teal at Prudhoe Bay June 24 & 26 (CH) provided the third n. Alaska record; a pair was seen at Potter Marsh, Anchorage, as late as June 21 (GJT). Northern Shovelers were very numerous in n. Alaska, where 50+ in one flock at Prudhoe Bay June 23 (TGT *et al.*) was high count. This species possibly bred at Kodiak I., where there is no nesting record to date (RAM). Two pairs of shovelers were seen at Wales June 11 (TGT).

CRANES, COOTS, SHOREBIRDS — A pair of Sandhill Cranes at nest with two young June 17 at Polk Inlet, *Prince of Wales I* (PJC, *fide* TK), was the second recent reported breeding in Southeastern (there are 2 old records; plus one in 1976, also from this island). It seems likely that these birds are *G. c. tabida*, which subspecies, while unknown in Alaska, breeds directly across Dixon Entrance from us, in the Queen Charlotte Is., B.C. American Coots nested in the Tetlin-Northway area of e.-c. Alaska for the second year in a row (see AB 34:921). Small numbers were observed at Yarger L., through July 7; 3 nests (of 11, 11, and 9 eggs) were discovered June 17. All were empty June 29, but only one chick was sighted there (JK, GE, & MJ, *fide* JLT), at least one brood was seen at Gasoline L., in late July (JGK). Elsewhere in c. Alaska, coot remains were found in three Peregrine Falcon eyries on the upper Yukon R. (REA) and in at least one Porcupine R. eyrie (RJR) in July, attesting the number of coots that must have been present in this part of the State this summer. One coot seen at the Buckland R. mouth, Eschscholtz Bay, June 5 (WDE, *fide* JLT) represented probably the first w. Alaska record of the species.

A ♀ Mongolian Plover observed at Nanvak Bay June 22 but not subsequently (DRH & DL) numbered among few recent mainland Alaska records; one at St. Paul I., Pribilofs, June 29-30 (RLS *et al.*) provided the first midsummer record on the Alaska islands of the Bering Sea. A Black-tailed Godwit at St. Paul June 29-30 (†RLS *et al.*) provided only the second midsummer record in the State, both at that location. A lone Far Eastern Curlew studied at Clam Lagoon, Adak I., c. Aleutians, June 6 (WTE) furnished the first Regional report of this species in several years. At least two Com. Snipe, including one in display flights, were observed near Iliulik L., Unalaska I., e. Aleutians, June 23 (BEL & RHD), for the first record of *G. g. delicata* w. of Unimak I. One Great Knot at Gambell, St. Lawrence I., June 12 (MS *et al.*) was the only one reported; and single Ruffs at Gambell May 31 (RWS) and at Attu June 2 (TGT) were the only sightings of that species.

GULLS, TERNS, ALCIDS — An ad. gull identified by the observers as a Lesser Black-backed was studied at Prudhoe Bay June 24 (†LGB, †TGT, ph. WSD, ph. ATD *et al.*) and was present at least through July 19 (BJM, *fide* CH). In an effort to eliminate any of the dark-mantled and yellow-legged forms of

Herring Gull from Asia/e Europe, photos have been sent to the British Museum for evaluation. If confirmed, this species would be new to Alaska. Two ad. Ring-billed Gulls were reported this period, one at Naknek June 16 (PI) and one at Kenai July 22 (LSU). There is *still* no specimen—or photo-substantiated record in Alaska (cf. AB 28:677). Three California Gulls were identified in Kashevarof Passage, off the n.e. side of Prince of Wales I., June 8 (SJ). This species may be regular in s. Southeastern in summer. Black-legged and Red-legged kittiwakes suffered massive reproductive failure at St. George I., Pribilofs, this summer—less than 15% of the former's nest attempts fledged young and less than 10% of the latter's (BEL).

Two Caspian Terns observed in Sitka Sound July 7 (†ALS & †JWN) were hard on the heels on the first substantiated record(s) in the State, at Ketchikan in early June (see Spring). Murres underwent poor reproductive success at St. George this summer; less than 25% of Com. Murre nest attempts fledged young, less than 35% of Thick-billed attempts (BEL). Of 3500 murres on the St. Lazaria cliffs June 17-18, 62% were Thick-billed (JLT, DRN, ALS, & JWN). This species had not been found breeding in s.e. Alaska before; St. Lazaria is 600+ km e.s.e. of both Wingham and Middleton Is., the two nearest colony sites known. An incubating Marbled Murrelet was discovered on its egg at 2325 ft above Port Chatham, Kenai Pen. July 2 (SJ), on the ground on a talus slope. This was apparently the sixth nest of this species ever found (*fide* RHD). Two Parakeet Auklets observed near *Kruzof I.*, June 25 (JLT *et al.*) were most unusual. There are only 5 previous Southeastern records of this bird, all in spring or summer.

PIGEONS THROUGH KINGFISHERS — A weak Band-tailed Pigeon was observed July 14-15 at the confluence of the Ikpiqpuk R., and Bronx Creek (SWS), the first record for n. Alaska. A swift found moribund in a building on St. George I., June 16 (*AJM) proved to be a most unlikely Chimney Swift! It provides a first record for Alaska and perhaps a first record anywhere n. and w. of Saskatchewan. A sub-ad. ♂ Anna's Hummingbird was seen at a Juneau feeder July 3 (RJG). There are few midsummer records. A ♀ Belted Kingfisher observed June 23 at Iliulik Cr., Unalaska I. (BEL & RHD), numbers among few Aleutian records of the species at any season.

THRUSHES, WAGTAILS — A ♀ Blue-throat feeding bob-tailed young on the Toolik R., 70 km s. of Prudhoe Bay in early July (BJM) furnished one of few actual breeding records e. of the Colville R. A carefully studied Swainson's Thrush in the town of Kodiak July 22 (†JBA) provided the first record of this common mainland bird in the Kodiak archipelago (RAM). An ad. Yellow Wagtail closely studied at Womens Bay June 30 (†JBA) represented the first Kodiak Island record and only the third Regional report on the Pacific coast e. of the Aleutians. The other two were in autumn.

FINCHES, SPARROWS — Pine Siskin drew comments in c., southcoastal, and s.e.

Alaska this summer. It was abundant at Kodiak in June and probably nested there again this year (RAM). At Anchorage it was the most abundant passerine observed, on counts in a mixed spruce-birch forest where, in May and early June, it represented 25% and 42%, respectively, of all birds seen; numbers remained high there, and breeding was suspected, until at least mid-August, after which time numbers declined sharply (JLT). At Juneau, where it nested in the observer's yard, siskin was the most abundant species this summer (RJG). It was common as far n. as Fairbanks, where breeding was also confirmed (BK). White-winged Crossbill was uncommon to fairly common in June at Kodiak, where an adult was seen feeding young in early June (RAM). A flock of White-wingeds at Herbert R., near Juneau, June 19 was the first there this summer (but flocks roughly 80% White-winged and 20% Reds arrived in early August to feed on an exceptionally good cone crop there)(RJG). A ♀ Com. Rosefinch at Attu June 6 (DWF *et al.*) was the only one recorded this year. At least three White-crowned Sparrows were seen June 9-12 at Wales (TGT *et al.*), where rare, and a nest of 3 eggs, ultimately abandoned, was an interesting find at that location. A singing ♂ Swamp Sparrow was studied at Potter Marsh, Anchorage, June 17-19 (DWF, †ESH, †LJO, †GJT *et al.*), providing the first record of this species in Alaska.

CORRIGENDUM — Observer of the Gray Jay (AB 35:215) was D. Schraeder, not DWS.

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NORTHERN PACIFIC COAST REGION

/Bill Harrington-Tweit, Philip W. Mattocks, Jr., and Eugene S. Hunn

With the exception of the balmy valleys of southern Oregon, the Region endured a cool, wet June. Observers indicated that this remnant of the wet spring retarded nesting of several species. However, at least south of British Columbia, July was warm and dry, and renestings were generally successful.

There was a probable breeding record for

the Solitary Sandpiper in the Oregon Cascades, and exciting records of the Curlew Sandpiper, White-eyed Vireo, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, and Chestnut-collared Longspur were clustered in mid-July.

GREBES THROUGH HERONS — An Eared Grebe was on the Kent sewage ponds, King Co., Wash., July 26 (EH) for only the second summer record for w. Washington. A single Eared Grebe in breeding plumage was at the Ladner, B.C., sewage ponds June 11 & 14 (MMc, VN, BK), and two were off Sea I., near Vancouver, B.C., June 19 (WW). Up to 30 W. Grebes were reported in British Columbia coastal waters (*fide* VG), and 700± summered on Bellingham Bay, Wash. (TW). These large numbers were not noted elsewhere. Pied-billed Grebes were found nesting at Ocean Shores, Wash., July 17 (G&WH) for the first time in 10 years.

After a 2-year absence during summer, N. Fulmars were found off the Washington coast July 19 (BHT) & 26 (TW). Onshore, one was found dead on a N. Seattle beach June 17 (MDo). Double-crested Cormorant colonies continued to increase in size. Seventy-nine pairs nested on the Chain Is., V.I. (WC, *fide* VG), where only 21 nests were found in 1979. Similarly, the Grays Harbor, Wash., colony increased to 376 nests this summer, up from 300 last summer (Wash. Dept. of Game). Single Cattle Egrets were found May 15 near Hope, B.C. (TBu, *fide* WW), and May 17 at Serpentine Fen, B.C. (JWi, *fide* WW), for the first spring record for the Vancouver area. Great Egrets summered on the s. Oregon coast (*fide* DF), but no breeding evidence was obtained to add to last summer's first such record for the Region. Nor were there any records of the Black-crowned Night Heron, a rare breeder in our area.

WATERFOWL — Gadwall were found breeding at 2 locations in the Seattle area (†R, EH). A pair of Blue-winged Teal nested at the Tacoma sewage ponds (TB). Green-winged Teal bred near Yelm, Wash. (BHT), and at Saanich, V.I. (RS). Cinnamon Teal nested at Renton and Kent, Wash. (EH). Three broods of Am. Wigeon were found in the Vancouver, B.C., area (WW). Northern Shovelers nested at Dungeness (D&SS), Renton and Kent (EH), Wash., and Cowichan Bay, V.I. (VG). All of these dabblers are scarce or very local breeders in the Region.

Lesser Scaup have seldom been reported breeding in the Region. This summer a brood was found on the sewage ponds at Kent, Wash. (EH). Twelve ad. Lesser Scaup were found on the Green Lakes in the Oregon Cascades in late July (JO). Both Barrow's Goldeneye and Bufflehead nested in July at a new locale, Gold L., in the Oregon Cascades of e. Lane Co. (TL, SSu). Three broods of Ruddy Ducks were found in late July in the Kent-Renton area (EH), and a pair at Dungeness, Wash., raised 2 broods (WS).

KITES THROUGH QUAIL — Three White-tailed Kites were reported this season from Oregon, one at Ashland June 7 (MMo), an immature n. of Tillamook July 25 (JG, *fide* HN), and an adult at the south jetty of the

Columbia R., July 26 (HN), for a larger number of reports than in the last 2 summers. Sharp-shinned Hawks were reported 8 times, and Cooper's 14. A pair of Cooper's Hawks raised three young at Victoria (*fide* VG). Golden Eagles were reported from s. V.I., Vancouver, B.C., and s. Oregon, where they are not uncommon, and also from Hurricane Ridge in the Olympic Mts. of Washington (D&SS). Marsh Hawks were seen in 12 areas, mostly coastal. Osprey reports continue to be a delight to summarize. Of 13 nests monitored, 12 appeared to be successful. Five young Peregrines were produced from the 2 known nests in Washington, and there may have been a third successful nest (BA). Illegal capture of young Peregrines is still a major problem in the Queen Charlotte Is., B.C., where 79 ad. pairs were found in 1980 (AB, *Vancouver Sun* Aug. 11, 1981). A Prairie Falcon was seen July 26 in Manning P.P. (R&SC, *fide* WW). Two California Quail were found June 11 just e. of River Jordan, which is w. of their currently limited area of abundance on s. V.I. (MS, *fide* VG).

