

Literature Cited

Blankenship, K., M.A. Young, and S. Holzman. 2009. Red Crossbills: breeding records and call types in Georgia and the southeastern United States. *Oriole* 74 (1-4):1-14.

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FROM THE FIELD

AUGUST-NOVEMBER 2011

Note: The appearance of observations in this section does not suggest verification or acceptance of a record. Observations of Review Species need to be documented and a rare bird report submitted to the Georgia Checklist and Records Committee (GCRC) for consideration.

August was another hot, dry month with precipitation 50% lower than average across the state, and the warmest on record for Columbus and Savannah. Hurricane Irene swept by Georgia without incident on the 27th, but was likely responsible for an onshore sighting of a Sooty Tern on Cumberland Island. In contrast, the passage of Tropical Storm Lee in early September caused tornadoes and heavy rainfall in northwestern areas of the state, and unseasonably cool temperatures the following week. This storm system brought inland reports of Laughing Gulls, Sooty Terns, and a Magnificent Frigatebird, as well as a fallout of 20 shorebird species and 3 tern species in Bartow Co. on 6-7 September. October and November brought average temperatures, and rainfall was unevenly divided, with the northwest recording above-average precipitation while two-thirds of the state remained in extreme drought. The highlights of the season were 5 Brown Boobies in Chatham Co. pelagic waters on 13 August, the sixth state record of Curlew Sandpiper, on St Catherines Island the next day, and the discovery of a Cinnamon Teal in Clayton Co. on 1 November. Rare banded birds included 2 Northern Saw-whet Owls and a Calliope Hummingbird. The passerine highlight for many was a crowd-pleasing Mourning Warbler that spent several days in the urban hotspot of Centennial Olympic Park.

Abbreviations: ACOGB - Annotated Checklist of Georgia Birds, 2003, Beaton, G. et al., GOS Occ. Publ. No. 14; AIC - Andrews Island Causeway and spoil site, Glynn Co.; AP - American Proteins settling ponds, Forsyth Co.; AWMA - Altamaha Waterfowl Management Area, McIntosh Co.; BCL - Bartow Co. Loop, a cluster of sod farms and cattle ponds on Brandon Farm Road and Taff Road, west of Cartersville, Bartow Co.; BUENWR - Bradley Unit of the Eufaula National Wildlife Refuge, Stewart Co.; CBC - Christmas Bird Count; CINS - Cumberland Island National Seashore, Camden Co.; CLRL - Carter's Lake Re-regulation Lake area, Murray Co.; COP - Centennial Olympic Park, Fulton Co.; CRNRA - Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area; CSU - Cochran Shoals Unit of the CRNRA, Cobb Co.; ELHLAF - E.L. Huie Land Application Facility, Clayton Co.; GI - Gould's Inlet, St. Simons Island, Glynn Co.; HP - Henderson Park, DeKalb Co.; JI - Jekyll Island, Glynn Co.; JIBS - Jekyll Island Banding Station, Glynn Co.; KMT - Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park, Cobb Co.; LCI - Little Cumberland Island, Camden Co.; LSSI - Little St. Simons Island, Glynn Co.; LTI - Little Tybee Island, Chatham Co.; LWFG - Lake Walter F. George, Clay Co.; MBBP - Merry Brothers Brickyard Ponds, Richmond Co.; m. ob. - multiple observers; MSS - Marshallville Super Sod Farm, Macon Co.; MWSS (Mid-winter Shorebird Survey of the Georgia coast); *NAB* - *North American Birds* (journal of the American Birding Association); NWR - National Wildlife Refuge; OM - Oxbow Meadows Environmental Learning Center, Muscogee Co.; PCR - Pine Chapel Road, Gordon Co.; ph. - photographed; PSNP - Phinizy Swamp Nature Park, Richmond Co.; Region - when capitalized, refers to Georgia, North Carolina, and South Carolina; SBG - State Botanical Garden of Georgia, Clarke Co.; SCI - St. Catherines Island, Liberty Co.; SF - sod farm; SP - State Park; SSI - St. Simons Island, Glynn Co.; TI - Tybee Island, Chatham Co.; WMA - Wildlife Management Area; WPD - West Point Dam, Harris Co. and Troup Co.

Note: Species that appear in a **bold-faced font** represent those that were considered "review" species by the GCRC during the year of the sighting. This list changes from year to year. The current review list may be viewed at the following link: <http://www.gos.org/checklists/reportables.html> GCRC activity, including the status of reports listed as "pending" as of press time, may be viewed at the following link: <http://www.gos.org/checklists/gcrc-activity.html>

SPECIES ACCOUNTS

BLACK-BELLIED WHISTLING-DUCK - Inland, a maximum of 24 were seen in Brooks Co. on 16 August (Karen Seward), and a maximum of 8 birds were recorded at PSNP on 27 August (Anne Waters). A new breeding site was discovered in Baker Co. on 15 September, when a pair with 10 downy young was observed (ph., Giff Beaton). At the coast, a maximum count of 130 was reported from AWMA on 9 October (Bill Lotz, Iris Schumacher, Dan Vickers), one was on LSSI on 14 August (m. ob.), 9 were at Harris Neck NWR, McIntosh Co., on 22 September (Doug Murray), and 11 were seen on Raccoon Key, Camden Co., on 7 October (m. ob.).

GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE - Three were seen at CLRL on 9 November (Stan Chapman, Aija Konrad), with perhaps the same birds seen on Mashburn Road, Gordon Co., on 13 November (Patrick Brisse, Hugh Garrett, Jeff Sewell). One was at OM on 28 November (Walt Chambers).

SNOW GOOSE - The long-staying blue-phase bird was still present in Morgan and Walton Cos. throughout the period (m. ob.). The best counts were 4 at PCR on 6 November (Ken Blankenship, Theresa Hartz) increasing to 7 at the same location on 13 November (Joel McNeal), and 4 on CLRL on 18 November (Aija Konrad, Pat Pepper). Single birds were observed from the BCL on 5 November (Ken Blankenship), CLRL on 9 November (Stan Chapman, Aija Konrad), PSNP on 10-13 November (Ruth Mead), Harris Neck NWR, McIntosh Co., on 11 November (Steve Fox), and WPD on 14 November (Walt Chambers).

GADWALL - Two seen in Bibb Co. on 5 September were the earliest arrivals reported (James Fleullan, m. ob.).

BLUE-WINGED TEAL - Six early birds were seen from the JI Welcome Center on 27 August (m. ob.).

CINNAMON TEAL - One was found at ELHLAF on 1 November, and was seen sporadically until the end of the period (Carol Lambert, m. ob.; pending, GCRC 2012-17).

ANAS sp. - A bird displaying characteristics of Cinnamon Teal was seen on the BCL on 13 September (ph., Joel McNeal), but since the bird was in eclipse plumage, it was impossible to rule out a Blue-winged x Cinnamon Teal hybrid.

CANVASBACK - Individuals were seen at ELHLAF on 11 November (m. ob.) and Lake Lanier, Hall Co., on 18 November (Jim Flynn), and 4 were at MBBP on 20 November (Peter Stangel). A good count of 83 came from Lake Seminole, Decatur Co., on 21 November (Nathan Farnau, Joel McNeal).

GREATER SCAUP - One seen from Buford Dam, Lake Lanier, on 28 October

was a new early date for the Georgia Piedmont; it or another bird was seen at the same location on 30 November (both Jim Flynn). Two were at MBBP on 13 November (Nathan Farnau), and a maximum of 10 were observed in a seaduck raft off of JI from 10-27 November (m. ob.).

SURF SCOTER - Two were on Lake Lanier on 17 November (Jim Flynn), and the highest count from the coast was of 25 seen offshore of JI on 26 November (Carol Lambert, Jeff Sewell).

BLACK SCOTER - Two were on Lake Hartwell, Hart Co., on 25 November (Eric Beohm). A large flock of approximately 15,000 birds was seen from JI on 26 November, representing a new state high count (Carol Lambert, Jeff Sewell).

WHITE-WINGED SCOTER - Only reported from JI, where a maximum of 4 were seen on 27 November (Krista Gridley, Larry Gridley, Bob Sattelmeyer).

LONG-TAILED DUCK - One was located in a scoter raft offshore of JI on 26 November (Carol Lambert, Jeff Sewell).

HOODED MERGANSER - Three were seen from JI south beach on 27 August (Mike Chapman, Gene Keferl).

RED-THROATED LOON - One was on Lake Lanier on 18 November (Jim Flynn).

PIED-BILLED GREBE - A new state high count of 232 was recorded at Lake Seminole on 30 October (Jim Flynn).

HORNED GREBE - One seen at Richard B. Russell Dam, Elbert Co., on the early date of 28 August, may have been a summering bird rather than a fall arrival (Jim Flynn).

EARED GREBE - One was on Lake Hartwell, Hart Co., on 25 November (ph., Eric Beohm). One was back at the regular wintering site on Scherer Ash Pond, Monroe Co., on 20 November (Krista Gridley, Jim Healy, Bob Sattelmeyer).

CORY'S SHEARWATER - Eleven were seen on a Gulf Stream pelagic trip from TI on 13 August (m. ob.).

AUDUBON'S SHEARWATER - Two were seen on a Gulf Stream pelagic trip from TI on 13 August (m. ob.).

WILSON'S STORM-PETREL - Nine were seen on a Gulf Stream pelagic trip from TI on 13 August (m. ob.).

WOOD STORK - Outside of the Coastal Plain, the highest counts were 51 at Reeve's Wetland, Henry Co., on 29 August (Mark McShane), and 43 at OM on 16 September (John McMahan). The northernmost birds were 3 in Madison Co. on 6 September (James Neves), and 3 in Clarke Co. on 17 September (m. ob.).

