

Five-striped Sparrows were seen being fed by ads. at Patagonia, Ariz., Sept. 8 (CL & GMo) and Sept. 18 & 19 (TP). The species was observed along the Santa Cruz R. in Sonora about 10 mi. below the border Aug. 27 (SS). Two families of Rufous-crowned Sparrows were still feeding young Oct. 13, about 12 miles e. of Imuris, Sonora (SS & LS). A White-winged Junco was observed at Roll, Nov. 13 & 14 (AR). A Tree Sparrow was identified at Corn Creek, Desert Wildlife Range Oct. 28 (CL; photos). Harris' Sparrows were found as follows: 1 at Boulder City, Oct. 30-Nov. 12 (CL et al.; photos); 1 at Cave Creek, Maricopa Co., Ariz., Nov. 11 & 12 (ER, SD); 1 at Cave Creek, Nov. 15 (EJ, fide ER); and 2 at Corn Creek Nov. 19 (GK & AH). Several White-throated Sparrows were reported: 1 at Tule Springs Park, Oct. 10-Nov. 13 (CL et al.); 1 at Dixon, Oct. 14 (JWh); 1 at Rattlesnake Springs, Eddy Co., N. Mex., Nov. 6 or 7 (FW); 1 at Cave Creek, Nov. 15, 20, 21, & 28 (ER); 2 in the Patagonia area Nov. 25 (SS & RL); 1 in the lower Guadalupe Mtns., Tex., Nov. 28 (FO & RR); and 6 at Rattlesnake Springs Nov. 28 (FO & RR). A Fox Sparrow was found at Rattlesnake Springs Nov. 6 or 7 (FW), and 1 was at Cave Creek Nov. 12-22 (ER). Swamp Sparrows were in s. Nevada: 1 at Tule Springs Park Oct. 11-16 (CL, VM); and 1 at Corn Creek Oct. 17 & 18 (CL, VM). One was found at Quitobaquito, Organ Pipe Cactus Nat'l Monument Oct. 16 (SO & PN), and 6 were at Rattlesnake Springs Nov. 28 (FO & RR). A Chestnut-collared Longspur at Tule Springs Park Nov. 30, is apparently a first record for Nevada (CL).

**CORRIGENDA** — No Ross' Goose was seen in Phoenix (AB 25:780). Prothonotary Warblers date should be July 14 (AB 25:891).

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## ALASKA REGION / Daniel D. Gibson

Fall movements in 1971 were described in various areas of the Region as either on time or late; nowhere were there noticeably early movements. Characteristically, conditions varied a great deal from one part of Alaska to another. Precipitation levels were estimated



to have been above normal in s.e. Alaska, at Glacier Bay Nat'l Monument, at Juneau, and at Kake, but temperatures were generally mild. Elsewhere, however, it was generally cool. In s.w. Alaska, at Cold Bay, five of the preceding eleven months had averaged record lows, and the migration there was later than usual. In the interior, at Fairbanks, there was a heavy leaf fall in mid-September that coincided with a major exodus of numbers of birds, and the first hard freeze (25°F.) occurred on Sept. 27, on time.

A mist-netting operation was conducted by the Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife in alder thickets at Izembek Nat'l Wildlife Range from August to late October, and a very interesting sample of passerine species at the tip of the Alaska Peninsula was captured and banded.

**LOONS, GREBS** — Yellow-billed Loon was not recorded in Glacier Bay Monument waters until Sept. 1 (CLE); last year's first fall arrival, though somewhat early, was noted two weeks earlier. Red-necked Grebes were commented on only from s.e. Alaska, where their numbers increased markedly after Oct. 31 at Kake (CLE). A single W. Grebe was observed at Kake Oct. 28 (LJE).

**GEESE** — Canada Geese were reported on time in most areas. Three small flocks totaling some 120 birds were observed departing Prince William Sound on the extremely late date of Nov. 18 (PI), a full month later than usual. A single Aleutian Canada Goose (*B. c. leucopareia*) was observed at Izembek Nov. 3 (GVB). The majority of Black Brant left Izembek, their princi-

pal staging area, the night of Nov. 7 (GVB).