SHOREBIRDS — A Black Oystercatcher chick was with two adults June 24 on Grebe Is., Lighthouse P., W. Vancouver, B.C. (WW), to confirm nesting in that area. A pair of Semipalmated Plover and a chick were at Iona I., B.C., June 9 (JT *et al.*, *fide* WW). The closely monitored Snowy Plovers at Leadbetter Pt., Wash., had their best season in 4 years, with 11 pairs producing 18 young (RW). A nest was found at Tillamook, Oreg., and two pairs were believed to be breeding at Sunset Beach, Oreg. (HN). The 200± Ruddy Turnstones at Bandon, Oreg., July 18-19 (TC, *fide* HN) was a large number for fall migration here. A Long-billed Curlew June 7 on Boundary Bay, B.C., provided the first summer record for the Vancouver area (RWe, *fide* WW). The Upland Sandpiper at Manning P.P., B.C., May 31 was found and photographed by DJ and furnished the first spring record for s.w. British Columbia (*fide* WW).

A pair of Solitary Sandpipers was defending territory June 28 at Gold Lake Bog in the c. Oregon Cascades of e. Lane Co. (MSa). Thereafter one to two birds were seen by several observers (†HN, DF, TL), but no nest was found. On July 25 four birds were present, two of which appeared to be young of the year (MSa). Further details and photos have been submitted to *Oregon Birds*.

Willetts were seen in the Vancouver, B.C., area June 14 (†DK, †MDa) and July 26 (†DK), for the seventh and eighth records



there. A 2-day count of 145+ Surfbirds in Coos County, Oreg., was on the early date of July 11-12 (LD). A breeding-plumaged Curlew Sandpiper was found n.e. of Comox, V.I., July 11 (†JH, †MN). One, possibly the same bird, stayed July 14-24 near Victoria while it molted into basic plumage (†VG *et al.*). This established the third confirmed record from British Columbia, and the 2 previous were also in July.

Stint madness has struck the Pacific Northwest, leaving no specimens or photographs in its wake. This summer's manifestations were all from the famous Iona I. sewage ponds, near Vancouver, B.C., at which several hundred to several thousand peep were examined daily. Adult Long-toed Stints were reported twice; one from June 27-July 1 (†BK, †DK, †MDa, †BS), and another July 30 (†BK). A juv. Rufous-necked Stint was reported July 19 & 25 (†BK). This was an extremely early date for a juvenile of this species. Hopefully, these written descriptions will be well studied by observers who have field experience with stints. We would feel far more comfortable discussing reports of Long-toed, Temminck's, and Little stints if specimens or photos of high quality (*e.g.*, *Am. Birds* 32: 1062, 1978 and 34: 850, 1980) existed for records s. of Alaska. We also note that controversy surrounds field identification of juv. Rufous-neckeds (*Br. Birds* 72: 264, 1979).

An ad. White-rumped Sandpiper appeared at Iona I., June 15-16 (†BK, †WW, †DK *et al.*) for the second record for coastal B.C. (see *Am. Birds* 28: 940, 1974). An Am. Avocet was seen in Saanich, V.I., May 17-20 (Mr. & Mrs. J. Dunlop, *fide* VG). One Am. Avocet from the spring flight to w. Washington graced the Nisqually N.W.R., until at least June 14 (TB) & 19 (DC, *fide* 1A). A ♂ Wilson's Phalarope was at Dungeness June 6 (EH), a juvenile was at the mouth of the Elk R., Coos Co., Oreg., July 15 (DR), and three juveniles were at Finley N.W.R., Oreg., July 19 (CW).

GULLS THROUGH ALCIDS — Records of Glaucous-winged Gulls breeding in s. Puget Sound, an area colonized relatively recently, included a count of 170+ adults at Tacoma (TB), and downy chicks noted at West Pt., Seattle (EH), and Olympia (BHT). The Ring-billed Gull colony in Grays Harbor showed an increase for the fifth straight year, with 53 nests counted (Wash. Dept. of Game). There are no other known colonies for the Region. The only large flocks of Bonaparte's Gulls noted were the 500-1500 during June at Iona I. (WW, DK). Black-legged Kittiwakes were reported in low numbers for the third straight summer.

Forster's Terns, rare in the Region, were reported during July from Vancouver, B.C. (†BK), and from Fern Ridge Res., Eugene, Oreg. (DF). Coastal observers are watching the continuing increase of the Caspian Tern population for possible expansion of the breeding range. As expected, individuals were found at nearly every visited locale on the coast, n. to Port Hardy, V.I. (SJ). Observers should be aware that young from the Grays Harbor colony (2157 nests this year—Wash. Dept. of Game) have been banded for many years now, and in some years color-banded. If the source of many of the terns seen throughout the Region is indeed this large colony, the probability of finding banded individuals should be relatively high. Four adult and three juv. Black Terns seen along the Willamette R., near Salem, Oreg., July 15 (FR) may have indicated that a small breeding population has been rediscovered in w. Oregon. A single Black Tern was at Iona I., B.C., June 19 (DK, WW, BK *et al.*).

Beginning in late June, rather large numbers of Com. Murres were found dead on Oregon beaches (HN). This presaged even larger numbers found dead in early autumn. This mortality may be linked to abnormally warm (60-65°F) sea surface temperatures just offshore this summer. Four Horned Puffins were found near Anthony I., Queen Charlotte Is., July 19 (MS, *vide* VG), where they are regular.

PIGEONS THROUGH WOODPECKERS — Two Band-tailed Pigeons at Alert Bay, V.I., June 3 (SJ) were near the n. edge of the range of this species. A pair of Barn Owls nested for the third successive year in a cavity in a fir near Victoria and raised five young this season (*vide* VG). Another pair in Auburn, Wash., raised three young, also in a non-barn situation, a cavity in a large cottonwood (P&PT, *vide* TB). The pair of Barred Owls seen throughout the spring in Discovery P., Seattle, was found again June 7 (MV). Another Barred Owl was near Mt. Seymour P.P., B.C., July 20 (JWh, *vide* WW). This is also a regular site for this species. Oregon Forest Service biologists located 41 pairs of Spotted Owls this summer, up from the 28 found in 1980 (CP, *vide* JN). In Washington a family group was on the n. side of Mt. Rainier, a single was on the N fork of the Snoqualmie R., King Co., and a nest was located in the Darrington Ranger District (*vide* WB). Completing the *Strix* triad, two Great Gray Owls were found June 2 at Hyatt L., near Ashland, Oreg. (JB, *vide* MMo).

The spring arrival of Com. Nighthawks is nearly simultaneous in all parts of the Re-

gion. This summer the first arrivals were at Alert Bay, V.I., June 3 (SJ), and at Victoria, 220 mi to the s., June 5 (*vide* VG). Nighthawks were locally common at Olympia, Wash. (BHT, JD), but were scarce in the Seattle area (EH, PM), and were considered to be definitely decreasing in the Vancouver, B.C., area (WW). A ♀ Com. (Yellow-shafted) Flicker was accompanied by a ♂ Red-shafted and two immatures of unspecified plumage on Moresby I., Queen Charlotte Is., July 15 (MS, *vide* VG). The report of a nest box trail in the Rogue R. valley of s. Oregon included three young Acorn Woodpeckers hatched at one box (MPa, *vide* MMo). A ♂ Yellow-bellied (Red-naped) Sapsucker was attending a nest hole with a female Red-breasted at 4000 ft in the Cascades of e. King Co., Wash., during June (EH). Several Oregon observers noted that both species of three-toed woodpeckers seemed unusually widespread and visible (DF, CW, MSA). Two N. Three-toed Woodpeckers were seen July 28 at Cypress P.P., B.C., for only the second well-documented sighting for the Vancouver area (WW).

TYRANNIDS THROUGH MIMIDS — Ash-throated Flycatchers were found in their usual numbers in the Rogue R. drainage of s. Oregon, including four hatched from a nest box there (MPa, *vide* MMo). One Ash-throated was found to the n. at Canyonville in the Umpqua R. valley June 6 (HN, OS, EP). Willow Flycatchers and Olive-sided Flycatchers were in very low numbers in the Olympia area (JD), as were also W. Wood Pewees there and at Victoria (VG).

A Rough-winged Swallow pair nested in a martin box in Saanich, V.I., and were seen feeding young July 21 (GC, *vide* VG). In the n. part of the Region there are very few Purple Martins remaining, and few of these nest away from man-made structures. The 12 Purple Martins seen in early July on San Juan I., Wash., with "no human colonies around" may have been from such a group (DP). Elsewhere, the rainy June weather retarded martin nesting, but apparently without greatly affecting nesting success. The 65 pairs on Fern Ridge Res., Eugene, Oreg., raised 250 young (TL, DF). In Thurston and Mason cos., Wash., there were at least 18 successful nests (JD). Along the Columbia R., near Portland there were 24 nests, including one with a female still incubating Aug. 7 (DW).

A pair of Gray Jays was suspected of nesting in the lowlands near Olympia, Wash. (JD). This could have represented an E extension of the coastal race, *obscurus*, which breeds down to sea level. A nest box in the Rogue R. valley fledged five White-breasted Nuthatches (MPa, *vide* MMo). Wrentits, probably of the form *henshawi*, were found at Azalea and at Graves Cr., in the Umpqua R. drainage this summer (HN, OS, EP). This is n. of the historical range of this race and s. of the recent incursion of the coastal form into the Willamette Valley. The mateless ♂ Mockingbird at Medford, Oreg., disappeared in July (MMo). Mockingbird reports during summer in w. Washington were nonexistent until last year, hence one in Seattle June 6 and one on Tatoosh I., July 19 (CO, *vide* BP) fuel hopes of a N extension of their breeding range.

BLUEBIRDS THROUGH BLACK-BIRDS — Western Bluebirds had a good season along 2 nest trails in s. Oregon (MSa, MP, *vide* MMo). The few reports from the Roy prairies, e. of Olympia, where most of the remaining bluebirds in w. Washington reside, indicated mixed success. No nests were found in the Victoria area. Townsend's Solitaires were sighted regularly in the Coast Range w. of Eugene this summer (TM, *vide* DF). They have only recently been shown to nest in this area. Ruby-crowned Kinglets found July 17 at Ocean Shores, Wash (G&WH), and July 20 at Victoria (VG), were at unusually low elevations and s. locations for these dates.

About 25 adult and juv. Water Pipits were observed July 24-26 in the Green Lakes area of the c. Oregon Cascades (JO). A recent nesting record in the same region documented the known s. extent of the species' breeding range in the Cascades (AB 34: 924, 1980). A White-eyed Vireo was seen briefly and heard singing for about an hour on Vashon I., Wash., July 11 (†PM). Numbers of Hutton's Vireos in the Vancouver area appear to be increasing (WW). The Hutton's Vireo found June 3 at Alert Bay, V.I., was at the n. edge of the species' known range (SJ).

A ♂ Black-and-white Warbler June 20 near Pemberton Meadows, B.C., was apparently a vagrant (†DA). A ♂ Hermit Warbler found July 4 on Sehome Hill in Bellingham, Wash., was at an unusual location and was quite far n. for the species (JDu). Several Am. Redstarts resided June 14-29 in an alder swamp near Newhalem, in the Skagit R. valley of Washington (TW). A ♂ and a ♀-plumaged bird were present May 31 (ME) and June 20 (B&PE) in Sultan, Wash., where territorial birds were found last summer. Another redstart, a young male in full song, was at Dungeness Spit, Wash., June 6 (†EH, AR), but could not be found there subsequently. Two active nests of Yellow-headed Blackbirds were located at Iona I., B.C., in early June (WW, MPr).

FINCHES AND SPARROWS — The ♂ Rose-breasted Grosbeak near Long Beach July 16 (†JWe) provided only the second record for w. Washington. Two others were reported without details from Oregon. The largest Red Crossbill numbers were in the Vancouver, B.C., area (*vide* WW) and in Eugene, Oreg. (DF, AC). A White-winged Crossbill May 22 in Eugene (†CW) was exceptionally far s. for this species. Other White-wingeds were seen July 25 at Gold Lake Bog in the c. Oregon Cascades (†AP, *vide* CW), July 26 in Manning P.P., B C (R&SC, *vide* WW), and in late July in Olympic N.P., Wash. (KK). Brown Towhees were found nesting in a large *Ceanothus* patch near Myrtle Cr., Oreg. (MSa, MH). This site is within the species' historical range (Gabrielson and Jewett, *Birds of Oregon*, 1940) but is about 40 mi n. of their more regular Rogue R. valley sites.

