

The Autumn Migration

August 1 — November 30, 1980

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 fall was generally warm and dry in August and the first three weeks of September. It then turned colder with above average precipitation in October. Continual northwest winds in late September and early October forced birds out off the coast—most of these migrants continued south unimpeded by poor weather. Veit's comments concerning migrants on Nantucket Island hold true for the entire coast of New England and the Maritimes. "Two basic conditions are necessary for the arrival of drifted migrants to Nantucket: 1) predominant airflow from the west or northwest across much of the North American continent and 2) a meteorological barrier such as rain, fog, or a low ceiling of heavy cloud cover...preventing migrants from continuing any further."

In New Brunswick, Kent Island banders considered the warbler migration to be 7-10 days later than in 1979, the first sizable wave this year occurring August 17. But MacTavish felt the October migration on Seal Island, Nova Scotia, to be earlier than usual "...migration was quick, early and all at once. Seal Island was continually being kept alive by wave after wave of fresh migrants."

Manomet Bird Observatory (hereafter, M.B.O.) experienced its busiest fall banding since 1971, recording data on 10,433 birds, which was 44% above the previous 8-year average. By contrast, Kent Island registered a 30% decline in birds per net hour as compared to 1979. Kent Island banders noted "conspicuous declines" in Yellow-bellied Flycatcher and Least Flycatcher numbers whereas Manomet registered a 110% increase over 1979 in *Empidonax* flycatchers. Need it be emphasized further, generalities about the fall migration can share a certain kinship to walking out on increasingly thinner and thinner ice.

Reporting coverage was generally excellent although centralized records from Connecticut and New Brunswick were entirely absent. It should be noted that a number of June-July records from Nova Scotia—unavailable earlier—are included in this report.

LOONS, GREBES—Loon migration in the Region never, apparently, achieves the proportions on the W Coast; 100+ Com. Loons at Hemcon's Head, N.S., Sept. 2 and 60+ off Seal I., N.S., Oct. 25 (BMacT) were notable counts. Unique this season was a thoroughly described Arctic Loon at Kittery Pt., Me., Oct. 11 (DJA *et al.*), providing the fourth documented state record. Interestingly, two of the previous three Maine records occurred at precisely the same locality. The possibility of the same individual wintering, or lingering in that area through the fall cannot be ignored. A breeding-plumaged Red-necked Grebe off Cow Head, N.S., July 14 was obviously out of season (*fide* CRKA).

TUBENOSES—Northern Fulmar never appeared in the numbers observed during the previous 2 summers. Moderate fulmar counts with a maximum of 100+ off Lobster Bay, N.S., June 4 (*fide* RBBB) indicated a scattered presence. A high count of only 29 fulmar from the "Bluenose" Oct. 3 was low compared to the previous 2 years (PDV *et al.*). Conversely, for the second consecutive

summer Cory's Shearwater was found well n. of its usual limits; 40-50 were noted off George's Banks (RBBB); in the Gulf of Maine, 25 were seen s.e. of Mt. Desert I., Aug. 5 and a maximum of 12 was observed from the "Bluenose" Aug. 10 (NF, DWF, PDV *et al.*). Exceptional Cory's Shearwaters included an individual closely scrutinized off Machias Seal I., N.B., Aug. 9 (NF *et al.*), one of few provincial records, and perhaps more startling were 18 Cory's carefully identified in Cabot Strait on the N. Sydney, N.S.—Portaux-Basques, Nfld. ferry Aug. 9 (SIT). Again warm surface temperatures seemed related to this N shift. Considering the above, it does not come as a complete surprise that another warm water tubenose, Audubon's Shearwater was well observed and carefully identified from the "Bluenose" approximately 1+ hrs out of Yarmouth, N.S., Aug. 27 (BC *et al.*). The description reasonably eliminates the possibility of the closely related Little Shear-



water (*P. assimilis*), for which there are "Bluenose" sight records July 1971 (see *AB* 25:5:830). This summer's "Bluenose" Audubon's Shearwater provided only a second record from the Gulf of Maine, the first from the "Bluenose" and, apparently, furnished only a third Canadian record. Equally interesting was another Nova Scotia report, this of a Manx Shearwater believed to have been of the e. Mediterranean subspecies *P.p. yellow-an* noted on the n.e. edge of George's Bank June 25 (RGG). Forty Manx Shearwaters were observed at Stellwagen Bank, Mass., Sept. 13 (*vide RPE*).

CORMORANTS THROUGH IBISES—Some 1000+ Great Cormorants in Boston harbor Nov. 23 was quite the largest concentration ever in the Region and probably in North America (*vide RAF*). A ♀ **Magnificent Frigatebird** was seen soaring over Matthew's L., Shelburne Co., n.s., Sept. 1 (*vide RGG*). In August imm. yellow-crowned Night Herons ventured N in impressive numbers: no fewer than five were seen at as many Maine localities, most notably four in the e. part of the state (v.o., *vide PDV*); five birds occurred in Nova Scotia (one adult, one in late July) (*vide FS*); a single bird was studied on Machias Seal I., N.B., Aug. 8 (*PDV et al.*). In w. Massachusetts a Glossy Ibis was a notably late lingerer in Richmond Nov. 4-5 (*vide SK*) while in Connecticut imm. White Ibises have become almost regular; a single was noted in Lordship Aug. 30 (*SS et al.*).

WATERFOWL, DIURNAL RAPTORS—The Snow Goose migration either never materialized or passed unnoticed. No large flights were reported. The season's rare duck was a ♂ **Cinnamon Teal** in eclipse plumage on Brier I., Aug. 26-Sept. 1 (*ELM et al.*), furnishing a first provincial record. Eur. Wigeon occurred on Plum and Nantucket I., Mass., and Echo L., R.I. In Newfoundland a carefully identified ♂ **Lesser Scaup** was rare at the mouth of the Grand Codroy R. (hereafter, G.C.R.) Oct. 15-20 (*SIT*).

Ten Turkey Vultures in Saco, Me., Sept. 13 (*LT*) were probably local breeders. New England Golden Eagles numbered six individuals *c.f.* nine in 1979. Peregrine Falcon reports, although incomplete, slipped from last year's high of 228+ to 138 individuals (*cf.* 80-90, 149, 78, 102, 228+). In Nova Scotia a pair of Peregrine Falcons was observed in July exchanging food and displaying in a manner suggestive of possible breeding. No nesting was confirmed (*vide FS*).

CRANES THROUGH COOT—A Sandhill Crane photographed in S. Windsor, Conn., Aug. 24-Sept. 28 quite likely provided a first documented state record (*PJD et mult al., ph.*). Another Sandhill Crane occurred on Nantucket I., Oct. 8-22 (*RRV et al.*) and a third, undetailed report came from Perry, Me., Oct. 26 (*vide WCT*). Yellow Rails made big news this fall. Road-killed specimens were found in Provincetown, Mass., Sept. 14 (*vide RAF*) and Matunuck, R.I., Oct. 13 (*vide DE*). A particularly amiable Yellow Rail delighted many Connecticut birders as it was readily observed for several days in October near Lordship (*vide NSP*). On Oct. 26, WRP made effective use of the highest flood tides in recent years to skirt the exten-

sive Nauset Beach marshes in Eastham, Mass., and was rewarded with one of those elusive fall migrants, a Yellow Rail. A Black Rail, locality unstated, was apparently shot in Connecticut this fall (*vide NSP*). A road-killed imm. Purple Gallinule was found in Beverly, Mass., Sept. 4 and a second individual frequented Great Meadows N.W.R., in Concord, Mass., Sept. 7-13 (*vide RAF*). Two Am. Coot were rare near Doyles, Nfld., Oct. 4-20 (*SIT*).

SHOREBIRDS—Six New England Am. Avocets were above average. Four occurred in Massachusetts; a pair at Plum I., and singles at Monomoy I., and Truro. In Maine single Am. Avocets were rare in S. Harpswell Aug. 24 and Georgetown Aug. 26 (*vide PDV*).

S.A.

No doubt the most significant shorebird observations came from L'Anse-aux-Meadows, Nfld., where BMacT critically identified two **Ringed Plovers** (*Charadrius hiaticula*). The first bird, an adult, was found Aug. 24 & 28. Visibly larger than Semipalmated Plover, with sharply defined facial markings, a broader black chest band and the distinct absence of webbing between the inner and middle toes, the call was noted to be very different from Semipalmated Plover. It was described as a "plain, loud, monotone *Puurwe*," having a "mournful, wooden quality" (BMacT). The second individual was found 2.5 mi s.e. of L'Anse-aux-Meadows Sept. 21. The description of an adult just beginning to molt was essentially the same as the first individual—again the distinctive mournful call was unambiguous. BMacT's comments are particularly interesting: "I don't feel that I have overlooked Ringed Plovers here in the past, at least adults that is. These two birds each instantly stood out among the flocks (of Semipalmated Plovers) with their wide black breast bands and sharp black forehead and ear patches that contrast nicely with the lighter back giving the bird a very handsome look." These birds provided the first Newfoundland and Regional records for this species. [See this issue, p. 125-26—Ed.]

Notably late Am. Golden Plovers were found in Concord, N.H., Nov. 15 (2) (*vide KCE*), Pittsfield, Mass., Nov. 21 (1) (*vide BH*) and Grand Desert, N.S., Nov. 23 (1) (*vide ELM*). Some 1000 Ruddy Turnstones in Bar Harbor, Me., Aug. 24 (*SW et al.*), although large, was probably not an unusual total for that locality. A count of 25 Whimbrel at Seabrook, N.H., Aug. 7 (*PL*) was notably high for the state. In Newfoundland a single Whimbrel was late at G.C.R., Oct. 8-9 (*SIT*). Also in Newfoundland, White-rumped Sandpipers were particularly late at L'Anse-aux-Meadows Nov. 24 (1), Nov. 27 (2), and Dec. 3-5 (1) (BMacT). A Purple Sandpiper was an early migrant or summering bird at Falkner's I., Conn., July 26 (*SS*). Two ad. Curlew Sandpipers were reported from Kennebunkport, Me., Aug. 5 (*JF*) and a very late imm. Curlew Sandpiper was closely examined in Great Bay, near Portsmouth, N.H., Nov. 9 (*RS et al., vide DJA*). Long-



Rufous-necked Sandpiper, Scituate, Mass., July 24, 1980. See *AB* 34:876 (1980). Photo / William Ervin.

billed Dowitchers reached a maximum of 48 individuals at Plus I., Sept. 2 (*RSH*), while in Maine at least five individuals at 4 localities were noted Aug. 15-Sept. 11 (*vide PDV*). A Stilt Sandpiper on Seal I., N.S., Oct. 22-Nov. 1 was impressively late (BMacT). The fall flight of birds of a more w. origin, *i.e.*, Baird's, Western and Buff-breasted sandpipers, was one of the best in recent years. Perhaps as many as 45 Baird's Sandpipers were reported, the latest on Plum I., Oct. 18 (*vide RPE*). Western Sandpiper maxima reached 150 at Nauset Beach, Mass., Sept. 7 (*RSH, BN*) and 100+ in Harrington, Me., on the same date (*NF*)—the latter figure a state high. No fewer than 71 Buff-breasted Sandpipers, 60 in s. New England, were recorded. A remarkably late juv. Buff-breasted on Nantucket I., Nov. 16-Dec. 1 was quite likely the latest North American record for this species (*RRV*).

A concentration of 31 Hudsonian Godwits at Scarborough, Me., Aug. 15 (*PL*) was a high count for the state. Likewise, 70 Hudsonian Godwits at Amherst Pt., N.S., July 25 (*ELM*) was an exceptional provincial total. In Newfoundland a single Hudsonian Godwit occurred at L'Anse-aux-Meadows Sept. 5 (BMacT) while six birds were seen at G.C.R., Oct. 8-9 (*SIT*). An ad. **Bar-tailed Godwit** was unique and represented a second state record at Pine Pt., Me., Aug. 31 (*SW*). Pairs of Marbled Godwits were unusual at Biddeford Pool, Me., Aug. 15-16 (*PDV et al.*) and in the Seabrook, N.H. area Aug. 22 - Sept. 8 (*vide KCE*). The five fall Ruffs occurred in: Massachusetts (2), Rhode Island (1), Maine (1), Nova Scotia (1). At Amherst Pt., N.S., a ♀ Wilson's Phalarope present July 5 and a male and two juveniles present July 16 - Aug. 9 (*SIT et al.*) provided the first concrete evidence of nesting, where long awaited, in the border region. Northern Phalaropes off Deer I., N.B., may possibly have numbered 1,000,000 birds Aug. 13 (*PDV et al.*). A single Red Phalarope noted from the Galilee-Block I., R.I. ferry Sept. 26 was unusual (*SS et al.*).

JAEGERS, GULLS, TERNS—A maximum count of 70 Parasitic Jaegers was seen off Cape Cod at Stellwagen Bank Sept. 13 (*vide RPE*). The only other moderate totals were again from L'Anse-aux-Meadows where 32 Pomarine, 65 Parasitic and 25 Long-tailed jaegers were observed Aug. 1 - Sept. 4 (BMacT). Skuas were scarce this fall with on-

ly two reports: a probably *S. Polar Skua* on the n. slope of George's Bank Aug. 23 (*fide* TLL-E) and a *skua sp.*, likely Great, off First Encounter Beach, Mass., Nov. 19 (BN). Curiously, no skuas were reported from the "Bluenose."