MAGNIFICENT FRIGATEBIRD - One was reported over Sweetwater Creek SP, Douglas Co., on 7 September (Paul Raney). Three were seen from JI on 10 October (ph., Patrick Addy, m. ob.).

BROWN BOOBY - An impressive 5 (including one adult) were seen on Navy Tower R6 in Chatham Co. offshore waters on 13 August (m. ob.; GCRC 2011-31).



Brown Booby, Chatham Co., 13 August, by Joel McNeal

GREAT CORMORANT - One returned to LWFG for its fourth winter on 20 November (Nathan Farnau, Joel McNeal; GCRC 2011-40).

ANHINGA - Rare in the Piedmont, single birds were observed at the Georgia International Horse Park, Rockdale Co., on 1 and 7 August (Nathan Farnau), Lake Oconee, Greene Co., on 11 September (Jeff Sewell), and Lake Blalock, Clayton Co., on 18 September (Patrick Brisse, Jeff Sewell).

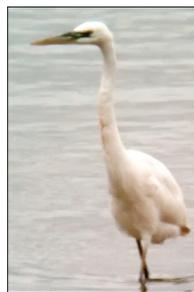
AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN - A group of 30-40 were reported over Sawnee Mountain, Forsyth Co., on 5 October (*fide* Jeff Sewell); eighteen were at WPD on 24 October (Michael Barrett); eleven were seen at LWFG on 30 October (Jim Flynn); one was seen with a flock of 500 Sandhill Cranes in Whitfield Co. on 18 November (David DesRochers); ten were at BUENWR on 17 November (Alan Ashley), and 45 were at the same location on 29 November (Walt Chambers).

GREAT BLUE HERON - A white bird of the Florida subspecies was at Lake Lanier, Forsyth Co., on 6-7 September (Mark McShane, m. ob.). It or another was observed there on 21 October - 6 November (Jim Flynn).

Great White Heron, Forsyth Co., 6 September, by Mark McShane

GREAT EGRET - One seen in Fannin Co. on 22 November was late for the Mountain Region (Nedra Sekera).

SNOWY EGRET - Above the Fall Line, one was in Bartow Co. on 2 August (Josh Spence), one was in Henry Co. on 5 August (Paul Raney), 2 were in Rockdale Co. on 7 August (Nathan Farnau), and one was at ELHLAF on 27 August (Carol Lambert, Jeff Sewell).



TRICOLORED HERON - Away from coast, single birds were reported from PSNP on 2 August (Mac McCall), Brooks Co. on 10-13 August (Karen Seward), Titan Turf Farm, Bulloch Co., on 13 August (Cameron Cox), and Lowndes Co. on 21 August (Karen Seward).

REDDISH EGRET - Widely reported along the coast, the highest count was 5

on Wolf Island on 7 September (Tim Keyes). Two white morph juveniles were seen from the south tip of TI on 15 August (Mark McShane, Max Medley).

YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON - An adult with 3 juveniles were seen at ELHLAF on 13 August, suggesting local breeding (Carol Lambert, Jeff Sewell).

GLOSSY IBIS - One was well inland at PSNP on 2 and 7 August (Jim Hanna, Mac McCall).

ROSEATE SPOONBILL - The highest counts were of 63 on LSSI on 14 August (Joel McNeal, m. ob.), and 40 from the JI Welcome Center on 27 August (m. ob.).

SWALLOW-TAILED KITE - In the Coastal Plain, the high counts were 35 birds seen in Brooks Co. on 16 August (Karen Seward), and 15 in Long Co. on 8 August (Gene Wilkinson). Above the Fall Line, reports were received of 3 birds in White Co. on 7-11 August (Jim Flynn, m. ob.), 6 in Hall Co. on 12-14 August (Greg Valpey, m. ob.), one in Oconee Co. on 15 August (Carole Ludwig), 3 in Fannin Co. on 23 August - 6 September (Tom Striker, m. ob.), and one in Gordon Co. on 25-26 August (Max Medley).

COOPER'S HAWK - Eleven seen over JI south beach on 22 October constitutes a new state high count (Charlie Muise).

RED-TAILED HAWK - Individual dark western-race birds were reported from Fort Gordon, Richmond Co., on 21 September (Giff Beaton) and Lake Hartwell, Hart Co., on 20 November (Eric Beohm). Krider's Hawks were seen at Paradise Public Fishing Area, Berrien Co., on 13 November (Wayne Schaffner), and at BUENWR on 29 November (Walt Chambers).

GOLDEN EAGLE - One flew over the South Milledge fields, Clarke Co., on 14 November (ph., James Neves). Another was seen sparring with Bald Eagles at BUENWR on 20 November (Nathan Farnau, Joel McNeal).

PEREGRINE FALCON - Two continued to be seen in the Buckhead area of Atlanta, Fulton Co., throughout September and October (Carl Crowley). On the coast, a high count of 9 was reported from Wolf Island and Little Egg Island Bar on 12 October (Tim Keyes).