A ♂ Lark Bunting June 5 at Sequim, Wash., furnished the fourth record for the state and the first to be photographed (DO). Vesper Sparrows are uncommon and very local n. of Tacoma, Wash. One at Vancouver, B.C., June 8 (†MPr, LK) was a rarity there. Several pairs of Lark Sparrows also

nested on the *Ceanothus* hillside near Myrtle Cr., Ore. (MSa). A **Black-throated Sparrow** at Redmond, Wash., June 14 (†TWe) was the sixth sighting for the state, not all of which have been so well documented. Vagrancy in this species in late May and early June is quite pronounced in some years, and often correlates with drought conditions in the Great Basin (*West Birds* 9: 85, 1978). An ad. ♂ **Chestnut-collared Longspur** at Vancouver, B.C., July 8-10 (†WW, †MDa) furnished the fourth summer record for the Region. The previous 3 were each also ad. males.

CORRIGENDA — The Yellow-billed Loon at Vancouver, B.C., Mar. 23-24, 1980 (*AB* 34: 807, 1980) stayed at least Apr. 15 (BK, MPr *et al.*, *fide* WW). The Horned Puffin reported June 9, 1977, in Cape Lookout, Tillamook Co., Ore. (*AB* 31: 1181, 1977) was first found there May 14 (CR, SD). Please delete the Burrowing Owl reported from the U.B.C. golf course in Vancouver Aug. 30, 1979 (*AB* 34: 193, 1980). The bird had been injured and became a specimen,

which was then identified as a juv. Screech Owl (*fide* WW). The Black Phoebe found in Stanley P., Vancouver, B.C., Apr. 26, 1980 (*AB* 34: 809, 1980) was found there by BK (not WW) and was seen also Apr. 27 (m.ob., ph. RWe, RC) for only the second positive British Columbia record (*fide* WW). The Hermit Warbler found in Portland Dec. 1, 1980 (*AB* 35: 330, 1981) was initially located by DF.

CITED OBSERVERS AND ABBREVIATIONS, with Sub-Regional editors in bold-face. David Aldcroft, Ilse Allen, Bud Anderson, Judy Bjorlie, Thais Bock (TB), Al Breittkreutz, William Brintesen, Tom Burgess (TBu), Giff Calvert, Wayne Campbell, Doug Canning, Richard & Sydney Cannings, Alan Contreras, Tom Crabtree, Mark Daly (MDa), Jack Davis (JD), Linda Doerflinger, Michael Donahue (MDo), Jim Duemmel (JDu), Steven Duke, Mark Egger, Bob & Pat Evans, David Fix, Jeff Gilligan, Vic Goodwill, Jenny Hards, Glen & Wanda Hoge, Matt Hunter, Dale Jensen, Stuart

Johnston, Brian Kautesk, Ken Knittle, Linda Koch, Doug Kragh, Tom Lund, Marjorie McFeat (MMc), Tom Mickel, Marjorie Moore (MMo), May Narod, Harry Nehls, Verna Newson, Jack Nisbet, Doris Olson, James Olson, Colin Orians, Mike Paczolt (MPa), Bob Paine, Alice Parker, Dennis Paulson, Charles Phillips, Michael Price (MPr), Eleanor Pugh, Fred Ramsey, Ellen Ratoosh, Alan Richards, Craig Roberts, Dennis Rogers, Ron Satterfield, Martha Sawyer (MSa), Brian Self, Michael Shepard (MS), Dory & Stan Smith (D&SS), Steve Summers (SSu), Wally Sumner, Otis Swisher, Paula & Peter Thrush, John Toochin, Mary Vincent, Terry Wahl (TW), Clarice Watson, Robin Weber (RWe), Wayne Weber, Tom Weir (TWe), Joe Welch (JWe), Darrel Whipple, John Whittall (JWh), Ralph Widrig (RW), Jack Williams (JWi), (†) = written description on file, V I = Vancouver I., B.C.—**BILL HARRINGTON-TWEIT**, 900 N. Wilson, Olympia, Wash. 98506, **PHILIP W. MATTOCKS, Jr.**, Dept. of Zoology, Univ. of Washington, Seattle, Wash. 98195, and **EUGENE S. HUNN**, 1816 N. 57th St., Seattle, Wash. 98103.

MIDDLE PACIFIC COAST REGION

/Ron LeValley and Jules Evens

This summer would probably be characterized as "normal" by most observers. A small front passed through the Region in mid-June, dropping a small amount of rain, but the interior became clear and hot shortly after that. With the hot interior, fog formed regularly along the coast and with the rising hot air over the land, onshore breezes were brisk throughout most of the period. These onshore breezes promoted intense upwelling in ocean waters and sea surface temperatures dropped to 11-13°C, about 1°C lower than the 20-year average.

The stiff breezes along shore prevented migrants from reaching the coast, with the result that the typical early June vagrant waves were mostly nonexistent. The most exciting waterbird news was of the discovery of yet another *Pterodroma* petrel in our offshore waters and of a Least Auklet found weak and dying on a San Mateo County beach, for the first record of this species southeast of Kodiak Island, Alaska.

In the high Sierra, at Hall Natural Area near Tioga Pass, nesting success of montane species was high early in the season. As the summer progressed, record high temperatures and no precipitation depressed breeding activity. Many species failed to raise a second brood with total productivity falling short of last year's (DDeS). Perhaps the warm weather accounted for the inordinate number of altitudinal records (see text below).

All observations from Southeast Farallon Island (hereafter, F.I.) and Palomarin, Bolinas should be credited to Point Reyes Bird Observatory (P.R.B.O.).

LOONS THROUGH HERONS— All 3 of our normally occurring loon species were found summering in small numbers along the coast n. of San Francisco (hereafter, S.F.) with 5-50 being reported from commonly birded localities (m.ob.). Interestingly, summer numbers of Arctic Loons along the coast exceed numbers of non-migrants at any other time of year. Inland the only loon reported was a late migrating Common at L. Almanor, Plumas Co., June 14 (DAA). One or two Red-necked Grebes summered near Drakes Beach, Marin Co. (DS, TB, TL), another was at Crescent City June 29+ (RAE) and a single was at the Smith R. mouth, Del Norte Co., July 23 (*fide* RAE). These numbers are probably normal for this season despite the scarcity of past reports. Eared Grebe numbers at Mono L., jumped from 1000 to 3000+ June 15 (LS, GP, CSw). If these were fall migrants, were they non-breeders or . . . ? Western Grebes apparently fledged no young at L. Almanor this summer where last year many young were seen (DAA).

Over 350 Black-footed Albatrosses were accompanying a fleet of Russian and American fishing vessels off Crescent City June 6 (RLeV, RAE *et al.*). Concentrations comparable to this are of regular occurrence, illustrating the probable importance of offal from commercial fishing boats in the diet of some seabirds. Approximately 200 Pink-footed Shearwaters were off Crescent City June 6 (RLeV, RAE *et al.*) and seven were reported near F.I., July 7 (P.R.B.O.). A single Flesh-footed Shearwater off Crescent City June 6 (RLeV, RAE *et al.*) established one of the few summer records for this species, despite the fact that this would be a logical season to find them away from their southern hemisphere breeding grounds. A concentration of 10,000+ Sooty Shearwaters offshore San Francisco July 3 (DM) was indicative of normal summer concentrations of this species in our Region.

S.A.

Pitman has now reported another gadfly petrel (genus *Pterodroma*) from the offshore waters of California. On a marine mammal research cruise 20 Solander's Petrels (*P. solandri*) were reported from within 60 mi from shore between Cape Mendocino and Pt. Reyes May 21. Solander's Petrel nests during the austral winter on Lord Howe Island between Australia and New Zealand, crossing the equator to at least 40° N in the North Pacific. Apparently some non-breeding birds remain n. of the equator during the breeding season. Pitman was also responsible for discovering Cook's Petrels in California during October 1979 (*AB* 34: 200). These and possibly other trans-equatorial seabirds probably occur with some regularity far offshore but little is known about the avifauna of that oceanic region, and even less about the annual variation in migration patterns that these birds display. This is of course the first sighting of this species from North America. Details have been submitted, along with a photograph, to the California Rarities Committee and will be published elsewhere. These sightings indicate that even in California, where pelagic bird-watching trips take place almost every weekend, there are exciting discoveries to be made.

A Fork-tailed Storm-Petrel was in Monterey Bay Aug. 23 (TC), but more surprising was another on L. Talawa, Del Norte Co., July 16 (RAE).

A few White Pelicans apparently summered in s. S.F. bay (m.ob.) and fall migrants arrived rather early, 1000+ were at Alviso, Santa Clara Co., July 8 (*fide* RWL). Accompanying these were 200+ Brown Pelicans (*fide* RWL). Both species, along with a con-



centration of herons and egrets, were apparently feeding on bait fish that had been planted in the salt ponds at Alviso. Approximately 1100 Brandt's Cormorants were counted from shore at the nesting colony at Pt. Lobos, Monterey Co., June 18 (HLC). This number is substantially lower than similar counts made in the early 1960s but consistent with counts from the 1970s. In contrast no Pelagic Cormorant nests were visible in areas where they had nested in the 1960s and early 1970s (HLC). Two ad. Little Blue Herons were again at the Alviso, Santa Clara Co., heronry July 11, indicating a possible repeat of last year's nesting effort (RWL). American Bitterns are rare nesters along the coast so three pairs summering in the Smith R. bottoms, Del Norte Co. (*vide* RAE) and two juveniles at Abbot's Lagoon, Marin Co., June 16 (DS) were of interest.

WATERFOWL — Breeding waterfowl in the South S.F. Bay N.W.R., included Gadwall, Mallard, Pintail, Cinnamon Teal, N. Shoveler and Ruddy Duck. Of these Mallard and Gadwall were the most abundant (RWL). Elsewhere a high number of 400 Gadwall fledglings were found at the Salinas R. mouth, Monterey Co., (BE, RWL) while a female with eight young at Drakes Beach, Pt. Reyes N.S., established the first Marin County breeding record (DS). Blue-winged Teal apparently nested in the Smith R. bottoms, Del Norte Co.; one brood was reported where three pairs summered (RAE, GL). Wood Ducks were present throughout the summer at the Auburn Stabilization Ponds, Placer Co., with a peak of 20 on July 31 (BB).

A ♀ Lesser Scaup with one young at Adobe Cr., Santa Clara Co., July 17 (TC) apparently indicated the second year of nesting at this locality. This is the first Regional nesting w. of the Sierra-Cascade ranges. A Com. Goldeneye at Palo Alto Aug. 8 (HLC) provided one of our few August records coastally. As is true of many non-breeding summering waterfowl, it exhibited badly worn feathers and was probably unable to fly. A July survey of 35+ small lakes in and around the Caribou Wilderness area, Lassen Co., found six Bufflehead broods totalling 30

juveniles and seven additional lone adults (DAA). This is probably an accurate representation of their normal nesting status in the California Cascades. One Oldsquaw lingered at Moss Landing until at least July 6 (m.ob.) while another was reported near the mouth of Tomales Bay, Marin Co., June 28 (DS). Summer records of Oldsquaws are few. A single ♂ Harlequin Duck in the Merced R., Yosemite N.P., May 2 (SF *et al.*) was one of our few recent records from the Sierra Nevada. This species formerly nested rarely but widely in the Sierras but there have been no nesting reports since 1976. A brood of Hooded Mergansers was found at Sand Pond below Sardine L., Sierra Co., June

21 (JH) and another possibly of this species was reported from Butt Cr., Plumas Co., in early June (*vide* DAA). This species is extremely rare as a nester in the Region. Common Mergansers nested at Kent L., Marin Co. (*vide* DS); a female with seven young were found June 27. This may be the southernmost breeding locality along the coast ranges for this species.