Lesser Black-backed Gulls experienced a quantum leap increase this fall with no fewer than 18 individuals reported. A single adult was unusual in Warren-Touisset, R.I., Oct. 13-26 (*fide* DE). Two birds occurred in Nova Scotia while at least 15 separate Lesser Black-backed were recorded in e. Massachusetts, including 11 identifiably different individuals on Nantucket I. (RRV *et al.*). An impeccably described imm. Mew Gull of North American origin (*L.c. brachyrhynchus*) was also found on Nantucket I., Oct. 10 (SAP, RRV). Maximum Black-headed Gull counts included six birds at Watchemoket Cove, R.I., Nov. 17 (*fide* DE) and five in Wollaston, Mass., Oct. 19 (*fide* RPE). A second-year Bonaparte's Gull was rare at Stephenville Crossing, Nfld., Aug. 10, as was an adult at the same locality Oct. 5 (SIT). An ad. Franklin's Gull was unique off the n. end of Plum I., in late October (RA). Little Gulls reached a maximum of eight birds in Newburyport Sept. 1 while no more than three individuals were found in Seabrook, N.H. (*fide* KCE). Single Sabine's Gulls were seen at Cox's Ledge, R.I., Sept. 5 (RAC, DLK), Stellwagen Bank Sept. 13 & 21 (*fide* RPE), and Provincetown Oct. 26 (*fide* RPE).

In Nova Scotia, single *Gull-billed Terns* were found at E. Lawrencetown L., June 19-24 and Cherry Hill Sept. 20 (*fide* RGBB) and in Massachusetts at Monomoy Aug. 10 (*fide* BN). Large numbers of postbreeding Forster's Terns pushed as far N. as Massachusetts yet again this fall; on Cape Cod 200+ were counted at Nauset Sept. 13, 90 were noted at Chatham Oct. 19 (RSH, BN), three lingered at Hyannis to Nov. 11 (*fide* RPE). Considering the numbers involved it was perhaps surprising that only a single Forster's Tern was reported n. of Massachusetts, that in Scarborough, Me., Aug. 27 (*fide* WCT). A count of 4000+ Roseate Terns off Provincetown Aug. 21 and again on Aug. 31 must have comprised "a substantial portion of the entire n.w. Atlantic population" (BN *et al.*). A single Sandwich Tern was notable on Monomoy Sept. 13 (*fide* RPE). An ad. Black Tern at L'Anse-aux-Meadows, Nfld., Aug. 28-31 and an immature bird at the same locality Aug. 29 - Sept. 3 were first local records (BMacT). Black Skimmers were numerous along coastal Massachusetts; 26 were noted at five localities including 20 at S. Dartmouth Sept. 6 (*fide* RPE).

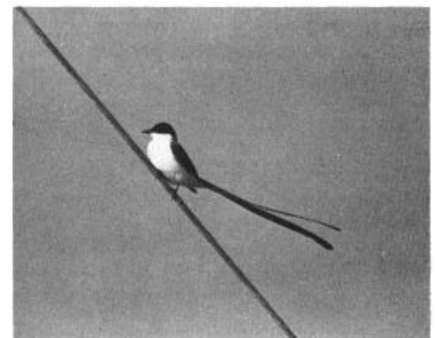
ALCIDS—A Razorbill off Barnstable, Mass., Oct. 15 arrived earlier than usual. Sadly, this did not presage any major flights; only 10 were seen off Eastham Nov. 22, and 20 were observed off Rockport Nov. 29 (*fide* RPE). Thick-billed Murre numbers were also low; 18 birds appeared off Rockport Nov. 29 (*fide* RPE). A single Dovekie was early at First Encounter Beach Oct. 26 while 10 were noted off Rockport Nov. 29 (*fide* RPE). Massachusetts Black Guillemot numbers were somewhat above average these included: 14 at Rockport Nov. 29, six at Cape Ann Nov. 30 and most interesting, 11 at N. Scituate Nov. 30 (*fide* RPE).

CUCKOOS THROUGH WOODPECKERS—Yellow-billed Cuckoos again staged a significant fall incursion n. of their usual limits; 40+ were observed on Seal I. (BMacT) and in Newfoundland a specimen was secured at the G.C.R., Oct. 9 (SIT). A single Hawk Owl was observed in the Codroy Valley, Nfld., Nov. 17 (BMacT). The *Burrowing Owl* on Martha's Vineyard was struck by a car Sept. 8, vetted for several days and released. Incredibly, no measurements were taken to establish the bird's subspecific identity. It was last observed Oct. 1 (*fide* BN). A *Selasphorus* hummingbird on Monhegan I., Sept. 15 was identified as an imm. ♂ *Rufous Hummingbird* on the basis of dull, rusty feathering on the back extending to the nape and closely observed rounded outer tail feathers (PDV). This constituted a second state occurrence. In addition there is an unspecified *Selasphorus* record from Mt. Desert I., Sept. 8, 1975 (AB 30:33). Several reporters along the coast mentioned a heavy S movement of Hairy Woodpeckers from mid-October through November. BMacT noted 6-11 birds/day on Seal I. A Black-backed Three toed Woodpecker in Needham, Mass., Oct. 1-2 (*fide* RAF) and single birds in Augusta and Phippsburg, Me., Nov. 5 & 9 respectively (*fide* MKL) suggested a small movement S of this increasingly common species.

FLYCATCHERS—Western Kingbird sightings diminished somewhat this fall; 37 birds were reported (*cf.* 54, 47, 37, 25). The great excitement of the fall surrounded the two *Fork-tailed Flycatchers* on Cape Cod. The first was found at Chatham Sept. 22 - Oct. 4 (PDV *et al.*) while the second, a longer-tailed individual, occurred 9 - 10 min. at E. Orleans Sept. 27 - Oct. 7 (*fide* RAF). Although both birds were in "adult plumage" including yellow crown feathers, the uniformity of plumage and strongly contrasting tips of the greater coverts suggested that both birds were in first basic plumage. An *Ash-throated Flycatcher* made yet another appearance in Massachusetts, this time in Wellesley Nov. 11 - 12 (*fide* RAF). Extreme caution should be taken with late fall *Myiarchus* as Great Crested Flycatchers can and do occur as well. This fall a Great Crested was banded on Block I., Nov. 5 (E&HL) and another observed in Bar Harbor, Me., Nov. 9 was found dead Nov. 12 (JC). Say's Phoebe's occurred on Brier I., Aug. 27 (*fide* ELM), Nantucket I., Sept. 24

(EFA *et al.*) and in Branford, Conn. (no date given—NSP). Impressively late Yellow-bellied Flycatchers were closely observed on Seal I., Oct. 15 and Oct. 23 - 24 (BMacT) and on Nantucket I., Oct. 14 (RRV). *Willow Flycatchers* were discovered in Nova Scotia this summer; a male was found singing near Indian Pt., June 22 and later nesting was confirmed with two young present (IMcL, *fide* ELM). These constituted both first provincial and nesting records. A Willow Flycatcher singing e. Maine, at Harrington Aug. 22 was yet further confirmation of this species' rapid expansion throughout Maine and the Northeast (NF). A closely examined pewee possessing an entirely dark lower mandible and heavily marked flanks that extended uniformly across the chest was identified as a *Western Wood Pewee*. The bird was observed on Plum I., Sept. 24. No vocalizations were heard (RSH, PDV *et al.*)

CHICKADEES THROUGH SHRIKES — A heavy coastal flight of Black-capped Chickadees was widely reported in September and early October. M.B.O. banded 2593 individuals, the largest total since 1971 (TLL-E). Boreal Chickadees also moved S but on a smaller scale; 6 - 10 individuals were recorded in Massachusetts. In e. Maine, Boreal Chickadees were noted to be particularly abundant and not infrequently found away from favored coniferous habitat (NF). Three Carolina Wrens at as many New Hampshire localities was an increase from recent years (*fide* KCE) while a Short-billed Marsh Wren on Nantucket I., Nov. 17 - Dec. 8 (RRV *et al.*, ph.) was but another remarkable example of birds lingering on that island. However, the most curious wren occurrence of the season was surely the *Rock Wren* photographed on Seal I., Oct. 4-8 (*fide* BMacT, ELM). A first provincial occurrence, there is but one previous Regional record, that at Rockport, Mass., Dec. 9, 1965 - Jan. 25, 1966. All five thrush species were generally considered scarce fall migrants. By contrast, 31 Hermit Thrushes were reported in Lynn, Mass., Oct. 22 (*fide* RPE). A Gray-checked Thrush was late at Bedford, N.H., Nov. 19 (*fide* KCE). Please note that the first confirmed North American *Redwing* (*Turdus iliacus*), found near St. Anthony, Nfld., was recognizably photographed June 26; identification was confirmed by E.W. Godfrey at the Nat'l. Mus. of Canada. [See this issue, p. 147.—Ed.] For the first fall in recent year no



A tale of two tails. Fork-tailed Flycatchers, Cape Cod, Mass., Sept. 28, 1980. (L) Chatham (R) Nauset Beach, Orleans. Photos / Kenneth P. Able.

in recent year no Wheatears were reported. A **Townsend's Solitaire** was an unexpected rarity on Seal I., Nov. 6 (BMacT). Early Bohemian Waxwing numbers suggested the possibility of an excellent winter. Some 127+ individuals were noted in three Maine flocks, three New Hampshire reports involved 12 individuals Oct. 27 - Nov. 20 (*vide* KCE), several involved 12 individuals Oct. 27 - Nov. 20 (*vide* KCE), several small flocks were observed around Sackville, N.B. (SIT) and in Massachusetts two birds were found in Truro Nov. 2 (*vide* RAF) and a single individual was seen in Nahant Nov. 27 (RSH). Regional Loggerhead Shrikes totaled seven birds, the largest count in recent years.

VIREOS, WARBLERS — Extralimital vireo reports included: an imm. White-eyed on Monhegan I., Sept. 14 (PDV), one banded on Kent I., Sept. 25 (PFC *et al.*) one on Seal I., Oct. 6 and another there Oct. 22 (BMacT); a Yellow-throated on Seal I., Oct. 6 (banded—ELM) one on Kent I., Sept. 1 and two banded there Oct. 6 (PFC *et al.*); a **Warbling Vireo** photographed at Great Codroy, Nfld., Oct. 12, constituted possibly a first confirmed provincial record (SIT). Warblers beyond their normal range were: two Prothonotaries in Nova Scotia (*vide* PRD), a Worm-eating in Kennebunk, Me., Aug. 28 (JF *et al.*) and another on Kent I., Sept. 12 (PFC *et al.*); a Cerulean in Lobster Bay, N.S., June 14 (*vide* PRD), a second banded and photographed on Kent I., Aug. 10 (PFC *et al.*) and a third on E. Egg Rock, Me., Sept. 22-23 (*vide* SKr); a Golden-winged on Brier I., Aug. 25; a Yellow-throated on Nantucket I., Sept. 7 (RRV) and another on Block I., Oct. 3 - 5 (*vide* DE); a Kentucky in Aurora, Me., Aug. 11 (GF).

Notably late warblers included the following: a Nashville on Nantucket I., Nov. 13 (RRV); Yellow at S. Quabbin, Mass., Nov. 16 (*vide* SK); ♂ Black-throated Blue on Tuckernuck I., Mass., Nov. 9 (RRV); two Cape Mays on Nantucket I., Nov. 19-30 (RRV); Bay-breasted on Tuckernuck I., Nov. 11 - 12 (RRV); a Prairie banded in Rockport, Mass., Nov. 11 and another at a M.B.O. feeder Nov. 11 - Dec. 9 (*vide* TLL-E); Ovenbird in Bar Harbor, Me., Nov. 11 (*vide* JC) and on Nantucket I., Nov. 20 (RRV). Three separate Mourning Warbler reports from w. Massachusetts in October were unusual (*vide* SK).

Banding totals from both Kent I., and M.B.O. registered a relative decline in Bay-breasted and Cape May warbler numbers while M.B.O. also noted a 40% drop in Blackpoll Warblers (PFC, TLL-E *et al.*).

ICTERIDS THROUGH FRINGILLIDS

— The Region experienced a strong flight of Yellow-headed Blackbirds; 20+ individuals were reported, the majority in August and early September. In Massachusetts Brewer's Blackbirds were seen in S. Peabody Sept. 27 (RSH), Truro and three were noted in Marshfield Nov. 9 - 12 (*vide* RPE). A W. Tanager was banded and photographed on Brier I., Aug. 22 (*vide* ELM) and in Massachusetts single birds were observed in Chatham (*vide* BN) and on Nantucket I., (RRV, ph.), both Nov. 20. Blue Grosbeak sightings were again about average, numbering 18+ individuals on Nantucket I., Sept. 7 - Oct. 16 (RRV *et al.*) and

11 - 13 birds on Seal I. (BMacT). In Newfoundland an Indigo Bunting was rare in Terra N.P. (hereafter, T.N.N.P.) Oct. 31 (RTB) as were single Dickcissels at the G.C.R. Oct. 4 (SIT) and at T.N.N.P., Oct. 21 (RTB). A House Finch on Seal I., Nov. 2 - 3 was one of a growing number of provincial reports (BMacT).

