

A United States record of the Black-tailed Godwit.—On 23 April 1967 a Black-tailed Godwit (*Limosa limosa*) was discovered on a wet hilltop pasture on Horseneck Road in Dartmouth, Bristol County, Massachusetts. The godwit, found by Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Fernandez, was subsequently seen by fifty or more persons, all of whom had excellent opportunities to observe it closely (200 to 500 feet), as it fed in a spring-flooded field.

The area in which the bird was found is on the southeastern Massachusetts coast and is largely rural, the landscape being made up of roughly equal proportions of open fields and woodlands. The Atlantic Ocean (Buzzard's Bay) lies about a mile to the south.

When first discovered and for nearly a week thereafter, the bird was thought to be a Hudsonian Godwit (*Limosa haemastica*), a presumptive identification based on the fact that the bird wasn't a Marbled Godwit (*Limosa fedoa*). Although it had the bold black-and-white tail pattern, it clearly was not a Hudsonian Godwit, as can be seen in the color and black-and-white photographs (see frontispiece and Figure 1). The following characteristics separate the two godwits:

Hudsonian

- 1) extensive chestnut underparts; barred undertail coverts.
- 2) legs blue
- 3) underwing coverts blackish

Black-tailed

- 1) rusty orange on chin, neck and upper breast. Whitish unmarked belly, flank, and undertail coverts. Faint suggestion of stripes on flanks.
- 2) legs blackish
- 3) underwing coverts white

An Upland Plover (*Bartramia longicauda*) and a Golden Plover (*Pluvialis dominica*), both of which are rare spring migrants and traditionally considered storm-diverted birds in southeastern Massachusetts at that season, arrived on the same date as the Black-tailed Godwit, but no readily-apparent storm system was associated with the three species' appearance.



Figure 1. Black-tailed Godwit with wings upraised showing the white wing-linings. (From color photograph by Gilbert Fernandez taken in Dartmouth, Massachusetts, 29 April 1967.)

To the best of my knowledge this is the first record of a Black-tailed Godwit for the United States and the second record for North America (the first, a female taken at Placentia Bay, Newfoundland, 20 May 1954, was referred to the Iceland race (*Limosa limosa islandica*) by L. M. Tuck, *Auk*, 85: 304-311, 1968).—JAMES BAIRD, *Massachusetts Audubon Society, Lincoln, Massachusetts 01773*.

First specimen of the Rough-legged Hawk from Alabama.—On 13 December 1967 I collected a Rough-legged Hawk, *Buteo lagopus*, 2 miles southeast of Montgomery, Montgomery County, Alabama. The bird, an immature female in the light phase and now in the State Conservation Department collection, was first sighted on 11 December and again on 12 December. Although Imhof (*Alabama birds*, University, Alabama, Univ. Alabama Press, 1962) lists five sight records for Alabama from 1951 through 1960, this is the first specimen record for the state. The A.O.U. Checklist (Fifth edit., 1957) lists the species as wintering casually to Texas, Louisiana, Tennessee, and Georgia.—ROBERT W. SKINNER, *State Conservation Department, Montgomery, Alabama 36104*.

Anna's Hummingbird in west Texas.—We collected the second Texas specimen of Anna's Hummingbird (*Calypte anna*) 5 November 1967 near Santa Elena Canyon in Big Bend National Park, Brewster County, in typical Rio Grande floodplain habitat where mesquite (*Prosopis juliflora* and *P. pubescens*), willow (*Salix*), and *Tamarisk* are dominant. A small stand of tree tobacco (*Nicotiana glauca*) nearby was the only food source evident in the vicinity, except for numerous small insects.

On 10 November Wauer found two hummingbirds together in a similar habitat at Rio Grande Village, Big Bend Park; one was an immature male Anna's, the other a female assumedly of the same species. Further exploring of this habitat 3 miles down river at Boquillas revealed two additional species of Trochilides feeding on the tree tobacco flowers, a lone female Lucifer (*Calothorax lucifer*) and three male Broadtails (*Selasphorus platycercus*). Several Lucifers were seen near flowering tree tobacco at Rio Grande Village all through October. Continued observations at these localities showed that *C. anna* remained until 30 November when two immature males were seen at Boquillas. One adult male and two immature Rufous Hummingbirds (*Selasphorus rufus*) were seen at Boquillas by Wauer, Francis Williams, Sarah Russell, and John Weske 25 November. Broad-tails remained at Boquillas through 17 December despite two severe cold fronts that brought snow, sleet, and rain to west Texas and Big Bend National Park 8 to 16 December.

The Anna specimen (Big Bend National Park Museum no. 3963) is a male in juvenal plumage; it had a partially ossified skull, was moderately fat, and weighed 4.9 g. The only other Texas record of *C. anna* is one Van Tyne and Sutton (*Univ. Michigan, Mus. Zool., Misc. Publ.* 37: 44, 1937) obtained at 5,400 feet elevation in the Chisos Mountains of Big Bend National Park 23 October 1936. Phillips, Marshall, and Monson (*The birds of Arizona*, Tucson, Univ. Arizona Press, 1964: 63) refer to the species as a migrant "in rather small numbers into southern Arizona in September and early October and winters there until December and rarely to early March." Apparently the above four species of Trochilids are rare fall and winter visitors to west Texas as well.—ROLAND H. WAUER, *Big Bend National Park, Texas 79834*, and MICHAEL KENT RYLANDER, *Texas Technicological College, Lubbock, Texas 79400*.