RAPTORS THROUGH RAILS — A Goshawk near Cold Springs Sta., in the Yolla Bolly Wilderness Area June 26 (CB) was at the s. limit of their range in the coastal mountains where they are rarely encountered. Sharp-shinned Hawks were reported nesting near Ammon Prairie, Humboldt Co., and Swede Cr., Trinity Co., in June (RLeV, JB). This species is now an extremely rare breeder in California. In contrast, reports of nesting Cooper's Hawks were received as follows: Mill Cr. Campground, Del Norte Co., July 13 (*vide* RAE); Oak Knob, Humboldt Co., July 11 (RLeV, JB); Audubon Canyon Ranch, Marin Co., June 2 (DS *et al.*); Tilden P., Alameda Co., June 10 (SFB) and along the Sacramento R. in the n. Sacramento Valley in June and July (SAL). Other reports of single birds were received from throughout the Region all summer (m.ob.). The nesting status of all 3 Accipiters needs further study. Swainson's Hawks continue to nest in small numbers in the Central Valley (hereafter, C.V.) (m.ob.).

A banner year was documented for Ospreys. In the L. Almanor, area, 21 of 25 occupied nests successfully raised 41 young (DAA). This was the most successful breeding season in 8 years at that locality. In Marin County a total of 15 active nests was reported, 11 of these at Kent L. (DS, JE *et al.*).

Mountain Quail were reported as having "a great year" in Humboldt and Trinity Cos. (RLeV, JB), the Yolla Bolly Wilderness Area, Mendocino Co. (CB) and along the n. fork of the American R., in the Sierra Nevada (TB). Elsewhere broods were seen along Willow Cr. Road, Sonoma Co., July 4 (JM) and at Bricebury, Monterey Co., June 25 (DR). Both localities are in areas where this species is considered uncommon and local. A Sora visited F.I., June 30.

SHOREBIRDS — An Am. Avocet summered at the Arcata Marsh, Humboldt Co. (RLeV, LD, RAE) for the first time, while a new nesting locality was established by four adults with four downy young along the Petaluma R., Sonoma Co., May 31-July 1 (DE, J. Parmeter). These observations indicate that this species is still increasing its breeding range N along the coast.

One of the amazing phenomena of summertime birdwatching is the return of n. nesting shorebirds. It is sometimes difficult to imagine fall migration beginning at the first of July, but consider these arrival dates of some common shorebirds—all in breeding plumage or first numbers at regularly birded localities: Semipalmated Plover—July 18 (RE, MR); Am. Golden Plover—June 30 (GSL, RAE); Black-bellied Plover—July 9 (HLC, RAE); Marbled Godwit—July 1 (LD, RLeV); Whimbrel—June 21 (DR); Long-billed Curlew—June 27 (DR); Greater Yellowlegs—June 27 (DR) and June 29 (RLeV, LD); Lesser Yellowlegs—June 27 (DS) and June 28 (RLeV); Willet—June 16 (GSL); Wandering Tattler—June 27 (DR); Ruddy Turnstone—July 16 (PM, RAE); Black Turnstone—June 30 (GSL); Wilson's Phalarope—June 14 (LS, GP, CSw); N. Phalarope—June 27 (DR); Red Phalarope—July 18 (DR); Com. Snipe—July 25 (GSL); Short-billed Dowitcher—June 27 (DR) and July 3 (JE, RS); Long-billed Dowitcher—July 5 (RLeV); Surf-bird—June 30 (GSL); Sanderling—July 16 (RAE); W. Sandpiper—June 23 (LS, CSw, GP) and June 25 (LD); Least Sandpiper—July 1 (GSL); Baird's Sandpiper—June 30 (CSw, GP, LS) and July 5; Pectoral Sandpiper—July 21 (RAE). Almost all of these birds were adults and generally one sex predominated. These observations correspond to aspects of the breeding biology of many of these shorebirds in which one sex departs the breeding grounds much earlier than the other, leaving the other sex to perform many of the duties involved in the raising of young. Observers who are going to the effort of aging these birds are contributing much to our knowledge of their annual distributional patterns.

A Solitary Sandpiper was in the Smith R. bottoms July 25 (GSL) and another was near Elk Grove, Sacramento Co., July 29 (TT&AM). Five Sanderlings at Mono L., June 1 and three there June 3 (GP) were in an area from which there are few records. A **White-rumped Sandpiper** was well-described from Warm Springs, on the e. side of Mono L., June 6 (†GP, CSw, LS) for the third documented Regional record, all of which have been in early June. A Dunlin lingered at L. Talawa June 6-19 (RLeV, GSL).

Also establishing the third Regional record was an ad. **Curlew Sandpiper** molting out of breeding plumage at Ano Nuevo S.P., Aug. 1 (†DSc). The Region's second ad. Ruff was a male at Ano Nuevo July 25 (†MW, †ER). Most other Ruff records are of juveniles which arrive in September and October but the other adult record was of a bird arriving in July (see AB 34: 926).

JAEGERS THROUGH ALCIDS — Two Pomarine Jaegers were found off Crescent City June 6 (RAE, RLeV *et al.*) and one was inside S.F. Bay at the Alameda Naval Air

Sta , July 13 (SFB) A Parasitic Jaeger was at the Smith R. mouth, Del Norte Co., July 21 (RAE).

Rather surprising was a very late first-year Glaucous Gull well seen in the Crescent City harbor June 4 (RAE, GSL). A W. Gull at L. Talawa July 16-21 was thought to be of the race "wymani" from S. California (RAE). The status of that race n. of Monterey is unclear.

S.A.

The continuing story of Mono Lake's California Gull colony becomes sadder as the years wear on. D. Winkler reported that 95-97% of the chicks from this year's nesting effort starved because the brine shrimp population was less than 10% of normal numbers. As the summer progressed, the later hatches of brine shrimp brought their numbers closer to normal so that for now, the millions of fall migrant grebes and phalaropes appear to be safe. But what of the future? To the brine shrimp, to the California Gulls and to the grebes and phalaropes, Mono Lake's water has become more valuable than OPEC oil is to us. Can we allow the wasteful use of commodities so important?

Single Mew Gulls summered at the Arcata Marsh (RLeV, DS) and Moss Landing (DR). The first juv. Bonaparte's Gulls were reported July 17 from Crescent City harbor (RAE). Eighty-three + Sabine's Gulls were found off Crescent City June 6 (RAE, RLeV *et al.*). Migrational peaks of Sabine's Gulls offshore in our Region appear to be in late May or early June, much later than other gull species. Elsewhere, an adult at Manzanita L., Lassen Volcano N.P., June 9 (GPS) was notable since this appears to be the first spring record for the interior.

Least Terns appear to have been very successful as breeders at the Alameda N.A.S. where 100+ fledged this year compared to nine last year (SFB). Elegant Terns moved N in large numbers this summer, 440 at the Pajaro R. mouth July 8 (J&RW) was the highest number reported, while one was in Crescent City harbor July 3 (RAE), as far n. as the species has been recorded. Black Skimmers staged a mini-invasion. One to two were present at the Pajaro R. mouth and Elkhorn Slough, Monterey Co., throughout the period (J&RW, DR *et al.*) while one was seen at Bodega Bay, Sonoma Co., July 3 (RS, JE). This represents only the third year that Black Skimmers have reached N. California and it seems that a minimum of four birds were involved this year.

California's first Least Auklet was a male in breeding plumage that came ashore at Thornton State Beach, San Mateo Co., June 15. It was picked up weak and very thin and taken to the Peninsula Humane Society where it died. Details of this record will be published elsewhere (*vide* SFB). Although not quite as far out of range, a Tufted Puffin in breeding plumage impressed the observer inside S.F. Bay at Crab Cove, Alameda Co., July 9 (IB).

CUCKOOS THROUGH GOATSUCKERS — A Yellow-billed Cuckoo near Drake's Beach, P.R.N.S., July 20 (DS) re-

mained at least until July 28 (T Castro, *vide Gull*). Of 20 coastal records since 1958, most have been in July or September; oddly, there are none for August. Only two cuckoos (both unmated males) were found on 4 canoe trips down the Sacramento R., from Red Bluff to Chico June 20-July 22 (SAL), an area that supports the last of the Region's population of breeding birds. Observers are urged to monitor any stretch of the Sacramento R., next summer in an attempt to determine the extent of decline that this species has suffered. The extirpation of cuckoos from the Region may not be a foregone conclusion, but, no other reports were received this season. A handful of July sightings of Roadrunners in the foothills around the Salinas Valley indicates that they are doing well where sufficient habitat still exists (DR, RB). One 10 mi e. of Covelo, Mendocino Co., July 8 (CB) was near the w. edge of the species' range in an area where, based on the number of records, they must be quite rare.

Barn Owls were "common" in the upper Carmel Valley and the foothills of s. Monterey County (DR), but one at Crane Flat Meadow, Yosemite N.P., June 21 (AE, GB) was accidental, providing only the third record for the Yosemite Sierra and, at 6200 ft, undoubtedly an altitudinal record. Barn Owls were also found at Akerson Meadow, Tuolumne Co., at 4000 ft, and had been present since April (JW). Screech Owls were found at China Camp, Monterey Co., in an area that supported Spotted Owls prior to fire several years ago (DR). Also at China Camp, Flammulated Owls were thought to be breeding (DR). One calling 4 mi e. of Leech Lake Mt., Mendocino Co., June 17 (CB) was at a previously unreported location; however, this area receives sparse coverage and the species is known to breed in nearby Trinity County (*W. Birds* 11:141-149). Two juv. Pygmy Owls in the Santa Cruz Mts., July 25 (WB) were "giving a trill that sounded like a Chipping Sparrow . . . a begging call?". Spotted Owl was thought to be having a good reproductive year in w. Siskiyou County where 200 + territories have now been located (SAL). In the Almanor District of Lassen Volcano N.P., 17 previously unknown territories were discovered, bringing the total there to 19 (DAA). Of 7 Burrowing Owl nests reported, 5 were near Byron, Contra Costa Co. (DSc). The only Long-eared Owl reports were of individuals calling from 2 canyons along the Big Sur coast near Salmon Cr. where a nest was found in 1972 (RB, DR, VY), and at least one pair breeding at Akerson Meadow in the Sierra (JW). Short-eared Owl was not well reported; only one was found at Honey L., June 29 (DAA) and three at Grizzly I., Solano Co., June 27 were thought to be a family group (SFB).

A Com. Nighthawk heard calling in Codornices Canyon, Berkeley July 17 (B. Underhill and A. Cambell, *vide Gull*) was most unusual; a flock of 150+ at Honey L., June 13 was unusual but not unprecedented. A vagrant Lesser Nighthawk flew by Palomarin June 29. Other reports come from breeding locations: a pair at Corral Hollow, Stanislaus Co., June 13 (AE), a probable family group in Chalome Valley, Monterey Co., July 13 (DR) and an average of five per trip along the Sacramento R., between Red Bluff and Chico (SAL).

SWIFTS THROUGH WOODPECKERS — Black Swifts were reported from traditional breeding locations, but several pairs at Anderson Canyon, 10 mi s. of Big Sur, through the period indicate a nesting there (DR); singles were at Hiouchi on Smith R., June 13 (J. Maugins, *vide* RAE) and near the Klamath R. mouth June 26 (GJS). Vaux's Swift was suspected of breeding along Skyline Blvd., San Mateo Co. (D. Houle, *vide* WB) and Kent L., Marin Co. (DS). Broad-tailed Hummingbirds were encountered almost daily in Lundy Canyon on the e. slope of the Sierra June 18-July 1 with a male displaying in an area where a suspected female had been observed (MM, D. Ganes). Although breeding has yet to be confirmed, this species has been regular here since 1976 (MM). The discovery of a Costa's Hummingbird nest in Bixby Canyon, 10 mi n. of Big Sur "with a lovely view of the coast" (DR) was surprising since this is one of the most xerophilous of our hummers. The nest was closely watched and successfully fledged two young by mid-July (DR). Costa's nests on the coast in s. California where fog is not the salient feature, but this represented the first coastal record for the n. coast. Three ♂ Costa's were displaying near Jackhammer Springs, above Arroyo Seco, Monterey Co., June 6 (DR) in an area where Anna's Hummingbird breeds. Hybridization is known to occur between these two species, so coastal vagrants as well as local birds in areas of sympatry should be closely scrutinized. A ♂ Costa's frequented a Redwood City feeder from early June-July 31 + (†W. Rockman, PM). A ♂ Costa's x Anna's was described from Klamath Glen, Del Norte Co., June 21-23 (GSL, †RAE). In Glen Cove, s. of Vallejo, the nest of an Anna's Hummingbird was found to be made of the thalli of an intertidal algae (JL)!