Pine Grosbeaks pushed into New England in moderate numbers in late October through November while Pine Siskins experienced a major S irruption in mid-October; 350+ occurred on Nantucket I., Oct. 13 - 15 (RRV *et al.*).

A Lark Bunting was unique at Newburyport Sept. 20 (RAF) as was a Henslow's Sparrow in Truro, Mass., Oct. 15 & 17 (BN *et al.*) Single Le Conte's Sparrows were seen on Nantucket I., Oct. 7 (RRV) and on Monomoy Oct. 10 (BN *et al.*, ph.) Single Seaside Sparrows banded and photographed on Kent I., Aug. 24 and Sept. 11 were beyond their normal range (PFC *et al.*). An imm. Lark Sparrow photographed at Cape Roy, Nfld., Sept. 21 was quite possibly a first confirmed



Immature Lark Sparrow, Cape Roy, Nfld., Sept. 21, 1980. Photo / S.I. Tingley.

island record (SIT). Regional Clay-colored Sparrows did not seem especially numerous; 17+ were reported. A Grasshopper Sparrow was photographically documented in T.N.N.P., Nfld., Nov. 13 - 14 (RTB). Juncos experienced an excellent fall flight and observers everywhere unanimously considered the White-crowned Sparrow migration to be the largest in recent memory. Interestingly, the vast majority were juveniles. Maximum counts included: 158 banded at Rockport, Mass. (*vide* RPE); 121 on Nantucket I., Oct. 15; 400+ on Seal I., Oct. 15 & 23 (BMacT). Considering this magnitude, it was perhaps not surprising that single "Gambels" White-crowns were found on Seal I., Oct. 10 and Nov. 4, Tuckernuck I., Nov. 2, Epping, N.H. and E. Kingston, N.H. both in late October (DWF *et al.*).

ADDENDA—Eight Pine Grosbeaks in the Savoy State Reservation area of w. Massachusetts July 19 - 20, 1980, were unprecedented summer records for the state (*vide* SK).

CORRIGENDUM—The Connecticut Bobolink noted in the 1980 fall season report was seen in S. Windsor, *not* Windsor Locks (PJD).

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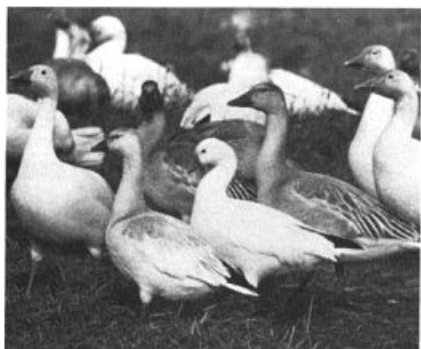
QUEBEC REGION / Normand David and Michel Gosselin

The fall of 1980 was, on average, cooler than usual in Quebec. Precipitation is always variable in such a large region, but it was certainly not below the mean this season.

LOONS THROUGH EGRETS—The nest of a pair of Arctic Loons discovered near Koartac July 14 provided the second breeding record for Quebec and the first for Ungava Bay; seven adults were also located in suitable nesting habitat n. of Leaf Bay (ABt, GC). An Arctic Loon in breeding dress was observed among the numerous Red-throated Loons off Grande-Entrée, Magdalen Is. (hereafter, M.I.), Oct. 1-5 (YA *et al.*). The first N. Fulmar to be seen from the Trois-Pistoles ferry was found Aug. 7 (BB), and a Greater Shearwater was sighted off Sept-Iles Aug. 20 (ABd). A Wilson's Storm-Petrel reportedly reached Quebec City Sept. 22 followed by a Leach's Oct. 4 (AD). An astounding flock of 375 Double-crested Cormorants at St-Joseph de Beauce Sept. 14 (LM) may be indicative of an overland migration route by cormorants from the St. Lawrence Estuary. Ile aux Fermiers, near Varennes, was host to many southern egrets: a Cattle Aug. 19 (YA, GD), a Great Aug. 2 (JG) and two Snowy Egrets Aug. 16 - Sept. 26 (PBa, RB); two Snowies

were also reported from Ile aux Grues Oct. 19 (GT). The **Little Egret** (see AB 34:757) was last seen at Cacouna Aug. 31 - Sept. 6 (YA, RP, FMB).

WATERFOWL—Noteworthy reports of Canada Geese included a brood at Granby Aug. 5 (PT), and two small individuals (presumably *hutchinsii*) at Cap-Tourmente Oct. 13-19 (CS, MG, BH). Over 10,000 Snow Geese migrated through the upper Saguenay Valley in October (*vide* YB), a region that had only seen 500± birds in the past 20 years. A White-fronted Goose was observed Oct. 7-18 at Cap-Tourmente (GM, m.ob.) and two **Ross' Geese** Oct. 18-25 (CS, PL). What is so



Ross' Goose with young among Snow Geese. Cap Tourmente, Que., Oct. 23, 1980. Photo / B. Jolicoeur.

attractive to **Ruddy Shelducks** at Grandes-Bergeronnes has yet to be discovered. They returned for the 3rd consecutive year, and in increasing numbers; up to three birds were present June 19 - July 6, and a single bird was seen Aug. 24 - Sept. 24 (ABd). Early in the hunting season a Wood Duck was shot at the East Pt., M.I., and another was spotted at Gros-Cap, M.I., Nov. 11 (YA). The first Buffleheads for M.I., were two at Fatima Nov. 9 (YA); a Harlequin Duck at LaBaie, Saguenay Co., Nov. 11-22 (GSa *et al.*) represented only a second local occurrence. Six Com. Eiders at Old Harry, M.I., Aug. 30 (BD) probably belonged to the small local breeding population; an incubating female had been discovered on Brion I., May 30, 1978 (JB). Single ♂ King Eiders were seen at Forillon Aug. 27, Bonaventure I., Aug. 29, and Old Harry, M.I., Nov. 16-18 (YA). Up to seven ♂ Hooded Mergansers remained in the LG-3 Power Dam area, 130 mi up LaGrande R., Sept. 24 - Oct. 7 (YG).

HAWKS THROUGH PHALAROPES

Four nestling Sharp-shinned Hawks were rescued at Ste-Anne des Monts July 27 when the tree that supported their nest was inadvertently cut down; a new nest was set up for them nearby and they were readily attended by their parents (*vide* ADs). The first Red-tailed Hawk for the M.I., was at Leslie Oct. 12 - Nov. 9 (YA). High numbers of migrating Rough-legged Hawks were reported from hawk watches near Montreal and the staging population was also high in many areas (MM). Seven Peregrine Falcons seen in less than one hour at Trois-Pistoles Oct. 5 (JLa *et al.*) illustrated well the recent increase in reports of this species. A migrating Sandhill

Crane was reported from St-Barthélemy Oct. 8 (YM). St-Fulgence is still a most reliable site to find the Yellow Rail; a maximum of eight birds was there Aug. 2-12 (YB *et al.*). Our 5th Regional **Purple Gallinule** was also the 4th from the Quebec City area; it was a road-killed bird found at St-David de Lévis Oct. 3 (*vide* FG, *Nat'l Mus. Nat. Sc.); readers should note that the "Florida Gallinule" reported from Quebec

in AFN 9:12 was in fact a Purple Gallinule.

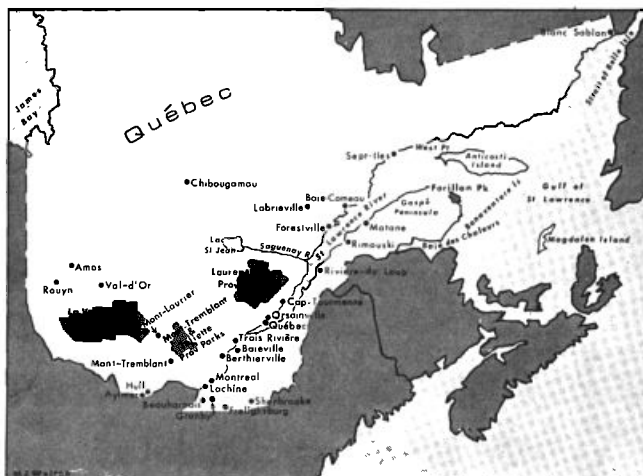
An Am. Woodcock at Havre-aux-Maisons, M.I., Oct. 1 established a first occurrence there (YA). Three Willets at Pointe-au-Loup Aug. 17 (MLa) and one at Grosse-Ile were the first in the M.I. in 10 years. Other notable shorebirds this fall included single Baird's Sandpipers at Trois-Pistoles Aug. 29 (JCa, RW) and at Pointe-au-Pere Sept. 11-23 (JLa, PBr), Stilt Sandpipers near Rimouski Aug. 31 and Cacouna Sept. 1 (M. Gawn *et al.*), and Buff-breasted Sandpipers Sept. 13 at Pointe-au-Pere (GP *et al.*) and Oct. 4 at Fatima, M.I. (YA). Also in this category were two Hudsonian Godwits at L. Weedon in the E. Townships Sept. 26 (PBo). Unprecedented in this Region was a multiple occurrence of four Ruffs at Baie Ste-Catherine Oct. 11 (GSe). Inland N. Phalaropes appeared in unusually high numbers, along with many Red Phalaropes: up to nine Reds at Ile des Soeurs Oct. 4-11 (BB, MM) and single birds at LaBaie Sept. 27-29 and Oct. 12-16 (GSa *et al.*), Quebec City Oct. 4 (AD), and Laprairie Oct. 27 - Nov. 9 (GD, m.ob.). A record-late Wilson's Phalarope was recorded at Sherbrooke Oct. 15 (VL).

JAEGERS THROUGH OWLS—Always a rare migrant in this Region, a Long-tailed Jaeger was observed off the mouth of the Saguenay R., Aug. 16 (AD, RS).

S.A.

No fewer than five **Lesser Black-backed Gulls** in first-summer (*i.e.*, moulting into second-winter) plumage were turned up this season: one each at LaMalbaie Aug. 23 - Sept. 12, Matane Aug. 30, Beauharnois Nov. 15 - Dec. 10 (MG, JH *et al.*); resembling small imm. Great Black-backed, such birds can nonetheless go unnoticed among the mottled flocks of immature gulls. The present occurrences do suggest that many more adults are likely to turn up in the next few years. For identification of imm. *Larus fuscus*, the recent paper in *Brit. Birds* 73:113-158 (1980) is the only useful reference readily available, field-guide treatment being too incomplete when not totally misleading.

Although unprecedented in this Region, high numbers of Black-headed Gulls are well known in the Northeast; 18 birds were at Havre aux Basques, M.I., and 12 at Gros-



Cap, M.I., Nov. 9 (YA). Beauharnois saw a record-late ad. Franklin's Gull Nov. 23 accompanied by an equally late imm. Laughing Gull (BB, MM). Juvenile Black-headed Gulls at Beauharnois Aug. 16-21 (MM, BB) and Rimouski Sept. 21 (GG) were further indications of this bird nesting in North America. An inland movement of imm. Black-legged Kittiwakes brought a bird to Magog Nov. 23 (PBo), another to Gatineau Nov. 29 (MR, SG), and up to three birds to Beauharnois Nov. 13 - Dec. 6 (MM, BB). What appeared to be different imm. Sabine's Gulls were respectively at Beauharnois Sept. 3-7 (BB, MM) and Ile des Soeurs Sept. 29-30 (PBa). Quebec City had its first Forster's Tern, a winter-plumaged bird July 25 (FG), and a **Roseate Tern** was spotted at Pointe-au-Loup, M.I., Aug. 30 (BD), the only area where it has ever occurred in the province. The identity of a Razorbill in the Montreal harbor was confirmed Nov. 22 (PBa) but puzzled the "hunters" who shot the bird the following day (*vide* GSe). Another rare sight in Quebec City was a Black Guillemot July 28 (AD). Yellow-billed Cuckoos strayed in all directions: Old Chelsea Sept. 25 (RF), Cap-Tourmente Sept. 24 - Oct. 8 (RS *et al.*), Pointe-au-Pere Oct. 16 (GG), and Grosse-Ile, M.I., Sept. 21 (YA). Single Long-eared Owls at Ste-Marthe, Gaspé Co., Aug. 20 (ADS) and Pointe-au-Pere Oct. 30 (GG) were welcome occurrences which will help outline the poorly known distribution of this species.

WOODPECKERS THROUGH WHEAT-EARS—Red-headed Woodpeckers are maintaining their hold in the Outaouais; a pair reared two young in Aylmer last summer (*vide* BD), an adult was seen at Plaisance July 7 (RY) and an immature accompanied by two adults was found in Breckenridge Sept. 14 (DSH). The shores of the St. Lawrence were visited by an amazing array of western flycatchers this fall: a **Western Kingbird** at Bergeronnes Aug. 10 (BH, PL), a **Scissor-tailed Flycatcher** (with an injury to one eye) at St-Henri de Lévis Sept. 13-20 (VG, m.ob.) and a **Say's Phoebe** at Percé Nov. 2 (Rbi, PP). A **Tufted Titmouse** found at Lennoxville in late October (JR, *vide* PBo) could be a remnant of last winter's flight or a forecast of the next. Carolina Wrens appeared to be making a slow comeback with single birds at Pointe-Claire Aug. 31 (BL), Rock-Island Oct. 18-23 (SE, *vide* PBo) and St-Romuald Nov. 13+ (*vide* FG), this last bird was at the same feeder

where the species had been recorded in December 1971. A flock of no fewer than 30 E. Bluebirds was present near Amos Oct. 30 (MP, *fide* GD). Single Wheatears turned up at Hutte-Sauvage L., on the George R., Sept. 11 (JC) and LaBaie on the Saguenay R., Oct. 11-13 (GSA *et al.*).