**DUCKS** — A Blue-winged Teal shot at Pete Dahl Slough, Copper R. delta, Oct. 18 (DK), was the latest local record for the species, possibly the latest for the Region. Four Ring-necked Ducks on Smith Lake, College, Sept. 24 (DDG), were the latest reported from the Fairbanks area. Lesser Scaup are regarded as rare and irregular in the Copper R. delta, so several small flocks totaling 100+ individuals present there in late September and early October were of interest (PI). Eight Com. Goldeneyes, two Barrow's Goldeneyes, and six Buffleheads on Birch L., 56 mi. s.e. of Fairbanks, Oct. 14 (DDG), were among the last to leave before freezeup. Numbers of both goldeneyes built up in bays and inlets in the Juneau area the last week of September, and farther s., at Kake, Com. Goldeneyes were present in small numbers through the end of the period, slightly outnumbering Barrow's. Buffleheads arrived in numbers at Kake Oct. 17 (CLE). Two at Coho beach, Oct. 31 (MAM), were late there. Two hundred Oldsquaws at Birch L., Sept. 25 (FCD), was a good count. This bird normally departs no earlier than necessary. A ♂ Surf Scoter observed in Cold Bay with a flock of White-wingeds and Commons; Nov. 5 (GVB), was the only one seen there during the period.

**HAWKS, FALCONS** — Goshawks were quite common in the interior during September and October. As many as five could be seen along 10 mi. of road in the Fairbanks area, the birds apparently hunting snowshoe hares. A Sharp-skinned Hawk was seen at Kake Nov. 6, intent on flushing juncos from the beach edge (CLE). There are few data on this species from s.e. Alaska. A Gyrfalcon seen in pursuit of a Green-winged Teal at Dans Bay, Hinchinbrook, I., Oct. 7 (PI), is one of few records for the Prince William Sound area.

**COOT, SHOREBIRDS** — An Am. Coot observed at Birch Lake, 56 mi. s.e. of Fairbanks, Oct. 7 (DJS), is the northwesternmost record of a species that is a very rare visitor to interior Alaska. Fall migrant Ruddy Turnstones began arriving in the c. Aleutians the last week of July, and flocks of 10-50 birds were seen daily at Adak I. at least until the third week of August (GVB & DDG). This species lingered later than normal at Cordova, six until Oct. 18 (PI), and a flock of 150+ was seen at Kake, Nov. 12-15 (CLE). The sixth 1971 Adak record of **Wood Sandpiper** was a lone bird observed at close range on a small pool Aug. 25 (GVB & DDG). The only Sharp-tailed Sandpipers reported were two observed in Applegate Cove, Izembek Lagoon, Oct. 17-18 (GVB). A late dowitcher (sp.) was seen near Nelson Lagoon, Alaska Peninsula, Oct. 23 (GVB). Ten Bar-tailed Godwits seen at Pt. Hope, Aug. 23 (VMM), were the only mention of the species this fall. A **Ruff** was collected from a small group of sandpipers on St. George I., Pribilofs, Aug. 27 (JHL; specimen to U.A.). The status of this bird is not completely clear; it appears to be a regular rare fall visitor to various Bering Sea islands, much rarer and less regular in spring. A Sanderling at Clam Lagoon, Adak, Aug. 22 (GVB & DDG), was the earliest fall arrival there. A few were seen at Coho until Oct. 23 (MAM). The peak of *N. Phalaropes* in Sitakaday Narrows, Glacier Bay Monument, was 8000+ on Aug. 25; flock size diminished thereafter (CLE).

**GULLS, TERNS** — Large concentrations of Black-legged Kittiwakes attracted to Bartlett Cove, Glacier Bay Monument, in early summer by runs of smelt, capelin, sandlance, young cod, and sand fish persisted through August. By mid-August the flock included some 2000 birds, with many immatures appearing from Aug. 7 on. By Aug. 25 the flock had grown to 6000+ birds, but by Sept. 3 it had diminished to only 250+ individuals (CLE). Kittiwakes and Bonaparte's Gulls were abundant at Shelter I., Juneau, Sept. 26; and there were 100+ kittiwakes and 500+ Bonaparte's in the harbor at Kake Oct. 3. The kittiwakes remained until mid-October, then departed (CLE). Arriving at Pt. Barrow Sept. 29, the irrepressible George E. Hall managed to just beat the freezeup and observe several dozen Ross' Gulls, mostly immatures, at Elson Lagoon, Oct. 1-3. Days later the area froze, and these elusive birds disappeared from Alaskan waters for another year. Arctic and Aleutian Terns departed abruptly from Adak this year. No Aleutian Terns were seen after the last days of July, and the Arctics had completely disappeared by Aug. 6 (GVB & DDG). The last Arctic Terns at Glacier Bay were two Aug. 29 (CLE).