Large numbers of Pileated Woodpeckers were found along the N. Fork of the American R., (TB) and in Marin County (DS). A single Lewis' Woodpecker at the n. end of Mines Rd., Alameda Co., June 20 (SFB) was the only one reported. Is this species really suffering competitive exclusion by Starlings or is this a normal population shift for this "nomadic" species? A pair of ad. "Red-breasted" Sapsuckers with young at Gualala R., Sonoma Co., June 13 (DE, BDP, JP) was at the s. extreme of the species' range along the coast. Last year's attempt farther s proved unsuccessful owing to depredation by resident Acorn Woodpeckers (see AB 34:927). Although Williamson's Sapsuckers were "more difficult to find than in past years" at Lassen Volcano N.P. (DM), they were "quite common" near Porcupine Flat in the Yosemite Sierra (MM). Downy Woodpeckers nested for the second consecutive year at Manzanita L., Lassen Volcano N.P., at 5800 ft (DAA). Nuttall's Woodpecker is known to "drift" upslope on the w. side of the Sierra as did one immature at Mineral King Pack Sta. (7800 ft), Fresno, Co., July 19 (GPo, F.A.S.). Records e. of the crest are extremely scarce; one male at Golden Trout Camp, s. of Mt. Whitney, Inyo Co., July 30 was at the extraordinary altitude of 11,500 ft (RMCK)! Black-backed Three-toed Woodpeckers were reported from 10 locations within their normal range; nests were found

at Summit L., Lassen Volcano N.P. (DM), Sugar Pine S.P., L. Tahoe (*vide* BK) and near Yuba Pass, Sierra Co. (JH, JR, M.D.A.S.).

FLYCATCHERS THROUGH SWALLOWS—Six E. Kingbirds were discovered; four in n. counties near areas of known breeding (m.ob.), one near Orick, Humboldt Co., July 27 (GJS, GSL) and one at Olema Slough, Marin Co., July 10 (WB). No nests were reported. Cassin's Kingbird was found nesting at Stonewall Canyon near Pinnacles N.M., Monterey Co. (DR) and a group of 3-4 at Mines Rd., July 19-20 may have been a family group (†AE, GB, P. Willmann). Two pairs of Say's Phoebes were found nesting at Los Vasqueros Res. site, s.e. Contra Costa Co. (DSc) and they apparently bred locally along the e. edge of the Salinas Valley (DR). Five singing Willow Flycatchers in June in coastal Del Norte County (GSL, RAE) and one migrant at Honey L., June 13 (DAA, SAL) were the only ones reported. Hammond's Flycatcher has been found, evidently nesting, in a rather uncharacteristic open forest situation at Akerson Meadows, Tuolumne Co., at the low elevation of 4000 ft (JW, MM). Dusky Flycatchers were present at China Camp during late June (DR, TBr), but nesting has not yet been documented there. Dusky Flycatchers and W. Wood Pewees were "dramatically absent" at Tuolumne Meadows in July where the lodgepole pine was heavily infested with needle-miners; "the silent mornings were rather startling" (MM).

The Bank Swallow colony at Fall River Mills, Shasta Co., was very active (DM), but numbers continue to dwindle at the Pajaro R. colony (BE). A colony of 30-40 at Glenn, Glenn Co. (JP, *vide* Gull) was apparently new. Purple Martins were well-reported (relative to other years) with nesting confirmed at Willow Cr. Valley, Lassen Co. (BS), Torres Canyon, 5 mi s. of Big Sur (DR), Sequoia L., Fresno Co. (GPo), Alpine L., Marin Co. (I. Timossi, *vide* DS) and Kent L., Marin Co. (G. McCurdy, *vide* DS). Although there were more martins than usual in Cobb Valley, Lake Co. (JMa), in coastal Monterey numbers were thought to be dwindling, or shifting to the Ventana Wilderness Area where the 1976 fire provided nesting sites (BE).

CORVIDS THROUGH THRUSHES—One ad. and two juv. Clark's Nutcrackers in Yosemite Valley July 2 (WB) were at a low elevation. Plain Titmouse became unusually common on the coast at Palomar after June 17 when the first juvenile was caught in the nets. Several coastal Red-breasted Nuthatches portend another irruption year in keeping with the apparent biennial nature of this phenomenon. After unusually low numbers of Brown Creepers at Palomar in this spring, they increased in mid-June and became regular through July; interestingly, all mist-netted individuals proved to be birds of the year. Dippers were unusually common along the Middle Fork of the Eel R. (CB); one was singing along the Big Sur R., July 18 where they have been known to nest (DR) and one on the Russian R., at Guerneville, Sonoma Co., June 13 was far downstream for summer (PH).



Albino Cliff Swallow, TCES/Tiburon, Marin Co., Calif., June 13, 1981. Photo L.J.V. Campagno.

A House Wren at Olema Marsh, P.R.N.S., June 28 was out of habitat, "perhaps an early dispersant" (DS). A Bewick's Wren at De-Chambeau Cr., near Lee Vining June 23-29 (CSw, LS, GP) was rare for the Mono Basin. A singing Cañon Wren near the Klamath R. mouth June 21-July 1 (G. Werschkuhl *et al.*) was presumably the same bird documented there in May (*vide* RAE). Several along the Middle Fork of the Eel R., Mendocino Co., were the only ones found in that area all summer (CB).

Brown Thrasher records tend toward late fall and winter, the few spring records are in late May and June. One record for early July on F.I., was the only precedent for a bird photographed at Gold Bluff Beach, Humboldt Co., July 1-2 (GJS, *vide* RAE) and another heavily worn adult near the Carmel R. mouth July 24-31+ (E. Mitchell, DR). American Robins were numerous in the Yolla Bolly W.A. (CB) and "scads" appeared in Guerneville during the last half of June (PH). Elsewhere, they were unreported. Hermit Thrush "apparently nests locally along the Big Sur coast, but was not as widespread as [is stated] in Grinnell and Miller" (DR). Censuses e. and w. of the Sierran crest produced low numbers of Swainson's Thrush in areas where it is usually common (MM). Townsend's Solitaire seemed in higher-than-usual numbers in the Lassen area (DM).

KINGLETS THROUGH WOOD WARBLERS—A Ruby-crowned Kinglet at Bodega Bay July 5 (BDP *et al.*) was unseasonable on the coast. Because the breeding locations of Water Pipit are not well known, the following records are of interest: one bird in flight display July 30-31 S. Folk and High L., John Muir Wilderness, Inyo Co. (RMcK), one along the Warren Fork of Lee Vining Canyon, Mono Co., July 28 (CSw, LS, GP) and three atop Dana Plateau Aug. 1 (CSw, LS, GP).

Three Black-and-white Warblers were found; two males singing in Lundy Canyon on the e. slope of the Sierra June 18 & 20 were not found again (MM) and one imm. male was at Patrick's Point S.P. Humboldt Co., July 17 (GJS, *vide* RAE). A Worm-eating Warbler on F.I., May 28 provided the fourth island record and 13th for the Region; most are in the fall. Three Tennessee Warblers

were reported: Pt. St. George, Del Norte Co., June 2 (RAE), Humboldt St. Univ., Arcata June 3 (JS) and F.I., July 3-5. July records for this species are most unusual with only two previously, both from F.I. Nashville and Virginia's warblers, considered conspecific by some, may be sympatric in the vicinity of Tioga Pass or just e. of the Sierran divide. This year Virginia's were again encountered in the Hall Natural Area where they were first confirmed breeding in 1976 (DDeS). In Lake Canyon, at 9000 ft and just e. of the crest, several Nashvilles were singing June 18-29, however no nesting activity was confirmed (MM). Elsewhere, Nashvilles were thought to have a "good nesting year" along the N. Fork of the American R. (TB). A vagrant was at Pt. St. George June 25 (RAE); coastal summer records are scarce. The only N. Parula was a single male at F.I., June 1. Three Magnolia Warblers were found along the immediate coast with singles at Pt. Reyes June 2-4 (KC, JE, JR), Fairhaven June 6 (JS) and F.I., June 30-July 1.

Two singing male Cape May Warblers at Pt. St. George June 2 (RAE) were the only ones reported; there are "normally" more summer sightings. A ♀ "Audubon's" Warbler feeding a juvenile July 10 on Mt. Tamalpais, Marin Co. (DS) and females carrying nesting material on Mt. Hamilton, Santa Clara Co., June 7 (AE) confirmed breeding at those localities. The breeding distribution of "Audubon's" and Hermit warblers is sporadic and poorly documented along the coast s. of Sonoma County. A juv. "Audubon's" in the nets at Palomar July 30 probably bred locally on nearby Inverness Ridge. A singing ♂ Black-throated Gray Warbler at Bodie Hills in the Mono Basin June 28 (GP, CSw) was away from known breeding localities. On Mt. Tamalpais one was feeding a Brown-headed Cowbird fledging July 7 (DS). An ad. ♀ Hermit Warbler feeding two fledgings on Mt. Tamalpais July 7 was the first evidence of breeding for Marin County (DS). Two Chestnut-sided Warblers were found coastally; one at Manila June 9 (JS) and one at F.I., June 25. Although almost common some falls, Palm Warblers are quite rare in "spring": one at F.I. June 1-16 may have been the same as the one at the Pt. Reyes Lighthouse June 17 (JE, DS). A single Ovenbird was in downtown Monterey June 19 (DR); none were on F.I., which is atypical.

Despite the use of tape recordings, Yellow-breasted Chat could not be found along the Carmel R., or at any other Monterey County localities where it was formerly common (DR), a situation that is all too familiar along our once diverse riparian corridors (see Yellow-billed Cuckoo above). The report of a "large colony" along the Eel R., 15 mi e. of Covelo, Mendocino Co., June 18 (CB) was encouraging. A vagrant reached F.I., June 15-17 (JM, P.R.B.O.): because there are few June records away from breeding habitat, it would be interesting to know the racial identity of these birds. A ♂ Hooded Warbler at F.I., June 1 has annual precedents since 1978. Another male at Tilden P., Berkeley June 15 (GH) was near where a male sang last summer. At the Klamath R. mouth an Am. Redstart colony was formed, but no nesting evidence was discovered. The first bird was found on June 9 and activity peaked June 21

with nine singing males and one female. By July 5 the number of males had decreased to four and the number of females had increased to five. No birds could be found July 31 (GSL,RAE *et al.*). There are only 2 previous nesting attempts in California (AB 26:898, 34 928).

ICTERIDS THROUGH SPARROWS —

A pair of House Sparrows was seen entering dense foliage with nesting material near the Visitor's Center in Yosemite Valley May 27 (T. Frillman). Although very rare at this elevation on the w. slope, this is perhaps the beginning of an unfortunate inevitability. A Yellow-headed Blackbird at Sea Ranch, Sonoma Co., June 14 (JP,BDP) was unseasonal; most coastal records are during the fall. A pair of Hooded Orioles attempted to breed for the second time in Humboldt County, in Arcata, but the nest was apparently abandoned (RLeV,LD,RAE). The Great-tailed Grackles were again found nesting in Aquatic Park, S.F., July 2 (S. Glazer, G Luckham, *vide Gull*). At Palomar, the closely scrutinized nests of Nuttall's White-crowned Sparrow were found to be hosting Brown-headed Cowbird eggs for the first time. A Summer Tanager was seen in Sacramento July 31 (AM, *vide* †TM); we have records for this rather rare species for every month of the year. When racial identification is indicated, the records pertain to the e. subspecies *P.r.rubra*; whether or not *cooperi* is prone to wandering into the Region is still an open question.

Only two Rose-breasted Grosbeaks were reported; one male near Mono L., June 3-4 (E Burch, *vide* CSw) and another s. of Patrick's Pt., Humboldt Co., for several days prior to July 19 (*vide* GJS). A ♀ Black-headed Grosbeak at 7000 ft in Yosemite July 2 (WB) was slightly above its altitudinal range on the Sierran w. slope. Five Indigo Buntings were along the coast June 14-July 25 (m.ob.), four males and one female; a male at Hiouchi, Del Norte Co., June 25 (S. Scholl, GSL *et al.*) was unprecedented there. The only interior record was of a singing male just s. of Los Molinos on the Sacramento R., Tehama Co., July 4 (SAL, D. Watson). Numbers of Purple

Finches between 4000-6000 ft on the w slope of the Sierra were considered "phenomenal" with numbers four times normal in the Yosemite (MM). At least three pairs of Gray-crowned Rosy Finches were thought to have bred on Mt. Lassen this summer where adults of both forms (*littoralis* and *dawsoni*) were identified July 26 (DAA) [see AB 35:224].