GNATCATCHERS THROUGH SPARROWS—The now-regular Blue-gray Gnatcatcher was reported from Cap-Tourmente Aug. 23 (AD) and Lasalle Oct. 10 (BC). Quebec City's first Golden-winged Warbler was found dead below a tall "mirror" building Sept. 15 (YP). Two E. Meadowlarks recorded at Cap d'Espoir Nov. 23 (RBI, PP) were n. of the species known breeding range. A male Yellow-headed Blackbird was photographed at Radisson, in James Bay lowlands, early last summer (LL, *fide* MLe) and another was seen near Mt. St-Bruno Aug. 18 (JR). Single Dickcissels were recorded at Bergeronnes Oct. 10-19 (ABd) and Chicoutimi Nov. 13+ (LI, m.ob.). Two pairs of House Finches appeared at a Cowansville feeder last April and have remained in the area since; a maximum of six birds was seen at this feeder in the fall (BS, *fide* PBa). Another step N was taken by

this successful species when a feeder in St-Romuald was visited briefly by a female in early November (GC). A **European Goldfinch** was found in a party of its American counterparts on Mt-Royal Sept. 20-27 (ME, ND, ph.); the reasons behind its recent upsurge in the area remain obscure. After a first record last winter and a second last spring, a third Rufous-sided Towhee turned up in L. St-Jean, at Falardeau July 12 (JLe). An ad. Sharp-tailed Sparrow at Sherbrooke Oct. 23 (VL) registered the latest occurrence known; the locality is on the expected path between the species' summer and winter ranges. A Vesper Sparrow reached Moutange I., near Mingan Aug. 9 (MB), and stray Clay-colored Sparrows appeared at Forillon Aug. 27 (MG *et al.*), and near Rimouski Nov. 11-18 (GG, LH). Another stray was the Field Sparrow photographed at Old Harry, M.I., Oct. 29 (YA).

EXOTICS—In this category was a Chiloe' Wigeon (*Anas sibilatrix*) found in a flock of 400± Am. Wigeons at Longueuil Sept. 1-3 (GD). Two recent broods of Turkeys were reported from St-Fabien de Panet in August; the species has been repeatedly introduced there since 1978 (*fide* RM).

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HUDSON-DELAWARE REGION

/ Robert O. Paxton, William J. Boyle, Jr., and David A. Cutler

The season was marked by severe drought which provided habitat for exceptional numbers inland of herons and shorebirds. Passerine migration, already apparent in late July at places where arrivals could be carefully verified, such as the banding station at Great Gull Island (hereafter, G.G.I.), between the tip of Long Island and the Connecticut shore, was hurried along by early cool fronts in August. Migrant warblers and flycatchers were widely noted with an August 14-16 cool front (RJB, RMS, CS, BLM), and on August 24-25 banders at G.G.I. handled 25 species including four flycatchers and 18 warblers (JDIC). Cold fronts in late October and November 1-2 deposited enormous migrant concentrations on the coast. "Birds just rained down like tickertape at Cape May Point" (PD) on October 20 in what Sutton describes as "the largest land bird flight I have ever witnessed." Late in the season the Region enjoyed its first respectable irruptions of Snowy Owls and of some winter finch species in several years.

GREBES TO TUBENOSES—Two Eared Grebes were reported. On the coast, where they occur less frequently than annually, one was identified at Montauk Pt., L.I., N.Y., Nov. 29 (JG, MVB, APE), and a much more unusual inland record was of one at Harvey's L., n.e. Pennsylvania Oct. 15 (WR, C Rennal).

S.A.

Rowlett also nearly doubled this Region's records of **White-faced Storm-Petrel**, finding three in six days: two 85-100 mi s.e. of Cape May Sept. 10 and one in the Hudson Canyon area Sept. 11. In spite of thousands of Wilson's Storm-Petrels around, the White-faced Storm-Petrels, he writes, "were seen as solitary units. The one on Sept. 11 was seen on a slick calm sea, and seemed to fly by almost hydroplaning along on outstretched but nearly motionless wings, and just seemed to bounce along like a rubber ball with its belly or feet barely touching the water each time." This warm-water species was photographed off Delaware in August 1972 (AB 27:17) and was observed at Hudson Canyon Sept. 19, 1979 (AB 34:144). Other Regional sight records, all but one in early fall, are summarized in AB 30:818.

Rowlett also observed two Leach's Storm-Petrels Oct. 1 while *en route* from a point 165 mi e. of Cape May toward Nantucket.

Whale-watching trips offshore are adding a new dimension to seabird coverage. Data on nine whale-watching trips off Long Island contained no surprises. Single N. Fulmars appeared only after late September; Cory's Shearwater, with a max. of 400, Aug. 23 (BJS, DC) outnumbered Greater Shearwater whose max. was 250, Aug. 30 (BJS) on every trip but one; and Sooty Shearwater, commonest in spring, went unreported off Long

Island after Aug. 23. One late bird occurred at Cape May in a storm Oct. 25 (DW, DS, R Mauer). Four Manx Shearwaters Aug. 23 (BJS) constituted a good day's count off Long Island. While single Audubon's Shearwaters were reported 28 mi e. of Avalon, Cape May Co., N.J., Sept. 13 (CS) and off Long Island Sept. 20 (THD, BJS, PAB *et al.*), Rowlett found numbers of this warm-water species off nearer the Gulf Stream during six days aboard U.S. Coast Guard cutters. His counts of 27 along the length of Long Island at the edge of the continental shelf at 200± fathoms Aug. 7, of 12 on Sept. 10 at 85-100 mi s.e. of Cape May, and of seven in the Hudson Canyon area, 60-115 mi e.s.e. of Atlantic City Sept. 11 were second in this Region only to the 225 reported last fall 105 mi e. of Barnegat, N.J. He found none off our Region in October.

CORMORANTS, HERONS, IBISES—A Great Cormorant Oct. 14 at Dobbs Ferry, N.Y. (BW) provided only the third Hudson R occurrence (1969, 1974), and perhaps the fourth Regional interior record. Sadly depleted rivers and reservoirs were a boon to herons, at least. Up the Susquehanna R., at Wilkes-Barre, Pa., it was "the best invasion in 20 years" (WR). Among a host of record counts were 35 Great Egrets at L. Tappan, Rockland Co., N.Y., Sept. 4 (RFD) and the first Louisiana Heron ever at Spruce Run Res., Hunterdon Co., N.J., among 80-90 herons. Least Bitterns were "common and conspicuous" around Cape May in August, when drought forced them into the open (PD).

At least one ad. White-faced Ibis remained

for the second season in a row at Jamaica Bay W.R. (hereafter, J.B.W.R.) until Sept. 3 (R.Lewis). A minor irruption of imm. White Ibis presaged in the summer season report brought one Aug. 14 to Tinicum N.W.R., Philadelphia (JCM), two along the Delaware R., at Scudder's Falls, s.e. N.J., Aug. 8-18 (AB, PF, B.Hughes), two singles in August and four in September to Cape May (RWR, JDD, PD, EM *et al.*), and one distant outlier to Rye, N.Y., Sept. 8 - Oct. 1 (M.F.N.).

GEESE, DUCKS—Despite the explosion of Canada Geese nesting locally, the old-fashioned goose migration still takes place. In one of those concordances that delights a Regional editor, observers throughout the Region commented on an immense early passage Sept. 27. That day 4000 flew over Raccoon Ridge, Hunterdon Co., N.J. (FPW), 2000 over Sunrise Mt., Warren Co., N.J. (FT), the first southbound flocks reached L. Ashokan, in the Catskills (F.Murphy), and "many thousands" passed Cape May (CS), while off the Delaware coast at Rehoboth, Frech watched at least 1000 fight their way back toward land against strong NW headwinds, some of them landing wearily beyond the surf before proceeding N to Delaware Bay. An ad. **White-fronted Goose**, believed to be of w. rather than Greenland origin, was at Wainscott, L.I., Oct. 19 (R.Hines). An immature was at J.B.W.R., Nov. 23-30 (DR, THD, m.ob.).

S.A.

A **Bahama Pintail**, *Anas bahamensis*, shot by a hunter Nov. 3 in Salem County, N.J. (JKM) was at first considered wild because of its fresh plumage and lack of claw wear. Measurement at the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences determined that it belonged to the race *rubirostris*, native to Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia, rather than to the nominate West Indian race. Natural vagrancy seems ruled out, therefore. The fresh plumage was due to new moult (a matter often forgotten when birds are presumed wild exclusively on the basis of lack of feather wear). An examination of the 1937 and 1966 Virginia specimens (Larner, *Virginia's Birdlife* (1979), 15), as well as the 1929 Wisconsin remains (Gromme, *Auk* 47:73) and the three birds shot in Florida in 1970 (*AB* 24:495) is perhaps now in order. We thank Andrew Mack and Dr. Frank Gill for assistance with this note.

About ten Eur. Wigeon along the Long Island and New Jersey coasts were well above the four and two of previous falls. Great Swamp N.W.R., Morris Co., N.J., remains the Region's undisputed Wood Duck capital; refuge personnel estimated 4000 there in mid-October (IHB).

A build-up of 10,000 Canvasbacks at Cornwall Bay, in the Hudson R., off Orange Co., N.Y., by mid-November (PJ) was gratifying. Six Harlequin Ducks sheltered in the lee of G.G.I., during a storm Nov. 18-20 (JDiC); the only other reported was one at the Barnegat, N.J., light in late November (APE, WJW). Good inland counts were of 27 Oldsquaw over Hawk Mt., Pa., Nov. 16 (SB) and 250 Black Scoters at Culver L., Sussex

Co., N.J., Oct. 23 (FT). There are no longer any large concentrations of Ruddy Ducks on the Delaware R. The traditional wintering area off Floodgates, Gloucester Co., N.J., where 40-50,000 gathered in the mid-1950s and 10,000 up to the time of some major oil spills in the mid-1970s, held only 250 Nov. 3 (JTMcN). That area has now been deepened for a very busy ship channel serving what has become a major oil port (DAC). Some increase in New Jersey counts may reflect the relocation of some of this population (RK).

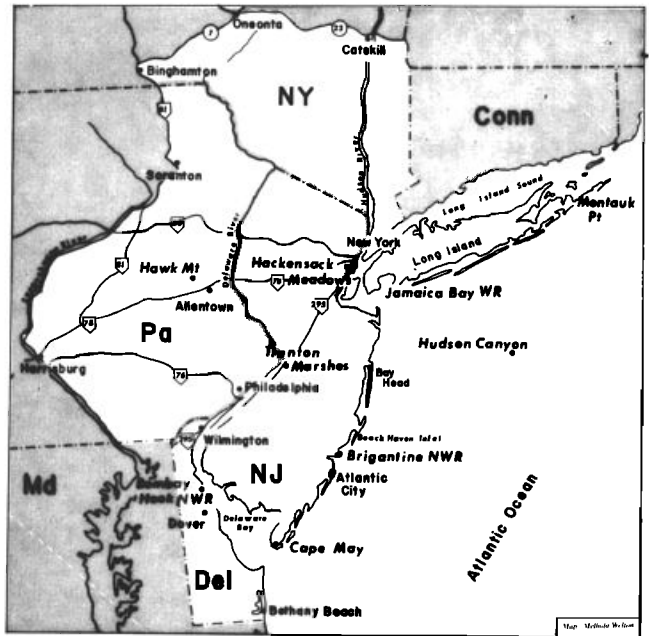
VULTURES,

HAWKS, EAGLES—Although only one Black Vulture reached the coast this fall; at Cape May Oct. 14 (ANi), they expand steadily in the Pennsylvania mountains (BLM), in n.w. New Jersey with eight Sept. 6 - Oct. 10 (TH, DB, F. Schleicher), and in s.e. Pennsylvania where 10% of a flock of 225 vultures at Conowingo I., in the Susquehanna R., were Blacks.

S.A.

Mississippi Kite made its first fall appearance in this Region, another milestone after a decade of spring records and last season's first mid-summer observation. Two first-year immatures lingered around the Cape May Pt. hawk watch Sept. 19 (CS, PD *et al.*), and one was reported by an experienced observer at Sunrise Mt., N.J., on the surprisingly late date of Oct. 29 (W. Lehes *et al.*). Since this is the earliest fall migrant among raptors, these first-year birds suggest either a previously undocumented N post-breeding dispersal or breeding within our Region.