VIRGINIA RAIL - Away from the coast, single birds were reported from ELHLAF on 27 August and 8 October (Carol Lambert, Jeff Sewell), CSU on 6-19 November (m. ob.), and in Decatur Co. (3 birds) on 21 November (Nathan Farnau, Joel McNeal).

SORA - Single migrant birds were reported from Panola Mountain SP, Rockdale Co., on 27 August (Charlie Muise, m. ob.), Lake Herrick, Clarke Co., on 15-28 September (Mirko Basen, m. ob.), and Ocmulgee National Monument, Bibb

Co., on 18 October (James Fleullan). The best counts were 8 at ELHLAF on 11 November (Rebecca Byrd) and 7 at PSNP on 13 November (Nathan Farnau).

PURPLE GALLINULE - The best count was 6 at BUENWR on 5 September (Ken Blankenship).

COMMON GALLINULE - An excellent count of 52 birds was reported from ELHLAF on 27 August (Hugh Garrett, Carol Lambert, Jeff Sewell).

SANDHILL CRANE - The first report of returning migrants was a flock of 40 over Sandy Springs, Fulton Co., on 27 October (Linda Shipley).

WHOOPIING CRANE - One was seen with a flock of 500 Sandhill Cranes in Whitfield Co. on 18 November (David DesRochers). A radio-tagged female, 2-11, whose transmitter had broken, was photographed over Chatsworth, Murray Co., on 19 November (*vide* Marion Dobbs).

AMERICAN GOLDEN-PLOVER - One was on the BCL on 6 September (Cheryl Kanes and Kathy Miller, m. ob.), with 2 there on 7 September (Ken Blankenship, Nathan Farnau). Two were seen at Bostwick Sod Farm, Morgan Co., on 18-19 September (Rebecca Byrd, Ken Blankenship), one was at ELHLAF on 20 September (Rusty Trump, m. ob.), and 2 were at AP on 2 October (Jim Flynn).

WILSON'S PLOVER - The highest count was 35 seen on CINS on 27 August (Ken Blankenship, Joel McNeal).

PIPING PLOVER - The highest count was 18 birds from Wolf Island and Little Egg Island Bar on 23 September (Tim Keyes).

AMERICAN OYSTERCATCHER - The highest count was 424 on Wolf Island on 24 October (Tim Keyes).

AMERICAN AVOCET - Inland records included 21 birds at WPD on 6 September (Walt Chambers), 3 in Dougherty Co. on 12 September (Alan Ashley), 9 at CLRL on 16 September (Cheryl Kanes, m. ob.), 2 on Magruder Lake, Burke Co., on 23 September (Jim Flynn), and a new inland high count of 32 at ELHLAF on 17 October (Paul Raney, m. ob.).



American Avocets, Clayton Co., 17 October, by Carol Lambert

SPOTTED SANDPIPER - A late bird was seen at CSU on 10 November (Rebecca Byrd, m. ob.).

SOLITARY SANDPIPER - A late bird was seen at BUENWR on 10 November (Stephen Barlow).

UPLAND SANDPIPER - This species was present at MSS from 1 August to 5

September (m. ob.) with a maximum count of 18 on 21 August (Ken Blankenship, Rebecca Byrd). Only one other report was received, that of a lone bird seen at Titan Turf Farm, Bulloch Co., on 13 August (Cameron Cox, Lauren Deaner).

WHIMBREL - The Georgia-tagged Chinquapin survived flying within 100 miles of the eye of Hurricane Irene on 24 August (*vide* Tim Keyes).

LONG-BILLED CURLEW - Three were seen on LSSI on 14 August (m. ob.), and one was on Raccoon Key, Camden Co., on 7 October (m. ob.). Nine seen on Little Egg Island Bar, McIntosh Co., on 14 October (Tim Keyes) constitutes a new state high count.



Long-billed Curlews, McIntosh Co., 14 October, by Tim Keyes

MARBLED GODWIT - The highest count was 142 recorded on Little Egg Island Bar on 12 October (Tim Keyes).

RUDDY TURNSTONE - A number of inland birds were reported this season. One was at Bostwick Sod Farm, Morgan Co., on 6-7 August (Mark Freeman, m. ob.), 3 were on the BCL on 6 September (Cheryl Kanes and Kathy Miller, m. ob.), with one seen there on 10 September (Krista Gridley, Joel McNeal). Two were seen at Lake Horton, Fayette Co., on 9 September (Eric Beohm), and one was at Magruder Lake, Burke Co., on 23 September (Jim Flynn).

RED KNOT - 5000 were on Wolf Island on 23 September (Tim Keyes).

SANDERLING - Inland, 4 were at WPD on 6 September (Walt Chambers), 3 were on the BCL on 6-7 September with one persisting until 10 September (m. ob.), one was at ELHLAF on 7 September (Jeff Sewell), and one was at Lake Varner, Walton Co., on 9 September (Patrick Brisse, Hugh Garrett, Jeff Sewell).

WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER - Five were on the BCL on 6 September (Joel McNeal, m. ob.), with 12 there on 7 September (Ken Blankenship, Nathan Farnau), and one on 10 September (Krista Gridley, Joel McNeal). One was at Braswell Church Road, Walton Co., on 11-12 September (Patrick Brisse, Hugh Garrett, Jeff Sewell), 11 were at Lake Oconee, Greene Co., on 11 September (Jeff Sewell), and one was on LSSI on 1 October (Giff Beaton, m. ob.), with 2 there on 8 October (Bill Lotz).

BAIRD'S SANDPIPER - Two were on the BCL on 7 September (Joel McNeal, Bob Sattelmeyer). An amazing 7 were on LSSI on 1 October, constituting a new

state high count (Giff Beaton, m. ob.). Three were seen in ponds in Twiggs Co. on 3 October (Walt Chambers).

PECTORAL SANDPIPER - An excellent count of 250 was recorded from MSS on 21 August (Ken Blankenship, Rebecca Byrd). A fairly late bird was seen on the BCL on 14 November (Joel McNeal).

DUNLIN - Inland reports were received of one bird from ELHLAF on 29 October (Jeff Sewell), 12 at MBBP on 12 November (Lois Stacey) increasing to 16 on 13 November (Nathan Farnau) through the end of the period, one from the BCL on 5-14 November (Ken Blankenship, m. ob.), and 2 at WPD on 5 November (Patty McLean).

CURLEW SANDPIPER - One was seen on LSSI on 14 August (m. ob.; ph., GCRC 2011-30A-E).

STILT SANDPIPER - Reported widely throughout the state this season, the highest count for the period was 28 on LSSI on 1 October (Giff Beaton, m. ob.).

BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER - Widely reported throughout the state during the period. The species was present at MSS from 1-28 August (m. ob.) with a maximum count of 5 recorded on 6 August (Patty McLean, Jeff Sewell). Five were also seen at Bostwick Sod Farm, Morgan Co., on 5 September (Mirko Basen, Mark Freeman, Richard Hall), with 3 birds remaining there until 23 September.

WILSON'S PHALAROPE - Six were seen on LSSI on 1 September (ph., *vide* Lydia Thompson), with 5 there on 1 October (Giff Beaton, m. ob.). Two were at ELHLAF on 12-21 September (Kathy Miller, m. ob.).

RED-NECKED PHALAROPE - Two juveniles were found on the BCL on 6-7 September (Jim and Allison Healy, m. ob.). One was at Braswell Church Road, Walton Co., on 9 September (Jeff Sewell), and another was at Magruder Lake, Burke Co., on 23 September (Jim Flynn).

LAUGHING GULL - One was seen at Lake Lanier, Forsyth Co., on 6 September (Jim Flynn), and one was at LWFG on 20 November (Nathan Farnau, Joel McNeal).

FRANKLIN'S GULL - One was on TI on 22-23 October (Cameron Cox).



Franklin's Gull, Chatham Co., 23 October, by Diana Churchill

HERRING GULL - Inland, a juvenile was at Hartwell Dam, Hart Co., on 29 August (Jim Flynn).

SOOTY TERN - Seven were seen during a pelagic

trip from TI on 13 August (m. ob.). One was seen from CINS on 27 August (Ken Blankenship, Doug Hoffman, Joel McNeal) and 3 were at Lake Lanier on 6-8 September (Jim Flynn, Mark McShane).

BRIDLED TERN - Seven were observed during a pelagic trip from TI on 13 August (m. ob.).

CASPIAN TERN - Inland, 2 were at PSNP on 27 August (Anne Waters), one was in Baker Co. on 31 August (Nathan Farnau), 8 were at CLRL on 7 September (Josh Spence), and one was still there on 12 September (Max Medley).

BLACK TERN - Following the tropical storm, 6 were at CLRL (Chuck Saleeby), one was at ELHLAF (Bob Sattelmeyer), 10 were at WPD (Walt Chambers), and one was seen on the BCL (Joel McNeal, m. ob.), all on 6 September. At least 16 were seen at Lake Lanier (Jim Flynn), 14 were at CLRL (Josh Spence), and 8 were seen at Lake Acworth, Cobb Co. (Chuck Saleeby), all on 7 September. Other inland reports were received of 13 at Hartwell Dam, Hart Co., on 29 August (Jim Flynn), and one in Baker Co. on 2 September (Alan Ashley).

COMMON TERN - Nine were seen on the BCL on 6 September (m. ob.). The high count was 60 seen on CINS on 27 August (Ken Blankenship, Joel McNeal).

FORSTER'S TERN - Inland, one was at Hartwell Dam, Hart Co., on 29 August (Jim Flynn), 3 were at WPD on 6 September (Walt Chambers) with 12 there on 21 November (Nathan Farnau, Joel McNeal), one was on the BCL on 6 September (Joel McNeal, m. ob.), 3 were at CLRL on 7 September (Josh Spence), and one was at Magruder Lake on 23 September (Jim Flynn).