Lesser Goldfinch is occasionally encountered at high elevations, however one male near Golden Trout Camp, Inyo Co., at 11,500 ft July 27 and one ♂ at 12,000 ft July 29 (RMCK) seemed exceptional. An apparent "black-backed" individual was near Sequoia N.P., July 17 (GPo). Lawrence's Goldfinch was "widespread and common" in Monterey County (DR) through the period, but along Skyline Blvd., San Mateo Co., the large numbers noted in May could not be found in June (WB). Small numbers were reported at several locations along the dry inner-coast ranges and one male was singing and attached to territory near Whitehorse Res., Modoc Co., June 27 (RE,MR) where the species is quite rare. Single vagrants reached the coast at Sea Ranch June 14 (JP,BDP) and Pt. Pinos June 15 (DR). After this spring's explosion of Red Crossbills, particularly at low elevations in the Sierra, numbers returned to normal this summer (m.ob.). Green-tailed Towhee was found breeding at Salmon Saddle, Humboldt Co. (RLeV), where it is rare. Brown Towhees, observed copulating and feeding juveniles in G.G.P., provide the first breeding record for S.F. (DM). A ♂ Lark Bunting in coastal Humboldt County July 5-6 (B. Brock *et al.*) provided the first mid-summer record for the Region; most records are from September to April.

Approximately 50 Grasshopper Sparrows were reported, all coastal, with the bulk between Pt. Reyes and Big Sur (m.ob.). Although some individuals arrive in early April, a major influx was noted in the Pt. Reyes area during mid-June (DS,JE). Records from the n. coast have been scarce, so one at Eureka June 1 (†SJ,SH) and six at Bear Ridge, Humboldt Co., June 26 (LD, B. Brock) were of interest. A Vesper Sparrow at Gold Bluff Beach, Humboldt Co., June 9 was late (GJS

vide RAE) and small numbers summered at L. Talawa but no evidence of breeding was found (RAE). Fox Sparrows (paired) and a Song Sparrow (carrying nesting material) were at Blue Lake, Mono Co., at 9500 ft June 20 (MM); the elevation is high for Fox Sparrow and exceptional for Song Sparrow. A Swamp Sparrow at F. I., June 24-27 (†JK) provided the second summer record at that location. A Song Sparrow at F.I., June 26 was equally unusual.

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SOUTHERN PACIFIC COAST REGION

/Guy McCaskie

The summer was somewhat hotter than usual with a prolonged warm spell in June and virtually no rainfall during the entire period. An increased interest in studying shorebirds resulted in the discovery of a number of unusual species during July, including one new to California. The most significant event, however, was the appearance of the long-awaited *Birds of Southern California* by Kimball Garrett and Jon Dunn (published by Los Angeles Audubon Society) which gives us a summary of the status and distribution of all 500+ species occurring in this Region through 1980.

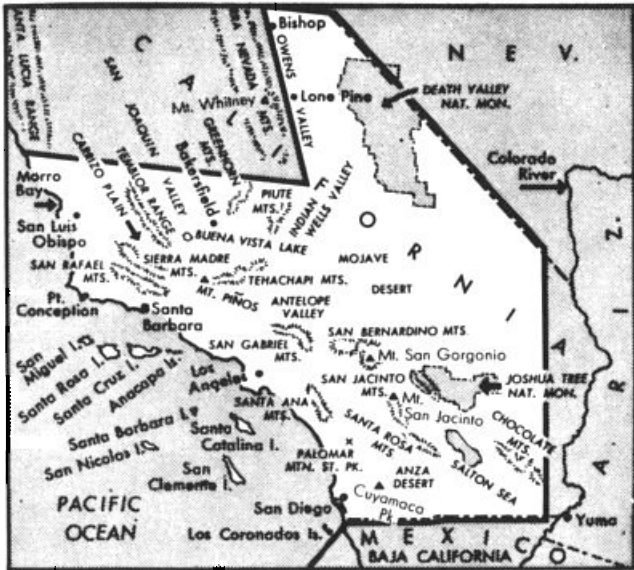
LOONS, GREBES — As expected all three regularly occurring species of loons were found summering along the coast with the Arctic Loon being the most numerous (163 between Pt. Sal and Pt. Arguello, Santa Barbara Co., throughout the period—PEL). Two or three Com. Loons on L. Cachuma, Santa Barbara Co., during June and July (PEL) were the only loons found inland. A Red-necked Grebe at Pt. Mugu, Ventura Co., July 9-25 (REW) was the first to be found in s. California in summer. A Horned Grebe in Goleta, Santa Barbara Co., April through June 26 (JD) was one of very few to remain into June. At least 50 young Eared Grebes were near Lancaster, Los Angeles Co., July 24 (JD), 500 pairs successfully nested on Baldwin L., in the San Bernardino Mts., and at least six pairs nested at the Santa

Clara R. estuary, Ventura Co. (hereafter, S.C.R.E.) this summer.

SHEARWATERS, STORM-PETRELS

— A N. Fulmar found recently dead on a beach at Morro Bay July 22 (GS) had undoubtedly lingered this far s. since winter. Fifteen Pink-footed Shearwaters visible from Pt. Mugu June 1 (REW) were unusually close to shore. A Fork-tailed Storm-Petrel 0.5 mi off Goleta July 10 (JA) established the first summer record for s. California.

PELICANS, CORMORANTS, FRIGATE-BIRDS — Two Brown Pelicans at the n. end of the Salton Sea (hereafter, N.E.S.S.) June 7 (DP) were the first to arrive at this inland location this summer but no more than seven were present at the end of the period. A small



population of Pelagic Cormorants on Pt. Arguello all summer (REW) was clearly nesting (population not censused due to inaccessibility) and was at the s. limit of the species' breeding range on the coast. Magnificent Frigatebirds were somewhat scarce with six sightings reported along the coast from San Diego to Santa Barbara June 28+ (PEL, KLG, RT) and single birds at the Salton Sea July 13 (GMcC) & 28 (KA).

HERONS — An imm. Little Blue Heron near Lancaster June 7-10 (KLG) was a late spring vagrant in the desert; single adults at the s. end of the Salton Sea (hereafter, S.E.S.S.) June 17 (RH) & July 13-18 (GMcC), along with two adults at nearby Seeley June 20 (JO) were in an area where breeding is likely, and a pair again nested near Imperial Beach, San Diego Co., fledging three young at the end of July (GMcC). An imm. Reddish Egret in San Diego July 17+ (JC) was exceptionally early. About 20 pairs of Snowy Egrets again nested near Imperial Beach (EC) and were the only breeding birds found away from the Salton Sea. At least one breeding-plumaged Louisiana Heron at N.E.S.S., May 10-July 13 (GMcC) suggested the possibility of nesting, which should be investigated; an adult at Bolsa Chica, Orange Co., June 10 (REW) was late and another adult on Morro Bay July 8-12 (JR, ph., S.D.N.H.M.) was exceptionally far n. as well as being unseasonable.

A Least Bittern near Cayucos, San Luis Obispo Co., July 20-Aug. 6 (TME), two on Laguna L., near San Luis Obispo July 7 (JR), two in Santa Barbara throughout the period (KA), one at S.C.R.E., May 3-June 8 (BD), one in Long Beach, Los Angeles Co., all summer (KLG) and a pair feeding young in El Monte, Los Angeles Co., in early August (Mickey Long, *vide* GSS) were of interest since the species is rare along the coast n. of San Diego County; one near Weldon, Kern Co., July 15-16 (RAB) appears to be the first to be found in the Kern R. valley. Single Am. Bitterns near Lancaster June 28 (JD), near Oceanside, San Diego Co., June 18 (CGE) and at San Elijo Lagoon, San Diego Co., July 12 (EC) were in areas supporting suitable habitat for nesting. Up to 11 White-

headed Ibises were at S.C.R.E., all summer (REW) and 20+ were present in coastal San Diego County (EC) throughout the period; however, none were known to nest, most of the birds being in non-breeding plumage.

DUCKS — At least one pair of Wood Ducks nested at L. Cachuma (PEL) and a pair on L. Sherwood, Ventura Co., Apr. 25 (REW) was believed to be nesting; this species is a scarce breeder in s. California. A ♀ Wood Duck

at L. Henshaw, San Diego Co., June 21-30 (RH) was exceptionally far s. for this time of the year. Three Ring-necked Ducks were on L. Cachuma all summer (PEL) and another was on Baldwin L., June 20 (KLG); this species is rare in summer. A Canvasback, scarce in summer, was near Santa Maria, Santa Barbara Co., July 13-28 (REW), one was at Pt. Mugu throughout the period (REW), another was near Lancaster June 23 (JD), one was on Baldwin L., June 20-July 27 (KLG), and seven were at N.E.S.S., during June and July (GMcC, LB). A Bufflehead near Lancaster June 23 (KLG) was the only summering bird of the species reported. A group of 110 White-winged Scoters between Pt. Sal and Pt. Arguello throughout the period (PEL) was a large concentration for summer, but individuals were found as far s. as Imperial Beach, indicating that more than the average number of non-breeding birds summered.

HAWKS — A Sharp-shinned Hawk in coniferous forest at Upper Big Rock Cr., in the San Gabriel Mts., June 23 (JD) and another in Juniper-Joshua tree habitat near Phelan July 29 (KLG) were two of a very few recorded in summer, the latter being the first in such atypical habitat. An ad. Red-shouldered Hawk at 9500 ft w. of Lone Pine, Inyo Co., July 25 (RMcK) was unusually high in the mountains. An ad. Swainson's Hawk near Desert Center, Riverside Co., July 4 (KLG) suggested the possibility of nesting in that area. A pair of Zone-tailed Hawks again attempted to nest on Santa Rosa Mt., Riverside Co., but failed and was last seen around the nest June 21 (EAC). An imm. Golden Eagle near Santa Maria July 29 (REW) was one of a very few ever found along the coast in summer. A Peregrine Falcon was at S.E.S.S., July 13-19 (MH) and another was at N.E.S.S., July 28 (LB); one or two are found around the Salton Sea each summer.

RAILS, GALLINULES — A Black Rail calling at N.E.S.S., June 20 (JO) was only the second to be reported from this locality; unfortunately, the marsh was leveled by the Coachella Irrigation District the following week. Two family groups of Com. Gallinules

near Santa Maria Aug. 13 (LB) gives us conclusive evidence of nesting in that area, and a pair raised one young in Saticoy, Ventura Co. (REW); breeding records from along the coast n. of San Diego County are few indeed.

SHOREBIRDS — A Black Oystercatcher in the Santa Barbara/Goleta area July 11 (LB) and up to three at Pt. Mugu all summer (REW) were s. of the species' normal range along the coast. Two Semipalmated Plovers on Baldwin L., July 27 (KLG) were at an unusual locality. An Am. Golden Plover near Santa Maria June 2 (REW) was probably a late spring migrant; one at S.C.R.E., June 19 (REW) was of ambiguous status, but single birds near Santa Maria July 31 (PEL), in Goleta July 19-25 (LRB) and in San Diego July 31 (EC) were all fall migrants. A flock of 184 Black-bellied Plovers on L. Henshaw July 31 (RH) comprised an exceptional number for such a location. Three Whimbrels at Harper Dry L., San Bernardino Co., July 25 (BD) and one near Lancaster July 24 (REW) were of interest since few are found inland in fall away from the Salton Sea. A Solitary Sandpiper near Winterhaven, Imperial Co., June 7 (EC) was exceptionally late; an adult at S.E.S.S., July 28 (KA) and another near Weldon July 29 (RAB) were the first fall migrants noted this year. A pair of Spotted Sandpipers accompanying a flightless young at L. Hodges, San Diego Co., July 26-30 (EC) established the southernmost nesting record for California.