Goshawk passage was mixed, poor in n.w. New Jersey, slightly above the last few years at Hawk Mt. (63, 74, 85), but good on or near the coast, e.g., a record 28 at Cape May. Figures remained far below the early 1970s peaks, though. Sharp-shinned Hawk numbers continue to increase. Cape May counts broke 50,000 for the first time (52,273); elsewhere there were 9723 at Hawk Mt., 3559 at Upper Montclair, Essex Co., N.J., and 4190 at Hook Mt., Nyack, Rockland Co., N.Y., which numbers were impressive without breaking records. Cooper's Hawk's numbers continued strong, this time inland, in contrast to most of the past decade. While Cape May's 1614 was a bit below last fall's record, Hook Mt.'s 79 was the most ever since the count was begun in 1971, and Hawk Mt.'s 418 was the fifth best count of all time and the best since 1939 (*vide AN*)!



The Red-tailed Hawk migration set records almost everywhere, not only at the mountain hawk watches, where Hawk Mt.'s 5824 was the best since 1939, but also on the coast where 2405 was the most ever counted at Cape May. As usual this species followed cold fronts closely, and the great front of Nov. 2 brought 742 past Hawk Mt., in 9.5 hours, which averages more than one/minute (*vide AN*). Red-shouldered Hawk totals reached an encouraging second-best at Cape May with 626, and 377 at Hawk Mt., was the third best total in the last decade, but even there broke no records.

The mountain hawk watches waited in vain for the great concentration of Broad-winged Hawks, which filtered through or left the ridges for a route that kept everyone guessing. Russell picked up the traces of an immense lowland passage when 2500+ went over Wilmington between 4 p.m. and 5 p.m., Sept. 18. Cape May had two Swainson's Hawks to make up for last fall, the first dark-phase ever Sept. 23 (PD *et al.*) and a light-phase Sept. 29 (CS, ANi). The species has been recorded there every fall but two since 1973. Yet another light-phase adult at Pitts-town, Hunterdon Co., N.J., Oct. 31 (G. Buchholz) supplied n.w. New Jersey's second record. This year saw a moderately good Rough-legged Hawk flight, coinciding, as usual, with the occurrence of Snowy Owls; a count of 12 Rough-leggeds at Cape May doubled the previous maximum.

Golden Eagles made a fine showing; with 21 at Raccoon Ridge, Warren Co., N.J., providing the best fall total since 1972-73 and a count of 17 furnished the most ever at Sunrise Mt., while Cape May's total of 14 was just short of last year's record of 16. Elsewhere, three occurred in Westchester County, and 12± scattered observations in n. New Jersey was high. We still do not know whether these steadily growing fall totals reflect increasing e. breeding or w. dispersal. Bald Eagle figures were disappointing. Cape May's nine was the second lowest since the watch began in 1975, and most watches counted fewer than last year, although

figures were seldom back to the trough of the early 1970s. More observers should report how many eagles are immature. Seventeen eagles over Bake Oven Knob, Pa. (nine Golden, five Bald, three unidentified) during the Nov. 1-2 front (W.Middleton, E.Manners) illustrate the eagle possibilities of this Region.

Following last season's nesting success, Marsh Hawks made a spectacular passage. Hawk Mt. broke an all-time record with 568, as did Cape May with 3115. The steady Osprey increase of recent falls levelled off. Cape May tied last fall with 1307, and Hook Mt.'s 363 was a record, but most watches fell a bit short of recent years.

A dark-phase Gyrfalcon reported from Rifle Park Camp, n. N.J., Sept. 29 was early (P Both, P. del Vecchio). Last fall's Peregrine upsurge was not sustained anywhere, although the 198 that passed Cape May Pt., was a total far above any year since the count began in 1975 (except 1979). Convinced that a single observer inevitably misses some, the Cape May Bird Observatory attempted to coordinate figures from five watches and four banding sites s. of the Cape May canal and arrived, after correcting to exclude duplication, at an astonishing 314 Peregrines (PD). This experimental composite total cannot, of course, be compared to any previous single-observer totals there.

RAILS, SHOREBIRDS—A Virginia Rail running down Madison Ave., near 35th St., in Manhattan during the evening rush hour (*vide* THD) illustrated some of the perils faced by these weak-flying long-distance migrants. A Yellow Rail, whose regular passage is usually undetected here, was seen flying at the Lincoln Park gravel pits, Morris-Passaic Cos., N.J., Sept. 18 (TV).

The e. pond at J.B.W.R., drawn down again to favor shorebirds, attracted 36 species, but the closure of dikes at Brigantine N.W.R. (hereafter, Brig.) to vehicular traffic hampered coverage of that other classic shorebird stopover. While coastal numbers were mostly unexceptional, drought conditions created bonanza conditions at inland lakes and rivers. It was "the best fall ever" for shorebirds in n.e. Pennsylvania (WR). Deed reported that conditions were best for shorebirds at L. Tappan, N.Y., when part of the bottom was freshly exposed; after late July it had turned into hardpan.

Dunne commented that Am. Golden Plover now occurs daily at Cape May in fall and hence sometimes goes unreported, but inland it occurs regularly only at suitable sites to which it shows great fidelity, such as the sod farms at New Sharon, Mercer Co., N.J., which held up to 25 on Sept. 4-18 (*vide* RJB), at Columbus, Burlington Co., N.J., with 17 on Sept. 21 (*vide* AH), and in Orange County, N.Y., where there were 200+ Sept. 18 (JT). Far more unusual were eight on the drought-exposed edge of Spruce Run Res., N.J., Sept. 14 (GH), and one on the upper Susquehanna R., at Exeter, Pa., Sept. 23-Oct. 14 (WR). A Ruddy Turnstone, one of the least likely shorebirds inland, provided a second local record at Green Lane Res., Montgomery Co., Pa., Sept. 4 (RW).

Upland Sandpiper numbers were a bit more reassuring than last fall's, peaking at 75 in late August at the Columbus sod farm.

Single Red Knots were highly unusual inland at W. Fairview, Pa., Sept. 9 (ECS) and at Wyoming, Luzerne Co., Pa., Oct. 9-10 (WR). Baird's Sandpiper was widely distributed in small numbers. The best count at a traditional coast site was of five at Mecox, L.I., N.Y., Sept. 19 (PAB). Inland, drought opened up novel habitat at Green Lane Res., Aug. 13 (GLF) and four occurred at Spruce Run Res., Sept. 17 (GH). The best White-rumped Sandpiper count was 181 at Brig., Aug. 3 (JKM *et al.*), while far more unusual were one at Beach Haven, n.e. Pa., Sept. 16 (DG) and two at Wyoming Oct. 11 (WR).

At least four ad. Curlew Sandpipers were reported at J.B.W.R., their most dependable fall stop-over now, through August (THD, m.ob.), but the only other observation was at Brig., Aug. 16 (JBU *et al.*). Buff-breasted Sandpipers occurred in above-average numbers at the usual sod farms, although nowhere in the hundreds of 1976-77. The best count was of 16 at Columbus, N.J., Sept. 7. More unusual were four at Green Lane Res., Pa., Sept. 18 (GLF).

Up to five Marbled Godwits were at J.B.W.R., in early September with one lingering through Nov. 1 (m.ob.), while a good coastal New Jersey passage climaxed with a late six at Holgate Nov. 8 (RK). Cape Henlopen, Del., reported one Aug. 12, where they are less common on the outer coast (K.Gordon). J.B.W.R.'s eight Hudsonian Godwits in mid-August paled beside 18 at Brig., Aug. 10 (JKM *et al.*), and a flock of 25 photographed passing Cape May Pt., Aug. 23 (B.Augustine, RWR). Ruff occurrences were far more widespread last spring than this fall. We learned of one at Brig., Aug. 10 (JKM *et al.*), one at nearly-dry L. Tappan Aug. 28 (RFD), and a couple at J.B.W.R.

The late summer accumulation of non-breeding Am. Avocets at Bombay Hook N.W.R. (hereafter, B.H.N.W.R.), Del., reached an exceptionally high 230 Sept. 21 (CS). Northward stragglers were exclusively coastal, however; two reached Tobay Pond, L.I., in mid-August (m.ob.), and singles were observed at J.B.W.R., Aug. 15-Sept. 1 and Oct. 16-19. Reflecting recent expansion in breeding range to the e. coast, Wilson's Phalarope observations were widespread; a record 14 occurred at Cherry I., Wilmington Aug. 28 (APE). A Red Phalarope at Green Lane Res., Pa., Nov. 3-5 (ph. RW) provided about the ninth s.e. Pennsylvania record.

JAEGERS TO SKIMMERS—After a major coastal storm Oct. 25, 43 Parasitic and five Pomarine jaegers fought their way out of Delaware Bay against 40 m.p.h., SE wind, along with Gannets and kittiwakes, (DW, DS, CS, R. Mauer). That Pomarine Jaegers outnumber Parasitic Jaegers offshore was confirmed by Rowlett, who found 27 Pomarines and one Long-tailed Jaeger 85-110 mi e.s.e. of Cape May Oct. 3, but only a single Parasitic Oct. 1. A count of five-six Parasitic Jaegers at Montauk Pt., L.I., Nov. 29 (MVB, APE) was both large and late. Skuas are thinly distributed in the w. Atlantic; Rowlett saw none in six days offshore Aug. 6 - Oct. 3, although one was seen 15 mi off Cape May Pt., Sept. 6 (CS).

An inland "hot spot" for gulls at Penn Manor, Pa., produced one Glaucous Gull Nov. 28 - Dec. 4 and three Lesser Black-

backed Gulls Nov. 7, the third successive year. Three or four other individuals were reported, all coastal, from Rehoboth, Del., Nov. 7 (WWF) to Montauk Nov. 29 (MVB, APE). The California Gull that made history at Rockland County S.P., N.Y., returned for its third fall Sept. 12 (P.Derven, BW, RFD). A Mew Gull was identified at Cape May Oct. 10 by a British ornithologist who was photographing gulls for a new guide (EM), although he did not manage to snap this one, which would have supplied a first confirmed New Jersey record. What may have been the same adult or second-winter Franklin's Gull was observed at Cape May Aug. 9, Sept. 28 and Oct. 6 (RWR, DS, PB) for the second year in a row, for a third state record.

Post-breeding groups of adult and young Gull-billed Terns, normally confined to salt marsh, surprised observers who found them hawking for insects over cranberry bogs at two locations in the Burlington County, N.J., pine barrens in August (*vide* JKM, JDo *et al.*) Similarly, Forster's Terns were seen making long incursions up the Susquehanna R., and down again in the evenings, reaching an astonishing 80 above Holtwood Dam, Lancaster Co., Pa., Sept. 17 (RMS). These would seem to be coastal birds foraging upstream, perhaps because of drought, rather than the w. migrants which we have suspected in the past to be the origin of such inland flocks (*cf* AB 34:146).

One Arctic Tern was observed at Cape May Sept. 10 (DS), and another turned up in a photograph taken in late September of terns at Stone Harbor, N.J. (EM). Rowlett found a late Bridled Tern 85-100 mi e.s.e. of Cape May Oct. 1. A Royal Tern at Croton Pt., N.Y., Aug. 6 (BW) is believed to represent the first Hudson R., observation unrelated to a storm. Individual post-breeding Sandwich Terns, regular in small numbers now that it breeds n. to Maryland were near Cape May Sept. 10 (*vide* PD) and Oct. 3 (AK, G.Daniels, R. Sargent, CL), and two adults occurred at Shinnecock Inlet, L.I., Aug. 9 (F. Scheider, DC, P.DeBenedictis). A handful of coastal Caspian Tern sightings was normal, while nine perched on logs in the lowered Susquehanna R., Sept. 22 at Conowingo Dam, Lancaster Co., Pa. (RMS) and one over Scott's Mt., n.w. N.J., Nov. 5 (GH) were good examples of this species' small but regular inland passage. Over 500 Black Skimmers at Little Creek, Del., Aug. 27 (H.Cutler) provided a record for the Bombay Hook area One at Tinicum N.W.R., Philadelphia Aug. 23 - Sept. 5 (G&EKopf, J.Ginaven, F.Haas, RW) furnished the first Pennsylvania record in 20 years.

PIGEONS TO HUMMINGBIRDS—New Jersey's first Band-tailed Pigeon dropped down to a live Rock Dove decoy at the Rattlesnake Mt., n.w. N.J., hawk banding station Sept. 17 (A.Panzer, H. Rae). These notorious wanderers, all but unknown in the East a decade ago, have recently turned up in fall in Ontario (AB 33:173), Alabama (AB 26:76), Florida (AB 38:43), and Nova Scotia (AB 34:756), in winter in New Hampshire (AB 26:579) and Mississippi (AB 33:289), and in spring in Tennessee (AB 28:812) and Maine (AB 34:756). We know of no captive populations.

A banding project at Cape May trapped

214 owls this fall. 50 Barn Owls, including two foreign retraps, 48 Long-eared Owls, 115 Saw-whet Owls, and a Great Horned Owl (KD *et al.*). After five off years, Snowy Owls moved down the coast in fair numbers: with as many as 14 on Long Island, Oct. 30+ (GSR, THD *et mult. al.*), and at least five in coastal New Jersey (M.Hake, DW, IHB, TK *et al.*).

A very late Whip-poor-will discovered in a warehouse in Pennsauken, Pa., Oct. 31, fed with ground beef, and sent on to Florida by commercial airliner (B.Woodford) was surpassed by two taken from owl nets at Cape May Nov. 20-21 (KD). The total of 88 Ruby-throated Hummingbirds counted passing Hawk Mt., with a maximum of 17 on Sept. 3, was well below mid-1970s figures, but better than the 50 of fall 1978.