**DOVES, OWLS** — Four Mourning Doves were observed at the Juneau airport Sept. 24 (CLE & LJE). To the writer's knowledge there is no Alaska breeding record, but the species appears to be annual in s.e. Alaska, a vagrant elsewhere in the Region. A few Hawk Owls were noted in the interior during October, but the species remains dispersed, following the heavy snows of October 1970. The wide-ranging Short-eared Owl is a scarce transient in the Aleutians; thus one seen at Adak Aug. 19 (DDG) and one seen there a few weeks later (GVB) were of interest.

**HUMMINGBIRDS** — The third or fourth record in the Region, and the first one n. of s.e. Alaska, a ♂ **Anna's Hummingbird** was carefully studied and photographed at a feeder in Cordova from Nov. 13 through the end of the reporting period (PI & JDS). Rufous Hummingbirds were reported much later than normal in s.e. Alaska, though the species has overwintered in s.e. Alaska. One was seen on shipboard in Hinchinbrook Entrance, Prince William Sound, Oct. 13 (JDS), and one was present at a Cordova feeder until Oct. 26 (LP).

**FLYCATCHERS, SWALLOWS** — There are few data on fall departures for Alaskan *Empidonax* flycatchers. A Hammond's Flycatcher observed at College, Aug. 25 (BK), was rather late; but two Hammond's seen at Livengood, Sept. 5 (DP), were indeed interesting. Unidentified birds of this genus were abundant at Auke L., Juneau, Sept. 14-20 (CLE). An exceptionally late Bank Swallow was observed at Coho, Sept. 6 (MAM). Very few have ever been recorded there after Aug. 10!

**CHICKADEES, NUTHATCHES** — Black-capped Chickadees were present in the interior in particularly good numbers during October and early November (BK, et al.). Elsewhere, a ♂ banded at Izembek Aug. 19 (EPB) was a first record for that area; a 'wave' of them passed through the e. Prince William Sound area, through an area in which the species was not known, in September and October (PI); and they were more

common than usual on the Copper R. delta at the end of the period (PI). There were two very interesting extralimital occurrences of **Red-breasted Nuthatches** this fall. One was observed about building eaves at Nelson Lagoon, ca. 225 mi. s.w. of tree limit on the Alaska Peninsula, from late August until Oct. 19 (fide GVB); and the other was seen by numerous observers, and adequately photographed, at a suet feeder just w. of College, Sept. 28-Nov. 14 (DLC, et al.), the first record of the bird in the interior.

**THRUSHES** — Single Robins and Varied Thrushes were observed in the Cordova area until the end of the period (PI). They are rare and irregular winter visitants in that area. Late records in the interior included a Robin Nov. 8 (DJS) and a Varied Thrush Oct. 2 (DDG), both at Fairbanks. Two Gray-cheeked Thrushes banded at Izembek, one Sept. 1 and one Sept. 5 (EPB), provide the southwesternmost records in the Region. An imm. **Wheatear** collected near L. Adak, Aug. 22 (GVB & DDG; specimen to U.A.), was the first definite record for the Aleutian Is. The species is known to cross the Bering Sea over several degrees of latitude, but the Adak bird is the southernmost record of such a westbound transient.

**SYLVIDS, PIPITS, SHRIKES** — An Arctic Warbler was collected at College, Aug. 21 (BK; specimen to U.A.). This bird is a rare, or at least poorly known, transient through that area. Two Water Pipits observed on Adak, Sept. 30 (GVB), were only the second record of the species there. Although Water Pipits are common in the easternmost islands and on the Alaska mainland, and the species occurs in the Commander Is., a hiatus exists: pipits are almost unknown in the c. and w. Aleutians. The latest N. Shrike at Ambler, on the Kobuk R., was noted Oct. 16 (OW). This species overwinters in the interior in very small numbers, and apparently not annually.