An ad. **Polynesian Tattler** near Lancaster July 23 (JD, ph., S.D.N.H.M.) was the first to be recorded in North America outside of Alaska; the bird had an unmarked white belly and undertail coverts, with fine gray barring on the breast and along the sides, and gave a 2-note upslurred whistle call-note. A Ruddy



Polynesian Tattler, near Lancaster, Los Angeles Co., Calif., July 23, 1981.

Turnstone, rare anywhere inland away from the Salton Sea, was on Isabella Res., Kern Co., July 31 (RAB), and single birds were found near Lancaster July 25 (BB) & 29 (KLG). Three Surfbirds at Purisima Pt., Santa Barbara Co., July 13 (REW), one at S.C.R.E., July 23 (REW) and two at La Jolla, San Diego Co., July 25 (JO) were the earliest fall migrants reported this year. Two Red Knots were at Salton City, Imperial Co., July 19 (BD) and a flock of 15 was at S.E.S.S., July 28 (LB); small numbers pass through the Salton Sea each fall. A Sanderling, rare inland away from the Salton Sea, was near Lancaster July 23 (JD) and was joined by a second the following day (JD). A Semipalmated Sandpiper in Goleta July 2 (PEL), another at Bolsa Chica, Orange Co., July 7

(REW), a third near Lancaster July 17 (KLG) and a fourth at S.E.S.S., July 19 (BD, MH) were the first adults ever found in California in fall; the first of the juveniles was one at the Santa Ynez R. mouth July 22 (PEL).

An ad. **Rufous-necked Stint** at S.C.R.E., July 12-17 (E. Navojosky & D. Koepfel, ph., S.D.N.H.M.) and another S.E.S.S., July 19 (BD, MH) were only the third and fourth to be found in California. An ad. **Baird's Sand-**



Adult **Rufous-necked Stint**, *Santa Clara River estuary, Ventura Co., Calif., July 12-17, 1981. Photo/Jim Greaves.*

piper at Atascadero State Beach, San Luis Obispo Co., July 9 (GS) and three near Lancaster July 17 (KLG) were the earliest to arrive this fall with at least 30 (mostly juveniles) reported by July 31. Two **Pectoral Sandpipers** at Oso Flaco L., San Luis Obispo Co., June 2 (JR) were exceptionally late spring migrants; one at S.C.R.E., June 4-11 (REW) was possibly summering locally and one in Goleta July 18-20 (PEL) was an early fall migrant. A **Dunlin** on Morro Bay July 3 (JR) was probably summering locally since fall migrants do not arrive before September. An ad. **Curlew Sandpiper** on San Elijo Lagoon July 4 (GMcC, ph., S.D.N.H.M.) was only the sixth to be found in California. An



Adult **Curlew Sandpiper**, *San Elijo Lagoon, San Diego Co., Calif., July 4, 1981. Photo/Herbert Clarke.*

ad. **Stilt Sandpiper** at S.E.S.S., July 13 (GMcC) was the only one found on the Salton Sea but one was along the coast in Carlsbad, San Diego Co., July 12-15 (EC). A ♂ **Ruff** on Bataquitos Lagoon, San Diego Co., July 13-20 (JO) was the earliest fall migrant to be found in California.

GULLS, TERNS, SKIMMERS — An imm. **Glaucous-winged Gull**, rare inland, was at S.E.S.S., June 20 (JO). Three **Herring Gulls** at the Santa Maria R. mouth June 12 (LB), another there May 20-Aug. 16 (PEL) and a fourth at N.E.S.S., June 7 (DP) were the only ones found this summer. An imm. **Thayer's Gull** at N.E.S.S., June 7 (GMcC) established the latest record for the Region. An imm. **Mew Gull**, rare in summer, was on

Morro Bay throughout July (JMCD, ph., S.D.N.H.M.), one was at the Santa Maria R. mouth June 2-July 24 (REW) and a third was near there June 2-12 (REW). Six ad. **Laughing Gulls** at N.E.S.S., June 7 (DP) were the first of the post-breeding birds to arrive this year. An imm. **Franklin's Gull** at Oso Flaco L., June 12 (PEL) and two adults at S.E.S.S., June 27-July 13 (MAP) were the only ones found this summer. The imm. **Heermann's Gull** present at S.E.S.S., throughout the winter was still there June 20 (JO). One hundred twenty-five **Gull-billed Terns** (including 25 juveniles) at the Salton Sea July 18 (GMcC) provided the highest one-day count this summer; this species appears to be on the decline in California. A sub-adult **Arctic Tern** between Ventura and Santa Barbara I., July 11 (REW) was one of a very few found in s. California in summer. Three **Least Terns** were at N.E.S.S., June 6-7 (BD); this species is a casual straggler at the Salton Sea. **Black Skimmers** were found nesting only in the San Diego area (25+ pairs—EC) with virtually none present on the Salton Sea; away from San Diego at least three were around S.C.R.E., throughout the summer (REW), two were at Pt. Mugu June 21 (REW) and another was there July 30 (REW).

ALCIDS — A build-up of Com. **Murres** off Vandenberg A.F.B., occurred in late July with 5000 counted off Pt. Sal Aug. 9 (LRB); flightless young accompanied by adults off Pt. Sal July 22 (PEL) and off the Santa Ynez R. mouth July 29 (PEL) suggested nesting somewhere closer than Monterey County; one at Huntington Beach, Orange Co., July 14-26 (R&MW) was quite far s. Two **Marbled Murrelets** near Cayucos July 27 (TME) were only a short distance s. of suspected nesting localities in Monterey County. At least seven breeding-plumaged **Rhinoceros Auklets** at Pt. Arguello all summer (REW), with four seen to enter and/or leave burrows, gives us strong evidence that the species is nesting at that locality; one off La Jolla July 25 (EC) was quite far s. A living **Horned Puffin**, a rare straggler to California, was captured on a Santa Barbara beach June 11 (PEL, *S.B.M.N.H.).

CUCKOOS THROUGH SWIFTS — Encouraging was the discovery of as many as 24 pairs of **Yellow-billed Cuckoos** along the s. fork of the Kern R., e. of Isabella Res., this summer (RAB); one in San Juan Capistrano, Orange Co., June 21 (BS) was one of very few seen along the coast in recent years. The locating of nine territorial pairs of **Screech Owls** at desert oases in w. Riverside and s.w. San Bernardino cos. last spring (RMcK) would indicate the species is relatively common in this area of California. A **Great Horned Owl** on Santa Barbara I., July 11 (REW) appears to be the first ever found on the Channel Is. A **Pygmy Owl**, scarce in s. California, was at Vincent Gap in the San Gabriel Mts., July 12 (BD). A pair of **Long-eared Owls** accompanied by 3-4 young at 7500 ft on Mt. Pinos Aug. 1 (KLG) were unusually high in the mountains. Calling **Whip-poor-wills** near Big Pines in the San Gabriel Mts., June 17-23 (KLG) and at Angelus Oaks June 12-July 29 (DRW, BD) strongly suggested nesting at those localities. A calling Com. **Nighthawk** over Escondido,

San Diego Co., July 11 (KW) was far from any known area of regular occurrence. A **Black Swift** over Bolsa Chica June 10 (REW) was a late spring migrant. A **Chimney Swift** over Westwood, Los Angeles Co., July 9 (KLG) and 15-20 over Burbank, Los Angeles Co., July 4 (JD) were the only ones reported this summer; however, a *Chaetura* near Morro Bay July 17 (JR) could have been this species.

KINGFISHERS, WOODPECKERS — At least ten pairs of **Belted Kingfishers** were reported with nests found around Morro Bay (three), along the upper Santa Ynez R. (two) and at the Ventura R. mouth (one). The female of a nesting pair of Com. **Flickers** near Banning, San Bernardino Co., during May appeared to be "Yellow-shafted" (RMcK). Twelve **Yellow-bellied (Red-breasted) Sapsuckers** on Big Pine Mt., June 29-July 1 (PEL) gave us the first evidence of nesting in Santa Barbara County; five pairs on Mt. Palomar, San Diego Co., all summer (RH) were at the s. limit of the species' range. Sixteen **White-headed Woodpeckers** on Big Pine Mt., June 29-July 1 (JD) are the first to be recorded in Santa Barbara County in summer.

FLYCATCHERS, SWALLOWS — A pair of **Willow Flycatchers** (nest located) in Morongo Valley, San Bernardino Co. (EAC), five singing males (one nest located) along the Santa Margarita R., San Diego Co. (LRS) and a singing male near Imperial Beach May 2-June 21 (EC) were the only ones believed nesting in the Region. Seven **Dusky Flycatchers** on Big Pine Mt., June 29-July 1 (PEL) indicated the species nests at that locality. The presence of four singing **Olive-sided Flycatchers** around Santa Barbara during June and July (PEL, LB) suggested that the species may be nesting locally. Two pairs of **Vermilion Flycatchers** at Morongo Valley in June (EAC) were the only ones known to be nesting in California; this species was formerly much more common and widespread. A small colony of **Cliff Swallows** under a highway bridge in Little Rock (KLG) appears to be the first recorded occurrence of nesting in the Antelope Valley.

CREEPERS THROUGH KINGLETS — A singing **Brown Creeper** in Santa Barbara July 7 (PEL) was believed to be nesting locally; this species is known to nest along the coast s. to Monterey County but no farther s. A ♂ **Bendire's Thrasher** near Pioneer Town on the e. slope of the San Bernardino Mts., June 6 (EAC) was in an area where the species is considered rare. Two singing **Hermit Thrushes** at San Marcos Pass during June and July (PEL) and six more (one defending nest) at Refugio Pass throughout June (LB) were the first to be found in Santa Barbara County in summer. Thirty **Golden-crowned Kinglets** were found on Big Pine Mt., June 30-July 1 (JD) indicating that the species is a relatively common breeder at that location; two on Reyes Peak, Ventura Co., June 6 (REW) were in an area where considered rare in summer.

VIREOS, WOOD WARBLERS — Bell's **Vireos** were relatively common along the upper Santa Ynez R., and nearby Mono Cr.,

in Santa Barbara Co., this summer with 60 singing males and 120 offspring (JMG). A territorial ♂ Solitary Vireo along Big Rock Cr., on the n. slope of the San Gabriel Mts., June 23 (KLG) and a pair building a nest on Santa Rosa Mt., June 6 (EAC) were of the gray race *plumbeus*, at the extreme w. limits of this form's expanding range. A ♂ Red-eyed Vireo at Oak Canyon Nature Center, Orange Co., June 18 (DRW) was a late spring vagrant.

A Black-and-white Warbler at Oak Canyon Nature Center June 6 (DRW) was a late spring straggler, another at 6800 ft in the San Gabriel Mts., June 23 (KLG) may have been only the second ever found in the mountains and a third in Goleta June 8-Aug. 10 (KB) was one of very few recorded summering in the Region. A Lucy's Warbler near Imperial Beach July 28-Aug. 3 (PU) was an exceptionally early fall vagrant. A ♂ N. Parula in Santa Barbara Apr. 30-July 14 (LB) spent much time displaying to a ♀ Yellow-throated Warbler at the same location May 11+ (LRB); unfortunately, a lack of response by the latter put an end to California's best chance for a Sutton's Warbler! An Ovenbird in Santa Barbara June 20 (JMG, *S.B.M.N.H.) was a very late spring vagrant. Two singing ♂ MacGillivray's Warblers on Big Pine Mt., June 30-July 1 (JD) indicated nesting at that location. A ♀ Hooded Warbler on Pt. Loma June 2 (CGE) and a male at Coon Cr., adjacent to Morro Bay June 17 (JR, ph., S.D.N.H.M.) were late spring vagrants.

BLACKBIRDS, TANAGERS — A ♀ Great-tailed Grackle at Doheny Beach, Orange Co., June 28 (BS) was one of very few ever found on the coast of California. A bright ♂ Scarlet Tanager, only the seventh to

be found in s. California in spring, was in Los Osos, San Luis Obispo Co., June 3-4 (CJT, HJB). A ♂ Hepatic Tanager on Clark Mt., June 28 (RMcK) and a pair along Arrastre Cr., in the San Bernardino Mts., May 31 & June 21 (RMcK) were at known nesting localities. A Summer Tanager in Carpinteria June 6-7 (PEL) and another near there June 6 (PEL) were late stragglers; at least six pairs along the s. fork of the Kern R., immediately e. of Isabella Res., during June and July (RAB) extend the species' breeding range to a new n.w. limit.