FLYCATCHERS, RAVEN—We have reports of only seven W. Kingbirds on Long Island, and about nine from coastal New Jersey, as well as only two inland: Orange County, N.Y., Oct. 5 (J&D Bradley), and Great Swamp, N.J., Sept. 16 (*vide* IHB), far fewer than last year.

A Yellow-bellied Flycatcher at Tobay, L I, Nov. 2 (AJL, ROP, * Am. Mus. Nat. Hist.) furnished the latest New York state record by almost a month. Other very late *Empidonax* that remained specifically unidentified raised tantalizing possibilities: another Nov. 2 at Seacliff, L.I., suggested Acadian (BJS); still another observed at Trexler-town, Lehigh Co., Pa., Nov. 9 (BLM); one at Linwood, Atlantic Co., N.J., Nov. 27 (JDD) flicked its wings and tail like a Dusky or a Hammond's which are no more unlikely in November than an *e. Empidonax*.

Ravens are quietly establishing themselves in the mountains of this Region, between the burgeoning s. Appalachian populations and that of New England. It was the "best flight ever" at Hawk Mt. (nine) and at the n.w. New Jersey hawk watches (seven altogether at Raccoon, Sunrise, and Rattlesnake), and they are still present at Slide Mt. in the Catskills (F Murphy) and at Red Rock, Pa., where Reid considers them "permanent residents" now.

CHICKADEES TO THRUSHES—A substantial Black-capped Chickadee flight reached the coast, but it was patchy in the interior and it nowhere reached the gigantic proportions of 1969-70 and 1975. Two Boreal Chickadees were observed at Sunrise Mt., N.J., Nov. 6 (T.McLaughlin, J.Palsulich), another Nov. 16 at Spruce Run Res., N.J. (JDe), and one Nov. 22 at Green Lane Res., Pa (GAF), far below 1975 numbers. Predictably, Red-breasted Nuthatches were on the move at the same time (*cf.* Lawrence Kilham "Association of Red-breasted Nuthatches with Chickadees in a Hemlock Cone Year," *Auk* 92:160-161 (1975)).

A Bewick's Wren at Wyalusing, Bradford Co., Pa., Oct. 29 (DG) provided our only report of this once widespread upland species. Three to six Short-billed Marsh Wrens discovered in mid-November along the Leeds Ecotrail at Brig., and remaining to at least Nov. 30 (RJB, BMe) were encouraging. The only other reports were of one lingering at the Lincoln Park gravel pits, N.J., Oct.

15+ (TV, TK, CL) and another Oct. 5 at Rus Park, N.Y. (RKe).

We missed Wheatear for the first fall in three years, but it was more than made up for by n.w. New Jersey's third Varied Thrush at Hackettstown, Warren Co., Nov. 15-16 (DB), and by the state's first **Townsend's Solitaire** discovered Nov. 17 at Sunrise Mt. (C.Wood, J.Climpson) and enjoyed by many as it fed on mountain ash berries through the period.

A **Bohemian Waxwing** at Hawk Mt., Nov. 3 and another (or the same) in the same mountain ash Nov. 17 supplied the second record there. After a "super summer" for Cedar Waxwings, a very late nest in Middletown, Orange Co., N.Y., fledged two young Sept. 15 (JT). Many hundreds moved down the coast with the cold front of early November and Delaware was "inundated" with them Nov. 2, when RWR counted 200 in Wilmington.

WARBLERS—Banders on G.G.I. and Long Island felt that Cape May, Blackpoll, and Bay-breasted warbler numbers were down (JDiC, AJL, ROP), perhaps marking the decline of spruce budworm infestations that have supported high warbler populations in recent years, but our evidence from other parts of the Region is impressionistic. A Yellow-rumped (Audubon's) Warbler was reported at Franklin Lakes, Bergen Co., N.J., Oct. 15 (RRy). Among many early migrants, the Palm Warbler that settled on the antenna of the Big Jim three hours at sea from Cape May Aug. 24 (PD) was the most unexpected. A Kentucky Warbler Oct. 6 at Beach Haven, Luzerne Co., Pa. (DG) was remarkably far n. and late for expanding s. species. The elusive Connecticut Warbler was trapped more often than seen free: four were banded on G.G.I., Aug. 28 - Oct. 5 (JDiC), three on the Jones Beach strip, L.I., in September (AJL, ROP), and one Sept. 12 near Centreville providing one of few Delaware records (DMN). Yellow-breasted Chats confirmed their fall proclivity for offshore islands; a remarkable 14 were banded on G.G.I., including five in August and one Nov. 1 (JDiC).

ICTERIDS, TANAGERS—A rather northerly example of a million-plus blackbird roost, more than half grackles, plagued Newburgh, Orange Co., N.Y., in late September and early October (KMCD). Three Yellow-headed Blackbirds on Long Island Sept. 21 - Oct. 10 (THD, AJL, M.Cashman) and two in coastal New Jersey Aug. 16 - Sept. 13 (JDD, RWR) were nearly average. An ad. ♀ Brewer's Blackbird, a species long-sought n. of its traditional Bombay Hook site and once photographed in New Jersey, was reported Nov. 9 at Mecox, L.I. (AK). Aside from three ♀ Boat-tailed Grackles at Freeport, L.I., Oct. 15 - Nov. 30 (A.Wollin, BJS *et al.*), this species remained behind its Barnegat, N.J., frontier. A W. Tanager at Cape May Sept. 28 (CS) was the only one reported.

GROSBEAKS, FINCHES, SPARROWS—Unlike insectivorous birds at the n. limit, the recently spreading Blue Grosbeak population lingers in fall. Although there were no November records this fall, two were on Long Island Oct. 12 & 19 (P.Post, RKe), one

in Westchester County, Oct. 9 (BW), and at least six frequented a sorghum planting near Cape May Aug. 23 - Oct. 6 (*vide* PD).

It was an uneven winter finch year, although better for some species than any fall since 1977. Evening Grosbeak and Purple Finch sightings were widespread. Two Pine Grosbeaks were at Balsam Lake Mt., in the Catskills, Nov. 16 (F.Murphy), three at Sunrise Mt., Nov. 27 (GH), and one at Tunkhannock, Pa., Nov. 5 (WR). For the first time in several falls a few Com. Redpolls appeared, far fewer than in the great flight years of 1973-74 and 1975-76. The best reports were of 15 at Cape May Oct. 5 (HGA) and the same number at Bridgeport, Gloucester Co., N.J., Nov. 7 (K.Brethwaite). A big Pine Siskin flight peaked Oct. 13 when 1400 passed Robert Moses S.P., L.I. (BJS) and Nov. 2 when 1000 were estimated passing over Tobay during the morning (AJL), but they seemed to move on through and scatter after that. Large number of Am. Goldfinches moved with them, but few observers counted them. Red Crossbills were very scarce on the coast, but 15 occurred at Hawk Mt., Nov. 19 (SB). The only White-winged Crossbills reported were 12 at Harvey's L., Pa., Nov. 1 (WR).

The aforementioned sorghum patch at Cape May held a notable five Grasshopper Sparrows Oct. 15 (*vide* PD), as well as three single Henslow's Sparrows during October, furnishing the season's only report. Twelve to 15 Vesper Sparrows in traditional fields at Alpha, Warren Co., N.J., were encouraging. A grand total of seven Lark Sparrows, all coastal, Aug. 17 - Oct. 7, was below par. A Clay-colored Sparrow and a Lincoln's Sparrow were among 13 species of landbirds that came aboard Rowlett's boat 85-110 mi e.s.e. of Cape May Oct. 3. An estimated 250 White-crowned Sparrows fed along highway shoulders at Jones Beach S.P., L.I., Oct. 24 (AJL) and 100+ were seen at Sandy Hook, N.J., Oct. 20 (GH *et al.*), numbers without precedent this far n. and e.

EXOTICS—"Do we have another Monk Parakeet on our hands?" asks BW, reporting 7-8 Nanday Conures, or Black-hooded Parakeets, *Nandayus nenday*, around Indian Pt., Westchester Co., in addition to the adult and young at N. White Plains during the summer (TWB). Three more were at Kearny, Hudson Co., N.J., Aug. 4 (RK, PB), while a Brooklyn, N.Y., population grew from eight in 1976 to 19 in 1978, including two immatures (P.Eisenstadt, *vide* J.Farrand). This species, adapted to temperate climates in s. Brazil and n. Argentina, is evidently reproducing here in the wild. The only Monk Parakeet reported was at Marlton, in the New Jersey suburbs of Philadelphia, in November (S.Weiss, *vide* JKM).

UNCONFIRMED REPORTS—HGA and J. Cadbury have meticulously described two shorebirds found Sept. 21 at Avalon, N.J., which fit ad. Sharp-tailed Sandpipers in every respect except undertail coverts which were noted as pure white (streaked lightly in adults) and the normally conspicuous eye ring which was not mentioned. There are area e coast specimens (Florida, Oct. 1, 1967 *AB* 22: 29, and Massachusetts, June 30, 1971, *AB* 25

833-4), but all the e. fall records of which we are aware were immatures. We thank Will Russell for help with this note.

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MIDDLE ATLANTIC COAST REGION

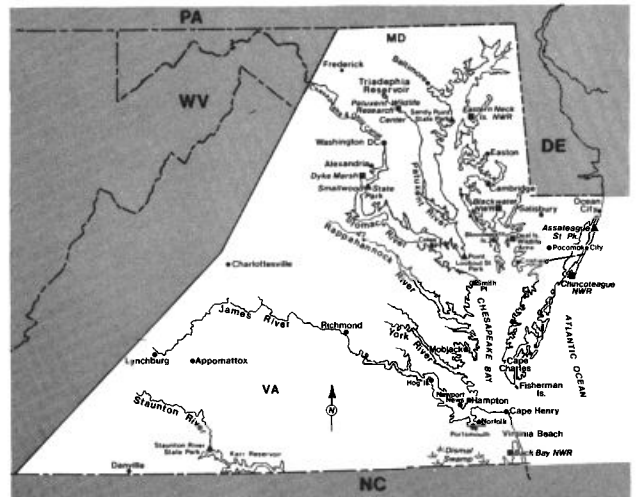
/ Henry T. Armistead

Summer's end was exceptionally hot and dry. The six regional stations that report local climatological data indicated temperatures averaging 3.78°F and 4.32° above normal, while precipitation was 2.15 and 1.69 inches below normal for August and September respectively. In a four-month period from June through September *all* stations reported a rainfall deficit for *each* month. The drought was disastrous for agriculture. Water was rationed in Norfolk. Streams, lakes and reservoirs lowered drastically. Some, including impoundments at Chincoteague, became bone dry. At Liberty Reservoir near Baltimore, Ringler witnessed the shorebird spot recede one-half mile from its usual location. In Richmond, 24 days in August and 13 in September reached 90° or more. Washington was baked by the hottest August on record, the second hottest September. During October, rain averaged 1.33 inches over the norm but the drought returned in November with a 0.49-inch below normal reading. Temperatures in October and November were 1.93° and 1.62° cooler than usual with strong cold fronts. Seekers of universal truths should read further under the larger bird groups below. For birders the drought was a mixed blessing, creating good shorebird habitat in some areas, destroying it elsewhere but helping the "grasspipers" regardless. Northern finches and Red-breasted Nuthatch, almost absent last winter, appeared in modest-to-good numbers and then became scarce again.

LOONS THROUGH ANHINGA—Loons through Horned Grebe were considered scarce by most observers, but at L. Anna, Louisa Co., Va., 52 Com. Loons were seen Oct. 28 (FRS, DP) a good piedmont count. Unprecedented were 477 in sight simultane-

ously in one group near Bellevue, Md., Nov. 9 where one in full breeding plumage was flying N Aug. 24 (HTA). Uncommon in the Bay (Chesapeake) Area single Red-throated Loons were at Sandy Pt. S.P. (hereafter, S.P.S.P.) Nov. 20 (HW), Talbot County, Md., Nov. 9 (JGR), and Ft. Belvoir, Va., Oct. 5+ (JBB). The unique Red-necked Grebe report was of one in Kent County, Md., Oct. 31 (JG). Single Eared Grebes occurred at L. Anna Nov. 2 (SC *et al.*) and Chincoteague N.W.R. (hereafter, C.N.W.R.), Sept. 23-Oct. 26 (DFA, CPW, ph.).

Off Cape Henry, Rowlett saw a N. Fulmar Oct. 11. Peak Cory's Shearwater numbers were 102 far off the Virginia coast Sept. 9 (RAR), while Greater Shearwaters were noted on 7 of 10 dates Aug. 4 - Oct. 11 with a maximum of five Aug. 24, 10 mi from Ocean City, where an Audubon's Shearwater was also seen (RAR, DFA). Audubon's were present up to 150 mi E of the Region's coast Aug. 5 - Oct. 11 with a high count of seven Sept. 1 & 9 (RAR). Four **Black-capped Petrels** were 100-150 mi from the Virginia capes Aug. 15 (RAR). A second record for the Region was provided by a **White-faced Storm-Petrel** 50 mi ESE of C.N.W.R., Aug. 24 (RAR, DFA, MLH, PGD) when eight Leach's Storm-Petrels were also seen. Wilson's Storm-Petrel peaked at 2420, a count made from the Wilmington-Norfolk Canyons area Sept. 12 (RAR). Birds seen at some of the distances from shore indicated above may be rather provincial additions to



any state list and sentiment is growing for designating the entire East Coast pelagic area as an autonomous reporting Region.