**STARLINGS, WOOD WARBLERS** — Starlings are vagrants in most of the Region, but they are apparently locally resident in s.e. Alaska. They were mentioned as present during the period at Kake (CLE) and at Ketchikan (SOM). Four **Orange-crowned Warblers** were banded at Izembek between Aug. 31 and Sept. 7 (EPB). They were the first records of the species there. The latest one reported in the interior was seen on the University of Alaska campus, College, Oct. 5 (IWA). A late Myrtle Warbler was observed just n. of College, Oct. 3 (BK), and a Townsend's Warbler seen in the same area on Aug. 22 (BK) was of interest because there are few fall dates at all for this species at the n. edge of its range. Townsend's and Wilson's Warblers arrived at Bartlett Cove, Glacier Bay Monument, in some numbers on Aug. 26, moved rapidly through in close flocks of 20 or so birds, and they were gone by Sept. 1 (CLE). The latter species was conspicuous at Auke Bay Sept. 14, but it was not seen after the 16th (CLE). Blackpoll Warblers were moving in the College-Fairbanks area, Aug. 21, with 8-12 seen together (BK). A **Northern Waterthrush** banded at Izembek, Aug. 30 (EPB), was another first record for that area. There was a movement of Wilson's Warblers through the College-Fairbanks area on Aug. 17, and the last one reported there was seen on Sept. 23 (BK).

**ICTERIDS, FRINGILLIDS** — Hundreds of Rusty Blackbirds were seen at Healy L., near Delta Junction, Sept. 28 (TH), and the latest record in the interior was of one seen at mi. 60 Taylor Hwy., Oct. 22 (DJS). This species made news in the Izembek area when two were seen at Russell Creek, Sept. 24 (EPB). Several small flocks regularly observed at the end of the reporting period in Prince William Sound, at Cordova, and on the Copper R. delta will probably attempt to overwinter, as this species has done in irregular winters past (PI). Pine Grosbeaks were numerous in the interior until mid-October, and some small flocks were present through the end of the reporting period. On the Copper R. delta the species was described as more abundant than usual from September through the end of the period (PI). The last Pine Grosbeaks recorded at Ambler were heard on Oct. 23 (OW). Redpolls at Ambler were all the Hoary species by mid-November, in flocks of up to 40 (OW). Com. Redpolls were recorded later than expected in the Izembek area. The last bird was banded Nov. 27; last year's final bird was captured Oct. 9 (EPB & GVB). No one even mentioned crossbills this fall. A Savannah Sparrow was reported late at Cohoe Oct. 23 (MAM). Slate-colored Juncos moved through the Cohoe area in numbers at the end of August and in very early September (MAM). Late individuals were present in that area on Nov. 6, near Cohoe beach (MAM), and Nov. 12, in Cohoe (CL & FL, fide MAM). In the interior the species was seen in the College-Fairbanks area in some numbers during the last week of September and irregularly to the third week of October (FH). The latest report in the interior was of one seen in College, Nov. 23 (IWA & MA). **Tree Sparrows** banded at Izembek on Sept. 13 and Oct. 5 (EPB & GVB) were an addition to the refuge list. A few White-crowned Sparrows remained in the Fairbanks area until the last week of September (FH, BK); the latest birds were two just n. of College, Nov. 6 (RSH), and one on the university campus, Nov. 9 (JHL). A late Fox Sparrow seen w. of Fairbanks, Oct. 3 (DDG), was eclipsed by one that briefly visited a Fairbanks feeder, Oct. 21-24 (FH). Lincoln's Sparrows were noted at Auke L., near Juneau, Sept. 14 (CLE), and late in the Fairbanks area on Sept. 18 (VM).

**CORRIGENDA** — The Wood Sandpiper taken by Johnson (*AB*, 25: 785, 1971) was deposited in the San Bernardino County Museum, not the University of Alaska collections as stated. Although the regional editor took numerous photos of the Com. Pochards in June, as stated, the fine published photo credited to him (*AB*, 25: 894, 1971) was in fact taken by David L. Johnson, in May 1971.

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