FINCHES, SPARROWS — A ♂ Rose-breasted Grosbeak at Morro Bay June 20 (JMCD), four in the Santa Barbara area May 25-July 26 (JMG, NSC, KB) and a sixth at Rincon Pt., Ventura Co., June 6 (PEL) should all be treated as spring vagrants. A pair of Indigo Buntings was attending a nest with 3 eggs in Morongo Valley in early June (EAC) and single males near Weldon May 18+ (RAB) and July 10 (RAB) could also have been breeding. Unexpected were two Evening Grosbeaks on Figueroa Mt., Santa Barbara Co., June 17 (PEL) and four more on Big Pine Mt., July 1 (JD). A small number of Purple Finches, including adults feeding young, near Malibu, Los Angeles Co., appear to furnish the first evidence of nesting at sea-level this far s. Two Cassin's Finches on Figueroa Mt., June 17 (PEL) were outside the species' known breeding range. The presence of Pine Siskins at 3 locations around Morro Bay all summer suggested nesting in that area; breeding is undocumented along the coast s. of Monterey County. A singing Sage Sparrow at Pt. Sal May 13 (PEL) was believed to be on territory; this species is uncommon and local along the immediate coast. Nesting Dark-eyed Juncos in Topanga

Canyon, Los Angeles Co. (KLG) mark the s. limit for breeding along the coast. The finding of 11 Fox Sparrows on Big Pine Mt., June 29-July 1 (JD) established another breeding location for this species in s. California.

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HAWAIIAN ISLANDS REGION /C. John Ralph and Robert L. Pyle

The summer of 1981 was another season of higher-than-usual temperatures and little rainfall. For weeks on end, the normal tradewind pattern of almost daily rains in at least the mountains failed. In addition, no summer storms, actually usually remnants of tropical storms, visited the islands. As a result, some species that normally nest in the drier areas of the islands may well have been hurt as breeding was delayed or forgone.

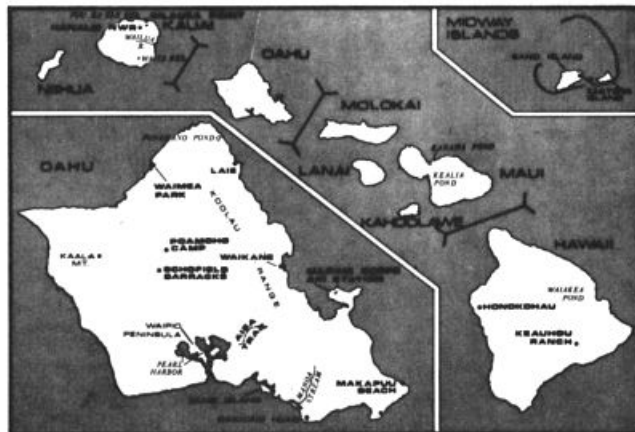
ABBREVIATIONS — H., Hawaii I.; K., Kauai I.; F.F.S., French Frigate Shoals; and O., Oahu.

ALBATROSSES THROUGH WATER-FOWL — Two ad. Laysan Albatrosses remained until July 21 at Kilauea Pt., K., with a single chick that disappeared and probably fledged on that date (DM). Only seven Black-footed Albatrosses fledged (vs about 30 last year) from the small colony on tiny Nihoa I. (SC). An extremely rare Lesser Frigatebird was found and well-described on Kure Atoll Apr. 6 (RJS). This represents one of the very

few records from the state, all from Kure. A Cattle Egret was on Tern I., F.F.S., May 27 (RJS)-June 18 (RS). Another individual again graced Nihoa I., for a day in mid-June (SC), as this species continues to send out potential colonizers probably from the main Hawaiian chain. Easily the most exciting bird of the season was the Great Blue Heron on Opauea Pond on the n. Kona coast, H., June 19 (PA, JM, PP). This bird was being mobbed by a perhaps nonplussed Hawaiian Stilt. The heron was well described, but was not seen again through the end of July. This is the best documented record for the state; one prior sighting has been published without supporting details.

Waterfowl are not common as overwintering birds, so a ♂ Green-winged Teal at the Lowe Prawn Farm near Kahuku, O., in July was rather unusual (DW).

HAWKS THROUGH TERNS — Curtice Griffin's project on the endangered Hawaiian Hawk on Hawaii I., this summer found 19 nest sites (until the project began in 1980, only about 6 nests had ever been found!). At each of 10 successful sites, one young was raised. On the Hamakua Coast, virtually every gully in the cane fields has at least one or two territorial pairs (CG, PP). The species is confined to Hawaii I., but is evidently much more numerous than previously



thought Black-bellied Plovers are not common in the state even in the winter, so three spending the summer at Waipio, O., June 3 (PD) through at least July 23 (DS) was very unusual. Another unusual summer shorebird was a Bristle-thighed Curlew at Nuupia Ponds, O., June 30 (MM). An individual was also on Nihoa I., during the third week of August (SC). Nihoa, despite its small size, had an oversummering population of about 15 Ruddy Turnstones (SC), a high number anywhere in the state at this time of the year. The endangered Hawaiian Stilt appeared in good numbers on the Hawaii I., with 30 on July 19 at ponds near Kona and Hilo, the highest count since 1969 (PP). A Least Tern at Disappearing I., F.F.S., was a bit early Aug. 1 (RS).

LAUGHING-THRUSHES THROUGH FINCHES — The Greater Necklaced Laughing-Thrush is apparently well established on Kauai I., yet is one of the hardest birds to locate. A flock of at least 15 near

Hanalei, K., July 18 was therefore a good find (DS). The two endangered and endemic species of land birds on 160 acre Nihoa I., are getting a thorough investigation this year by S. Conant. Unfortunately, both the Nihoa Finch (a Hawaiian "honeycreeper") and the Nihoa Millerbird (an old world warbler), failed to breed in significant numbers this summer. In 1980 many millerbirds were on nests with eggs and young in July. This year, from June through August, only two nests were found (SC). The finches had many young present in June, thus apparently nested during the winter and spring when perhaps weather conditions were more favorable for feeding young. Last year they were still breeding in June. Warbling Silverbills have apparently continued their inter-island colonization as 2 separate reports in June (RJS) and July (RW, MM, *fide* PA) from Molokai I., indicate that some have crossed the waters from Maui and are perhaps breeding. Yellow-billed Cardinals were quite abundant at Honokohau, on the Kona coast,

H., with PP observing at least 50 birds July 19, many of them young. This species should soon spread away from its rather small range along the Kona coast. Another surprising inter-island bird was the normally rather sedentary House Finch, in female or young plumage, that turned up on Nihoa I. (SC). The bird's closest breeding site is on Kauai I., some 150 mi to the s.e. The bird was seen only June 13.

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WEST INDIES REGION

/Robert L. Norton

Although precipitation in the Virgin Islands (hereafter, V.I.) was moderately above average for June (29%) and slightly above for July (4%), the most significant outcome from rainfall during the breeding season results from the 14+ inch (213% above average) accumulation in May. Breeding landbirds in general experienced an excellent food crop, while nesting seabirds were dealt a trade-off. Ground nesting Larids suffered egg loss from heavy rains in May, but benefitted from sustained phyto- and zooplankton blooms supporting the marine food web.

Natural and human-related egg loss appeared to reduce production in early May, but the abundance of fish prey owing to above-average rainfall helped to stabilize populations this year.

SHEARWATERS THROUGH TERNS — An Audubon's Shearwater was seen in a crevice at Frenchcap Cay June 17 but it could not be identified as an adult or immature, although the latter is more likely. A Red-billed Tropicbird chick banded June 26 was one of the latest on record in the V.I. Thirty-five Masked (Blue-faced) Boobies, 11 adults and 24 juvenals, were observed at the Cockroach Cay colony June 11. The young birds were capable of flight but were still begging food from adults. Red-footed Boobies number 317 including some downy young (*fide* RG), June 11 at Dutchcap Cay, S.T.T. The continued summer occurrence of Red-footed Boobies (= four) at Frenchcap Cay may indicate some future nesting potential. On July 2, two Great Blue Herons were seen on a small cay off S.T.J., suggesting that breeding may occur somewhere in the V.I. An estimated 2400 Roseate Terns nested in the northern U.S.V.I. this year based on nest counts on 4 cays around S.T.T., and sightings of smaller groups off S.T.J. (Table 1).

Sandwich Terns were observed all season, but their nesting location, if any, could not be

Table 1. Phenology of Roseate Terns in the northern U.S. Virgin Islands, 1981.*

Colony	Date	Nests Counted
Dog Island, S.T.T.	May 20	406
	June 9	56 (86% loss) ¹
Shark Island	June 2	690
	June 9	989 (30% gain) ²
Cricket Cay	June 11	0
	June 2	0
Kalkun Cay	June 12	96 ¹
Flanagan Island, S.T.J.	May 25	6
Leduck Island	May 25	0
Total		2243

*Supported in part by Pittman-Robertson, Virgin Islands Federal Wildlife Aid, FW:3. ¹Poaching suspected. ²Recruitment from Dog Island colony, 5.2 km s.e.

found after repeated surveys of former sites, although 35 were seen at Pelican Cay, S.T.T. Approximately 50,000 Sooty Terns nested at Saba, Flat and Frenchcap Cays, S.T.T. Recruits from the Dry Tortugas, Fla., have been found in attendance in the past and nesting this year at Saba Cay. Least Terns formerly bred at S.T.T., but are now principally found at S.T.X., in the U.S.V.I., at Sandy Pt., Ruth Cay, and possibly at industrialized Krause Lagoon where "hundreds of the terns are nesting" (BS, *fide* TMA), July 8 on cleared land for industrial waste ponds relatively free of mongoose predation.

DOVES THROUGH ICTERIDS — An escaped Ringed Turtle Dove was seen for the first time on S.T.T. July 21. Stolid Flycatchers were heard calling at Cruz Bay June 15 and Francis Bay July 2, S.T.J. No report from S.T.T., is inconclusive in regard to local distribution. Singing Troupials have been reported by residents in various locations along the s. coast of S.T.T. Brewer's Bay to Vesup Bay (DN). This indicates that the introduced oriole is slowly expanding its range in xeric habitat. Shiny Cowbirds continue in S.T.T. and S.T.J. as an established form in

the fauna, particularly in the mangroves of Mangrove Lagoon and Coral Bay, respectively.

ADDENDA — A late report from observers (SH, RM) aboard the schooner "Harvey Gamage" merits notice here since pelagic records and reports from rarely visited areas reach our attention so infrequently. Wilson's Storm-Petrels were noted at sea s. of Punta Tuna, P.R. (= 4), Isla Saona, D.R. (= 1) Apr 14, and e. of Long Island, B.I., (= 1) on May 5. A Roseate Spoonbill, rare in Hispaniola, was noted at Lago Enriquillo, Apr. 21-22, and 16 were seen at Great Inagua May 2. Forty Am. Flamingos were noted in the harbor, Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Apr. 28 and 264 flamingos were counted at Great Inagua, B.I., May 2. Two Osprey at Lago Enriquillo, D.R. enticed observers to look for nest without success. A Peregrine Falcon was seen at close range there as well (ASD, RM). A Ring-billed Gull observed s. of Gordon Bay, B.I., May 10 is considered late. ASD reportedly heard Hispaniolan Parrots at Lago Enriquillo where she observed a Purple Martin Apr 22. A Swainson's Thrush was observed at close range May 3 aboard the schooner (RM) near Hogsty Reef, B.I., (Hypothetical A Philadelphia Vireo was also observed on deck May 11, 5 mi s.w. of Grand Bahamas. No other spring records are available).

ABBREVIATIONS — B.I. = Bahama Islands, D.R. = Dominican Republic, P.R. = Puerto Rico, S.T.J. = St. John, S.T.T. = St. Thomas, S.T.X. = St. Croix, V.I. = Virgin Islands.

CORRIGENDUM — Breeding Sandwich Terns were first noted in the n. Virgin Islands in the spring of 1978, not 1979 (AB 34: 5: 819)

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