A White Pelican appeared again at Metomkin Inlet on the Virginia E. Shore in late August and early September (DV, GR). On Oct. 4 a **White-tailed Tropicbird** was seen 300 mi e. of the Virginia capes (RAR). A very early Gannet was found Aug. 24 10 mi s.e. of Ocean City (DFA, RAR *et al.*).

Great Cormorants occurred early and widespread as never before. What was probably the same immature was seen at Ft. Smallwood Park, Anne Arundel Co., Md., Sept. 22 and in Baltimore County Sept. 29, a new species for both counties (HW, EB); one at Cove Pt., Md., was new for Calvert County Nov. 12 (EB). Singles were identified in Fairfax County, Va., Sept. 17 (JMA, DFA) & Oct. 3 (JBB) on the Potomac R., near Washington, D.C. for the second and third county records. On the lower James R., Va., 1-4 were seen Nov. 19-26 (TEA). Early birds

also surfaced at more predictable localities one at Ocean City Oct. 12 (RFR *et al.*), one at St George I., Md., Oct. 16 (EB, BR), one at Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel (hereafter, C.B.B-T.), Sept. 14 (JHD, THD), and two at Craney I., Va., Oct. 21 (TRW). Five were at C.B.B-T., Oct. 12-13 (DFA, HB). Clearly Great Cormorant seems to be spreading, increasing and occurring for longer periods in the Region. At Hopewell, Va., 58 Double-crested Cormorants provided a high local count (FRS) and 5000 were estimated Oct. 6 on Assateague I., Va. (SHD). Perry had a close view of an *Anhinga* over Smith I., Va., Sept. 25 while earlier Scott saw two at Cape Charles, Va., nearby, Aug. 31. One was also reported at C.B.B-T., Oct. 12 (RAR, *vide* BW).

HERONS THROUGH FLAMINGOS—The herons were in low profile during the period, probably because of the drying up of some impoundment areas on the coast. Herons drew more commentary from upper reaches of the Chesapeake with some high counts there. Another feature was the residue of the summer's big White Ibis flight. Late Green Herons were at Lily Pons, Frederick Co., Md., Nov. 23 (DHW) and Northwest River Park, Virginia Beach, Nov. 26+ (GMW). Peak Cattle Egret counts included 800 at Libertytown, Worcester Co., Md., Aug. 28 (SHD), 575 at Cape Charles Sept. 11 (FRS) and 150 in Talbot County, Md., Oct. 4 (JGR); the latest were two at Presquile N.W.R., Va., Nov. 18 (HCO) and one at Denton, Md., Nov. 13 (*vide* AJF). Away from the coast good counts of Great Egrets were 40 at Lily Pons Aug. 31 (DHW) at Baltimore Sept. 12 (RFR) and 57 at Hopewell Sept. 28 (FRS, JWD); one at Crooms Station Rd., Prince Georges Co., Md., Nov. 29 was late (EB, BR). A Louisiana Heron in Fairfax County Sept. 9-24 furnished one of the few county records (DFA). At Baltimore 99 Black-crowned Night Herons were counted Oct. 17 and an imm. Yellow-crowned Night Heron was seen nearby (RFR, EB). Another was seen n. of Chestertown, Md., Nov. 27 (FLP), an unusual locality. One-to-three White Ibises were seen Aug. 3-Nov. 2 at at least 7 localities including S.P.S.P. (two imm., Sept. 25—BA, *vide* HW), Hopewell, Lily Pons, C.N.W.R., and Newport News (FRS, DHW, JMA, M&DLM *et al.*). At Broadwater Pt., Anne Arundel Co., Md., an Am. Flamingo of unknown origin was noted Oct. 7 (FS, *vide* HW).

WATERFOWL—Wintering birds were perceived as both late and in low numbers but with notable exceptions (see below). Small numbers of Mute Swan were at C.N.W.R., their s. outpost, but most were probably forced out by the drought, as were three on the Maryland part of Assateague I., Aug. 13 (MLH). The 70 Whistling Swans near Richmond Nov. 19 provided a fine local count (FRS). Canada Geese were reported in good numbers with many young birds (GR). The White-fronted Goose with three hybrid (x Canada Goose) young again turned up at Blackwater N.W.R., where Blom *et al.*, saw them Nov. 9 and close by at Trappe, Reese *et al.*, saw one Nov. 2. One Blue and four Snow geese in Kent County, Md., Sept. 15 marked a record Maryland arrival date (JG) and Vir-

ginia's earliest, with one of each at Smith I., occurred Oct. 3 (HTA, CP). Snows have been increasing in the Kent County/Queen Annes County, Md., area in the last few years with good numbers again this fall: 5000 Nov. 18 in Queen Annes County (FLP) and 1000 in nearby Caroline County at Ridgely Nov. 22 (MH, *vide* AJF). The sole Fulvous Whistling Duck report was of one at Berlin, Md., Sept. 22 (PGD).

At Presquile N.W.R., Nov. 21, Mallards peaked at 19,000, up 35% over last year's high (HCO). Black Ducks were reported also in good numbers, an aerial survey on Virginia's E. Shore estimating 12,000 in early November (GR). Two early Pintails were seen at Back Bay N.W.R., Aug. 16 (DFA). Good local counts were of 150 Green-winged Teal and 28 N. Shoveler at Easton, Md., Nov. 2 (JGR), 700 Green-winged Teal at Blackwater N.W.R., Nov. 8 (HTA), 16 Blue-winged at L. Anna Oct. 11 (JBB) and 700 Wood Ducks on Presquile N.W.R., Nov. 21 (HCO).

Scarce in the piedmont, six Oldsquaw were seen on L. Anna Nov. 2 (SC *et al.*). Single Com. Eiders were seen at C.B.B-T., Oct. 12-Nov. 26 (RAR, FRS, CPW) and at Virginia Beach from late summer-Nov. 30+ (RLA) the latter an ad. male. Two King Eiders were reported at C.B.B-T., Nov. 26 (CPW). Excellent Chesapeake counts were of 2000 White-winged, 500 Surf and 100 Black scoters in Talbot County, Md., Oct. 19 (JGR). At Richmond 91 Ruddy Ducks was a large number for the piedmont Nov. 30 (FRS) and 22 at C.N.W.R., Aug. 15 (SC) were undoubtedly summering birds. On Nov. 2, 300 on the Easton sewage lagoon was a good local count (JGR). November 19 was a good day for Hooded Mergansers, with 195 counted near Richmond (FRS) and 250 seen at Hog I., on the James R. (TEA).

VULTURES THROUGH RAILS—Most observers felt that the fall hawk flight was mediocre (BW, DFA) although there were some good high counts (see below). Generalities are difficult because the Region does not enjoy daily coverage at the best hawk watching sites. At Lily Pons 64 Black Vultures were seen Aug. 1 (DHW). The highest Sharp-shinned Hawk count was of 1779 at Kiptopeke, Va. Banding Station (hereafter, K.B.S.), Oct. 5 (BW), when only seven were on Smith I., only 6 mi distant (HTA, CP), yet 541 were at Smith I., Oct. 4 when K.B.S. registered 317. Another notable "Sharpie" count was 463 from 1230-1400 hrs at Wallops I., Va., Oct. 2 (CRV)—all flying S into a S wind. (See also below under Com. Flicker and Cedar Waxwing for other large fall migratory flights against the wind on the Delmarva Pen., an imperfectly understood phenomenon.) It is possible, for example, to see large numbers of "Sharpies" flying N into a N wind one day at Hooper's I., Md., and the next day find them all flying S into a S wind (HTA)! Elsewhere 540 "Sharpies" occurred at Ft. Smallwood Park Oct. 13 (EB) and an errant one was seen in Prince Georges County Aug. 1 (DFA). Williams had an early one Aug. 21 as well as an early Cooper's Hawk Aug. 16, both in James City County, Va. The high Red-tailed Hawk tally was 512 at S.P.S.P., Nov. 13 (HW); near Tilghman's I., Md., Reese had 150 and 25 Red-shouldered Hawks Nov. 16—excellent totals for

the E Shore Big Broad-winged Hawk flights occurred, with 1000 at Baltimore Sept 18 (RFR), 1237 at Ft. Smallwood Park Sept 24 (HW), 2000 at Claiborne, Md., Sept. 24 (JE, *vide* JGR) and 950 over Fisherman's I., Sept 29 (DFA, PGD). Cooper's Hawks were reported in low numbers (BW, DFA).

Single Golden Eagles were recorded at Alexandria Sept. 16 (JMA), Ft. Smallwood Park Oct. 6 (HW), Eastern Neck N.W.R., Nov. 9 (FLP, JG), and Assateague I., Md., Nov. 30 (SHD). Very high counts of Marsh Hawks were achieved at Ft. Smallwood Park with 71 Oct. 12 and 106 Oct. 13 (EB). Osprey counts were low. Peregrine Falcon, in spite of good Arctic breeding success, did not repeat its record flight of 1979, although near Cape Charles 18 were seen Sept. 26 (CP) and 16 in company with 68 Merlins were found Oct. 11 (BW). At Ft. Smallwood Park seven Merlins on Sept. 26 was an excellent total away from the coast (HW). Rails of interest found dead on the road included these singles: Virginia, Charlottesville Sept. 19 (DF, *vide* CES), Yellow, Williamsburg Oct. 11 (DFA, HB) and Black, C.B.B-T., Oct. 6 (CP, HTA). Another Yellow Rail was found along the Patuxent R., Anne Arundel Co., Md., Oct. 4 (*EMM). Cooper saw 1709 Am. Coot at L. Anna Nov. 2.

SHOREBIRDS—The complexity of shorebird migration is noted by Wilds who explains that "dividing the period at the end of August essentially splits shorebird migrants into adults and hatching-year birds." (See also D. Roberson *Rare Birds of the West Coast*, Woodcock Publ., 1980, p. 153-4) She also states that species such as dowitchers, knot, Willet, Whimbrel and W. Sandpiper make much more use of tidal flats in New England than they do in Middle Atlantic areas. At C.N.W.R., the dry conditions were excellent for peep, "grasspipers" and plovers (CPW). Peak plover counts there included 640 Semipalmated Aug. 4 (DFA), 31 Piping Aug. 6-7 (CPW), five Wilson's Aug. 21-Sept. 2 (CPW), and 75 Am. Golden Sept. 20 (DFA, HB). At Baltimore 42 Am. Golden Plover were seen Oct. 4 (RFR) and the last five were at Hopewell Nov. 2 (FRS, JWD). Vaughn saw 72 Whimbrel on Wallops I., Aug. 10 including one albino, plus 125 Stilt Sandpipers and nine Wilson's Phalaropes—all but the stilts provided seasonal highs for the Region. Single piedmont Greater Yellowlegs were seen in three localities in November and 19 at L. Anna Oct. 11 registered a new high there (JBB). Lesser Yellowlegs peaked Aug. 7 with 345 at C.N.W.R. (CPW) and 300 at Craney I. (TRW) but Wilds noted that the peak of juveniles of both yellowlegs species was only about 15% of normal and that most wading shorebirds, especially juvenals, were in low numbers.

Rare on the Chesapeake, one Red Knot was at Baltimore Aug. 31 and at Pt. Lookout Sept. 1 (RFR *et al.*)—quite possibly the same bird—and the seasonal high was only 100—these at Wallops I., Aug. 23 (CRV). November Pectoral Sandpipers were at two localities in Maryland and 467 were counted at C.N.W.R., Oct. 6-7 (CPW). Four White-rumped Sandpipers there Aug. 21-22 furnished this season's modest high (CPW). One of the highlights of the period was the multiple sighting of Baird's Sandpipers, with as

many as seven at Craney I., Aug. 30 (GMW, DH *et al.*) and five at C.N.W.R., Sept. 11 (JMA), new Virginia highs, with singles at Back Bay N.W.R., Aug. 16 (DFA), Baltimore Aug. 31 (JLS, RFR) and Berlin, Md., Sept. 22 (PGD). Peep peaks included: 483 Least Sandpipers Aug. 21-22, 292 Semipalmated Sandpipers Aug. 6-7 and 629 W. Sandpipers Sept. 15-16, all at C.N.W.R. (CPW). Three Dunlin at Piney Run Park, Carroll Co., Md., were late for the piedmont Nov. 23 (RFR) and one at C.N.W.R., Aug. 23 was early for the coast (DFA). Unusual Short-billed Dowitchers were at Liberty Res. (one Sept. 12, furnished a first Carroll County, Md., record—EB, RFR) and L. Anna (five Oct. 12—JBB, SC). Only a few reports of Long-billed Dowitcher were received: one in Baltimore Oct. 4 (HK *et al.*), two at C.N.W.R., Aug. 23 (DFA) and six records there by Wilds, her high being 13 on Sept. 15-16. The regional high for Stilt Sandpiper was 143 at C.N.W.R., Aug. 6-7 (CPW).

S.A.

