

## NOTES

**Additional notes on possible nocturnal migration of the Eastern Kingbird.**—Although the Eastern Kingbird (*Tyrannus tyrannus*) is considered a diurnal migrant, my observations of kingbird movements at Gulf Breeze, Santa Rosa County, Florida, suggested that in fall, when confronted with the vast Gulf of Mexico, it begins a nocturnal over-water crossing (Duncan 1983, Fla. Field Nat. 11: 57).

This suggestion was further strengthened by observations Scot Duncan and I made at Dauphin Island, Alabama, in spring 1986. On 12 April 1986, from about 1330 h to 1400 h, we observed a massive fallout of northbound migrants coming off the Gulf of Mexico. Our observations occurred about 2 km west of the wooded area of the island. As we stood along the thinly vegetated north shore of the island, a steady stream of orioles, tanagers, vireos and warblers passed by us at eye level or below, some stopping briefly in the low bushes around us. Mixed in with the migrants and appearing as tired as they, were substantial numbers of Eastern Kingbirds. The corridor of migrants was about 30 m wide and was moving in an easterly direction toward the wooded eastern end of the island. Birds were visible to the west as far as the eye could see, with some coming out of the Gulf to join the stream moving toward the east. It had been raining since about 0900 h and the rain continued as a northeast wind blew briskly.

That these migrants were completing a nocturnal trans-Gulf movement is well accepted among ornithologists. Our observations suggest that in spring as well as fall, at least part of the North American population of Eastern Kingbirds migrate nocturnally across the Gulf. It would be difficult to explain why large numbers of Eastern Kingbirds would choose to migrate along a thinly vegetated barrier island about 15 km from the mainland, exposing themselves to the weather and poor food availability if they were diurnal circum-Gulf migrants.

The author, Lucy Duncan, and Scot Duncan have noted from their residence at Gulf Breeze, a migrant trap, that on numerous occasions, Eastern Kingbirds are mixed in with trans-Gulf migrants in fallout situations. The Dauphin Island spectacle provided further corroboration to our suggestion that the Eastern Kingbird was a nocturnal trans-Gulf migrant.—**Robert A. Duncan**, 614 Fairpoint Dr., Gulf Breeze, Florida 32561.

Florida Field Naturalist 15: 19, 1986.

**Bald Eagle and Short-tailed Hawk prey on other raptors.**—Although many diurnal raptors are known to take a variety of prey items, records of hawks and eagles preying on each other for food are rare and noteworthy (Ogden 1974, Auk 91: 95-110, Klein et al. 1985, Wilson Bull. 97: 230-231). I report here two such observations from the Florida Keys. At 1145 on 29 November 1982, about 2 km north of mile marker 30 on Key Deer Boulevard, Big Pine Key, I observed a dark-phase adult Short-Tailed Hawk (*Buteo brachyurus*) perched low in a pine tree near the roadside. Using binoculars, I determined that it was eating a small raptor. Deliberately plucking its prey, the hawk was so intent on what it was doing that it ignored me completely. After about 25 minutes, the hawk flew away carrying the carcass. I identified the feathers below the feeding perch as those of an adult male Kestrel (*Falco sparverius*).

At 0830 on 1 December 1982, Page Brown and I were walking near Watson's Hammock on Big Pine Key, a heavily wooded area about 7 km northwest of our previous location, when we flushed an immature Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) from beneath a blackbead bush (*Pithecellobium guadulapense*) a few meters in front of us and discovered the remains of an immature Broad-winged Hawk (*Buteo platypterus*). It was obviously a very fresh kill and was almost completely consumed. Alexander Sprunt IV later confirmed our identification from the collected remains.