PARASITIC JAEGER - One was seen off Wolf Island on 11 November (Chris Depkin, Tim Keyes, Beth Stevenson) and one was seen from JI on 27 November (m. ob.).

WHITE-WINGED DOVE - One was reported from Valdosta on 26 September (Linda Most), and one was on JI on 15-28 October (Charlie Muise, m. ob.).



White-winged Dove, Glynn Co., 23 October, by Larry Gridley

BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO - One was at CSU on 7 September (Hugh and Liz Garrett, m. ob.). Another was in HP on 19 September (Jeff Sewell).



Black-billed Cuckoo, Cobb Co., 7 September, by Gene Koziara

NORTHERN SAW-WHET OWL - Individuals were banded in Lamar Co. on 17 and 30 November (ph., Charlie Muise).

COMMON NIGHTHAWK - An impressive 500 birds were seen feeding on flying ants near Cartersville, Bartow Co., on 13 September (Joel McNeal).

BUFF-BELLIED HUMMINGBIRD - A banded bird (presumably a returning individual) was seen at a private residence on JI from mid October until the end of the period (*fide* RBA; GCRC 2011-23).

BLACK-CHINNED HUMMINGBIRD - One was banded on SSI on 15 November and was still present at the end of the month (*fide* Patty McLean.).

RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD - A fascinating observation of a male piercing holes in tomatoes, perhaps to drink the juice, was recorded in early August in Culloden. This behavior might represent an adaptation to drought conditions, which persisted during that month (Nathan Klaus).

CALLIOPE HUMMINGBIRD - A hatch-year male was banded near Blairsville, Union Co., on 5 November (Rusty Trump, GCRC 2011-38).

Calliope Hummingbird, Union Co., 5 November, by Rusty Trump



RUFIOUS HUMMINGBIRD - An early migrant was recorded in Ashburn, Turner Co., on 10 September (ph., Jim Yarborough).

OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER - One was at CSU from 30 August - 7 September (Mark Davis, m. ob.). The same bird or another individual was at CSU during 14 -15 September, and again on 2 October. Another was found at the Georgia International Horse Park, Rockdale Co., on 2 September (Nathan Farnau). Two were observed at KMT on 4 September (Brad Bergstrom), and 2 were at Ocmulgee National Monument, Bibb Co., on 8 September (Thomas Price, m. ob.).

YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER - First reported from BUENWR on 25 August (Walt Chambers), and last reported from CSU on 30 September (Bill Lotz, Jeff Sewell). Two birds were at CLRL on 17-18 September (m. ob.).

ACADIAN FLYCATCHER - One was at Harris Neck NWR, McIntosh Co., on 7 October, representing a new late date for the coast (Steve Fox, Doug Thigpen).

ALDER FLYCATCHER - Vocalizing individuals were seen at Little Lake Herrick, Clarke Co., on 9 September (Mirko Basen, Richard Hall, Jim Hanna; ph., GCRC 2011-36), and Lloyd Creek, Lincoln Co., on 10 September (Jim Flynn; GCRC 2011-34).

WILLOW FLYCATCHER - One was banded at Panola Mountain SP, Rockdale Co., on 27 August (Charlie Muise). Vocalizing birds were reported from Little Mulberry Park, Gwinnett Co., on 11 September (Bill Lotz, Patty McLean) and CLRL on 17-18 September (m. ob.).

LEAST FLYCATCHER - The species was first reported on 28 August from CSU (Nathan Farnau) and last reported from Ocmulgee National Monument, Bibb Co., on 14 October (Trey McCuen).

VERMILION FLYCATCHER - One was located at AWMA on 25 November (Gene Keferl, m. ob.).



Vermilion Flycatcher, McIntosh Co., 25 November, by Mike Chapman

GRAY KINGBIRD - Two were seen in downtown Savannah on 10 August (Diana Churchill, Stephen Fox); two were on TI on 12 August (Diana Churchill); three were on the SSI pier on 12 August (Jim Healy); three were in Brunswick on 14 August (Krista Gridley, Joel McNeal), and one was at AIC on 26 August (Alan Ashley).

SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER - One was at AP on 20 August (Jim Flynn), and one was found on TI on 9 November (Sandy Beasley, Brenda Brannen).

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, Chatham Co., 9 November, by Diana Churchill



BELL'S VIREO - A singing bird was found on KMT on 13 September (Bob Zaremba, pending, GCRC 2011-43).

WARBLING VIREO - Single birds were seen at CLRL on 11-23 September (m. ob.), with 2 there on 17 September (Ken Blankenship, Joel McNeal). One was at CSU on 3 October (Ken Blankenship).

PHILADELPHIA VIREO - First reported from CRNRA on 11 September (Patrick Addy, Jim and Allison Healy). A late bird was in the author's yard in

Clarke Co. on 2 November (ph., Richard Hall), and another was seen in HP on 8 November, constituting a new state late date (Jeff Sewell).

PROGNE SP. - An intriguing report of one not identified to species was seen on Navy Tower R3 in Georgia pelagic waters on 13 August (m. ob.).

FISH CROW - A large flock of 150 birds was seen at AP on 2 October (Jim Flynn).

TREE SWALLOW - A flock of 21 was seen at Lake Chapman, Clarke Co., on 30 November, which was late for the interior (Mirko Basen), as were 5 seen at PCR the same day (Joel McNeal).

BANK SWALLOW - The highest count of 33 came from Bartow Co. on 4 August (Mark McShane).

BARN SWALLOW - One was still at PSNP on 13 November (Nathan Farnau).

SWAINSON'S THRUSH - An excellent pre-dawn count of 279 was recorded in Greene Co. on 25 September (Paul Sykes). A late bird was seen in the author's yard in Clarke Co. on 3 November (ph., Richard Hall).

BROWN THRASHER - An excellent single-site count of 33 was made at CSU on 3 October (Ken Blankenship).

CEDAR WAXWING - Two were seen at Lake Herrick, Clarke Co., on the rather early date of 27 August (Richard Hall).

LAPLAND LONGSPUR - One was found at West Point Lake, Troup Co., on 5 November (Hans Bucht, Patty McLean, Mark McShane, ph., GCRC 2011-39).



Lapland Longspur, Troup Co., 5 November, by Larry Gridley

OVENBIRD - The last report of this species was from COP on 19 November (Gene Koziara).

NORTHERN WATERTHRUSH - One was at AWMA on 9 November (Bob Zaremba).

GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER - First reported from HP on 29 August (Hugh Garrett). The high count was 4 on Cook's Trail, Clarke Co., on 2 October (Nathan Farnau, Joel McNeal). One seen at COP on 4 October was the 28th warbler species recorded for this small urban park (Nathan Farnau).

BLUE-WINGED WARBLER - One was on KMT on the relatively early date of 7 August (Patrick Addy, Jim and Allison Healy).

PROTHONOTARY WARBLER - A fairly late bird observed on KMT on 22 September was only the third fall record for the site (Giff Beaton). Two were in JF Gregory Park, Bryan Co., on 28 September (Steve Fox). Birds were banded

on JIBS on 12 and 14 October (Evan Pitman), the latter representing a new late date for the coast.

TENNESSEE WARBLER - Several birds were observed throughout the state into early November. One was at CLRL on 6 November (Ken Blankenship, Theresa Hartz), a new late date for the Ridge and Valley Region. Eleven were still in COP on 11 November, with 5 still there on 26 November (Nathan Farnau).

NASHVILLE WARBLER - First reported from CRNRA on 11 September (Patrick Addy, Jim and Allison Healy) and last recorded at CLRL on 6 November (Ken Blankenship, Theresa Hartz). The latter represented a new late date for the Ridge and Valley Region. One was at Lake Mayer, Chatham Co., on 10-11 October, which was a rare sighting on the coast (Nathan Farnau, Steve Fox, Doug Thigpen).

CONNECTICUT WARBLER - One was seen during a GOS field trip to CINS on 9 October (Gene Keferl, m. ob.).

MOURNING WARBLER - One was found in COP on 22 September (Rich Williams), and was enjoyed by many before its departure on the 27th. Rare on the coast, a bird was caught and banded at the Wormsloe Historic Site, Chatham Co., on 9 October (ph., Emily Cornelius).



Mourning Warbler, Fulton Co., 25 September, by Rich Williams

HOODED WARBLER - A late bird present in a backyard in Hinesville, Liberty Co., until 24 November constituted a new state late date (ph.,

Nicole Janke).

AMERICAN REDSTART - One was in COP from 16-19 November (Gene Koziara).

CAPE MAY WARBLER - A large number of inland records were reported this year. One seen at CLRL on 16 September constituted a new early date for the Ridge and Valley Region (Joshua Spence), and another at the same site on 23 October constituted a new late date for that region (Ken Blankenship, Rebecca Byrd). There were multiple records from Clarke Co., with a maximum of 4 at Lake Herrick on 4 October (Richard Hall), and a late record of 2 birds in the author's yard on 25 October (Richard Hall).

CERULEAN WARBLER - The peak count was 4 birds at KMT on 21 August (Jim Healy). Two were at BUENWR on 6 September, a rare occurrence there (Walt Chambers). The last record of the species for the period was at the Albany Greenway on 15 September (Alan Ashley).

NORTHERN PARULA - One was on JI on the late date of 15 November (Lydia Thompson).

MAGNOLIA WARBLER - Three were still in COP on 26 November (Nathan Farnau).

BAY-BREASTED WARBLER - One recorded in Fannin Co. on 4 November represents a new late date for the Mountain Region (Joe LaFleur).

YELLOW WARBLER - An excellent count of 40 birds was made at AWMA on 28 August (Ken Blankenship, Joel McNeal). A late-staying bird at Lake Herrick, Clarke Co., until 25 October, constituted a new late date for the Piedmont Region (ph., Richard Hall).

BLACKPOLL WARBLER - One was banded at JIBS on 14 October (Evan Pitman). One was found at COP on 16 October (ph., Nathan Farnau), and was joined by a second bird on 20 October, with one remaining until 22 November.

BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER - One was in COP on 11-16 November (Nathan Farnau), and another one was at Harris Neck NWR, McIntosh Co., on 11 November. Aside from a handful of wintering records, the latter report set a new late date for the coast in fall.

PALM WARBLER - An impressive total of 102 were banded at JIBS on 14 October (Evan Pitman).

BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER - A bird recovered in Atlanta after striking a window on 2 November had been banded near Dunnville, Ontario, on 12 October (*fide* Charlie Muise).

WILSON'S WARBLER - First reported from AP on 11 September (Jim Flynn). A late bird was at BUENWR on 20 November (Nathan Farnau, Joel McNeal), and another one was at Ocmulgee National Monument, Bibb Co., on 29-30 November (James Fleullan).

CLAY-COLORED SPARROW - One was found at AWMA on 6 October (Patty McLean, Kathy Miller), with 3 at the same site on 9 October (m. ob.), and one there on 13 November (Gene Keferl, m. ob.). One was on Raccoon Key, Camden Co., on 7 October, and one was at Paradise Public Fishing Area, Berrien Co., on 19 November (ph., Wayne Schaffner).



Clay-colored Sparrow, McIntosh Co., 9 October, by Dan Vickers

LARK SPARROW - One was on JI on 12 August (Jim and Allison Healy).

HENSLOW'S SPARROW - First reported from CSU on 23 October (Nathan Farnau, Joel McNeal). One

was at the Johnson Ferry Unit of CRNRA on 1 November (Jim and Allison Healy). A maximum count of 10 was reported from the regular wintering site at Paulk's Pasture WMA, Glynn Co., on 12 November (Gene Keferl).

LE CONTE'S SPARROW - First reported from Fall Line Sandhills SP, Taylor Co., on 16 October (Max Medley). One was at the South Milledge Fields, Clarke Co., on 4 November (Richard Hall). One was seen at Lake Tobesofkee, Bibb Co., on 12 November (ph., James Fleullan, m. ob.), with a maximum of 6 birds observed there on 20 November. One was seen at AIC and one was at Paulk's Pasture WMA, Glynn Co., both on 12 November (Gene Keferl, m. ob.). One was at AWMA on 13 November (Gene Keferl, m. ob.), and 2 were at the regular wintering site of BUENWR on 25 November (Krista Gridley, Rebecca Byrd, Bob Sattelmeyer).

NELSON'S SPARROW - Two reports of interior-race birds observed away from the coast were received. One was at Sam Smith Park, Bartow Co., on 23 October (Nathan Farnau, Joel McNeal), and one was at Lake Tobesofkee, Bibb Co., on 12 November (ph., James Fleullan, m. ob.).

LINCOLN'S SPARROW - Widely reported during the period. One was observed at Rollins Ranch, Bartow Co., on 17 September (Josh Spence), constituting a new state early date. The last report was of one at CLRL on 24 November (ph., Joel McNeal).

HARRIS'S SPARROW - One was in a backyard in Glennville, Tattnall Co., on 18 November (ph., Gene Wilkinson, GCRC 2011-41).

SUMMER TANAGER - A late bird was seen at McDaniel Farm Park, Gwinnett Co., on 2 November (Jeff Sewell).

BLUE GROSBEAK - A bird seen at Flat Creek Public Fishing Area, Houston Co., on 13 November, represents a new late date for the Coastal Plain (Jim Flynn).

PAINTED BUNTING - One showed up at feeders in Glennville, Tattnall Co., on 25 November, a site where the species has wintered for 9 consecutive years (Gene Wilkinson).

DICKCISSEL - One was at CSU on 7 September (Jim Healy, m. ob.). In Clarke Co., one was at Lake Herrick on 8 September (Richard Hall), and 2 were seen at the South Milledge fields on 9 (Patrick Brisse, Hugh Garrett, Jeff Sewell) and 13 September (Mirko Basen). One was seen in Sam Smith Park, Bartow Co., on 26 October (Nathan Farnau, Joel McNeal).

YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD - Two were found during a GOS field trip to AWMA on 8 October (m. ob.), remaining until 11 October. One was in Camden Co. from 5-16 October (Joseph Knoll).



Yellow-headed Blackbird, McIntosh Co., 9 October, by Joel McNeal

BREWER'S BLACKBIRD - Three were seen on PCR on 19 November (Joel McNeal).

BOAT-TAILED GRACKLE - A flock of 160 recorded in south Lowndes Co. on 30 August was a good inland count (Brad Bergstrom).

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