Perhaps the most extraordinary event of the fall was the incredible massing of Buff-breasted Sandpipers at C.N.W.R., eclipsing the previous Virginia high count of 50 Sept. 23-24, 1978 (CPW). Sample counts included 105 Sept. 11 (JMA), 340 Sept. 14 (RAR), 117 Sept. 15 (CPW), and 211 Sept. 20 (DFA, HB). Some of these totals are apparently unprecedented for the East Coast and higher even than all but a few counts on the Great Plains or the coast of Texas. Elsewhere more usual numbers were encountered such as one in Baltimore Aug. 31 & Sept. 21 (HK, JLS, *vide* RFR, 2nd and 3rd county records), four at Summit Hill Turf Farm, Montgomery Co., Md., Sept. 6 (RFR *et al.*) and one near Berlin, Md., Sept. 22 (PGD).

One-to-two Marbled Godwits appeared at C.N.W.R., Back Bay and Wallops I. (SC, DFA, CRV) but the big group was the 109 carefully counted near Smith I., Va., Oct. 5 (HTA, CP)—one shy of the state high count. The only Maryland bird occurred at Ocean City Sept. 22 (PGD). The only Hudsonian Godwits were noted at C.N.W.R.—1-9 present July-Sept. 2 (JMA, CPW). Sanderlings are rare on the piedmont and one at Ruffin's Pond, Spotsylvania, Co., Va., Sept. 5 represented the 5th state piedmont record (SC). In the Back Bay area 7000 were estimated in the course of an 18 mi hike Aug. 16 (DFA), 2079 were at C.N.W.R., Aug. 21-22 (CPW), 1500 were on Assateague I., Md., Aug. 13 (MLH) and 1100 on Wallops I., Aug. 10 (CRV). As Craney I. dried up so did its normally huge Am. Avocet flock which dwindled from 450 Aug. 7 to 250 Aug. 19 to one on Oct. 21 (TRW); none were seen in November (TRW, FRS). Up to 40 were at C.N.W.R., Aug. 23 (DFA) with 29 lingering there until Oct. 23-24 (CPW). Maryland's single avocet occurred at Deal I. W.M.A., Nov. 1 (CRV *et al.*). The only pelagic Red Phalaropes reported were two off the Virginia capes Aug. 15 (RAR) but one at McKee-Beshers W.M.A., Md., Sept. 13 was totally unexpected and furnished the 4th state record away from the coast (PN *et al.*, ph.). Here three Wilson's Phalaropes

were seen Aug. 9 (PW) and at Craney I., seven were found Aug. 14 (SC, JF) and eight Sept. 16 (TRW). Off the Virginia capes N. Phalaropes were noted Aug. 4 (three—RAR), Aug. 15 (eight—RAR) and Sept. 13 (six—DFA *et al.*) while at Craney I., Wolfe had three Aug. 7 and four Sept. 2.



Red Phalarope, McKee-Beshers W.M.A., Md., Sept. 13, 1980. Photo / Paul Nistico.

JAEGERS THROUGH SKIMMERS—A Pomarine Jaeger seen Sept. 29 at Ft. Smallwood Park and Baltimore (HW, EB) was new for Baltimore County. Off the Virginia coast 13 were counted Sept. 30 (RAR) and two Sept. 13 (DFA *et al.*); one was at Virginia Beach Nov. 22 (TRW). Also off the Virginia coast were two Parasitic Jaegers Sept. 12 (RAR) and one Sept. 13 (DFA *et al.*) while another was 70 mi e. of Ocean City Aug. 24 (DFA). **Long-tailed Jaegers** were present 60-300 mi offshore from the Region's coastline: two Sept. 9, one Sept. 12 and one Oct. 4 (RAR).

The first reported Glaucous Gull of the winter was one at the Montgomery County, Md. landfill where there was also an Iceland Gull Nov. 19+, both first-year birds (HW, RFR). An ad. Iceland, a piedmont rarity, was at L. Anna Nov. 2 (SC *et al.*). This was the fall when Lesser Black-backed Gulls came into their own in the Region. As many as 20 different birds were reported. The earliest were two at Baltimore Sept. 18+ (EB) and one at C.B.B.-T., Sept. 21 (FRS), both of these sites later sporting as many as five and three respectively. They were seen at a minimum of 8 other localities in Maryland and 2 others in Virginia; Washington got its first one Oct. 29 (CPW). The intriguing question, of course, is where do they summer? Bazuin turned in the top count of Laughing Gulls: 1368 near Mason Neck, Fairfax Co., Va., Aug. 27. For the 4th straight year a Franklin's Gull was at Baltimore, this one seen Oct. 4 (EB *et al.*, *vide* RFR). The early Bonaparte's Gulls were 12 at Pope's Cr., Charles Co., Md., Sept. 21 (EMW) preceded only by one near Mason Neck Sept. 13 (JBB). A Black-legged Kittiwake at C.N.W.R., Sept. 20 was unique (DFA, RLA *et al.*).

A late Gull-billed Tern was near Smith I., Va., Oct. 5 (HTA, CP). Forster's Terns massed at Tilghman's I., where Reese saw 1000 Oct. 11. By Nov. 9 their numbers had declined to 150. Late ones were at Prince Georges County and the C.B.B.-T., in Maryland, both Nov. 29 (EB, JGR). Four Com. Terns at L. Anna Oct. 11 (JBB) were the latest ever recorded for the Virginia piedmont

and 100 in Talbot County, Md., Nov. 2 were also late and in high numbers. Single Arctic Terns were on C.N.W.R., Sept. 20 (DFA, HB, RLA) and at sea off Cape Henry Oct. 11 (RAR). At Back Bay a Roseate Tern was scrutinized Aug. 16 and another was at C.N.W.R., Sept. 21 (DFA). **Bridled Terns** were seen three times: one 10 mi s.e. of Ocean City Aug. 24 (RAR, DFA *et al.*), seven 60-80 mi e. of Assateague I., Sept. 9 (RAR) and four in Norfolk Canyon Sept. 13 (DFA *et al.*). A record Virginia count of 200+ Sandwich Terns was made at Back Bay Aug. 16 (DFA, HB); 31 were at Bethel Beach, Mathews Co., Va., Aug. 31 (JBB), three were on Assateague I., Md., Aug. 13 (MLH) and the last ones were 53 on Smith I., Va., Sept. 23 (CP). Two Caspian Terns at Ft. Smallwood Park Oct. 31 were the latest reported this fall (HW). Two Black Terns were 65 mi e. of Virginia Beach Sept. 13 (DFA *et al.*). Peak Black Skimmer counts were modest: 185 at Ocean City Oct. 12 (RFR *et al.*) and 430 at Craney I., Sept. 23 (TRW) while 2-3 immatures appeared at S.P.S.P., far up the Chesapeake Aug. 2-11 (HW).

DOVES THROUGH FLYCATCHERS

Always rare in Virginia, especially after September, **Ground Doves** occurred at C.B.B.-T., Oct. 13 (AB) and Kingsmill, James City Co., Oct. 21 (TEA *et al.*). Single Monk Parakeets were seen at Tilghman I., Md., Sept. 14 & 21, the latter in flight with other migrants (JGR). Late single Yellow-billed Cuckoos were at Ft. Belvoir Nov. 1 (DFA, HB) and McKee-Beshers W.M.A., Nov. 14 (PW); an adult was feeding a fledgling at Ft. Hunt, Fairfax Co., Va., Sept. 19 (JMA). The latest Black-billed Cuckoo was banded at K.B.S., Oct. 20 (WPS) where 11,887 individual birds of 97 species were banded this fall. There was an almost total lack of owl reports but Saw-whet Owls were at Lynchburg, Va., Oct. 25 (JHD, THD), Sandy Spring, Md., Oct. 31 (two—JSW) and Baltimore Nov. 15 (RFR). The last Chuck-will's-widow record was of one banded at K.B.S., Sept. 5 (FRS). Eike stated that the Com. Nighthawk flight was "so-so" and this is certainly borne out by the highest reported counts: 150 in Baltimore Sept. 5 (RFR) and 100 at Rockville, Md., Sept. 3 (EMW), but one was late at Annapolis Oct. 16 (HW).

Chimney Swifts drew more notice, with a great flight of 1500 at Alexandria Oct. 4 (JMA) and lingering ones at S.P.S.P. (WK) and Frederick County, Md. (DHW)—both Oct. 19. At Pope's I., on Assateague I., Md., Dyke counted 500 Com. Flickers Oct. 6 flying N into a NW wind between 0800 and 1300 hrs. A Red-headed Woodpecker was at C.B.B.-T., and 16 Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers were also nearby on Fisherman's I., Sept. 28 (DFA, PGD). Four Red-cockaded Woodpeckers were seen at Wakefield, Va., Aug. 15 (DC, *vide* CPW). Scott saw 530 E. Kingbirds at K.B.S., Sept. 3 and in the same general area single W. Kingbirds were found Sept. 19 (JPC, *vide* FRS), Oct. 6 (CP, HTA, GMW, DD) & Oct. 25 (DFA). Another was in James City County, Va., Sept. 26-29 (TEA, m.ob.). September 8 was the peak day for all *Empidonax* flycatchers at the K.B.S., when the following were banded: four Yellow-bellieds, eight Acadians, 23 Trail's and

seven Leasts (JHB). Woodward observed a fledgling E. Wood Pewee being fed at Mckee-Beshers W.M.A., on the late date of Sept. 15. At Tolchester Beach, Kent Co., Md., a **Western Wood Pewee** was carefully examined and banded Sept. 20 (JG, FLP, DM). The 3 previous state records have all been in September. Always scarce in the Region, single Olive-sided Flycatchers were reported at Roland, n. of Baltimore, Aug. 28 & Sept. 4 (PB, *fide* RFR) and Sandy Spring Sept. 14 (JSW).

LARKS THROUGH WAXWINGS—Bazuin's total of 725 Horned Larks in Loudoun County, Va., Nov. 23 overwhelmed the previous Virginia high count of 296. In Frederick County, Md., Wallace had 150 Rough-winged Swallows at Noland's Ferry Sept. 15, and 90 as late as Oct. 15 at Lily Ponds, but the latest was one at Ft. Smallwood Park Oct. 27 (HW). The last Barn Swallow report was of one at S.P.S.P., Nov. 2 (WK). At Fairfax 1000 Purple Martins were seen Aug. 20 (JWE). In the Maryland piedmont there was an invasion of Black-capped Chickadees beginning in late October and reaching flood stage by the end of November (PW, RFR, EB) and three reached the E. Shore in Kent County Nov. 13 (JG). Carolina Chickadees were much more numerous than usual (FRS, JMA) as were Tufted Titmice, 46 of which were banded at K.B.S., far above the previous high of 21 in 1968. Of these, 45 were hatching-year birds (FRS, M & DLM).

Thrushes were in very poor numbers at K.B.S., with the lowest totals in 17 years for Swainson's (67) and Gray-cheeked (95 *cf.* 794 Swainson's in 1958 (FRS). The flight in Fairfax County was very poor (JMA), yet at a banding site near Potomac, Md., in late September there were "nearly 100 Swainson's in one day and 50+ daily for about 7 days more" (MD, *fide* JSW). A Swainson's at S.P.S.P., Aug. 17 was very early (WK). Talbot County, Md., had the top E. Bluebird counts with 100 Nov. 2 (JGR) and 60 Nov. 9 (HTA). Blom carefully observed a **Wheatear** at Beltsville Sewage Plant, Prince Georges Co., Md., Sept. 25, the first reported sighting for the state. A lingering Blue-gray Gnatcatcher was at Kerr Res., Va., Nov. 29 (SG *et al.*). A very early Golden-crowned Kinglet was at C.N.W.R., Sept. 21 (DFA). At Bellevue, Md., a tremendous flight of Cedar Waxwings was observed Nov. 7, totaling 1134 birds in only 4 hours. The birds were all flying S into a strong S wind (HTA). In nearby Kent County, 500 were seen Nov. 3 (JG, *fide* FLP).

VIREOS AND WARBLERS—Philadelphia Vireos were seen Aug. 30–Oct. 19, the latter banded near Baltimore (JLS), with five banded at K.B.S., Sept. 19 (JPC). Ten Warbling Vireos were seen at Seneca, Md., Sept. 6 (PB, RFR) and one, very rare on the coast in fall, was at C.N.W.R., Sept. 11 (JMA). A late Black-and-white Warbler was in Richmond Nov. 26 (BR, *fide* FRS) and 43 were banded at K.B.S., Sept. 9 (JHB). Very late Maryland warblers included a Black-throated Blue Nov. 16 and a Black-throated Green Nov. 2, both in Talbot County (JGR), a Blackburnian at Rockville Nov. 11 (EMW) and in Virginia a Prairie on Wallops I., Dec. 7 (CRV). A **Cerulean Warbler** at K.B.S.,

Sept. 5 was the first recorded there in 18 years of operation (FRS, ph.); 476 Black-throated Blue Warblers were banded there this fall. Early warblers included Blue-winged and Canada at Pt. Lookout Aug. 17 (PN), Black-throated Blue and Black-throated Green in Carroll County, Md., Aug. 23 (RFR) and a N. Waterthrush in Baltimore July 29 (*fide* RFR). Connecticut and Mourning warblers, many of these banded birds, were reported only at 8 and 6 localities respectively.

FRINGILLIDS—A Rose-breasted Grosbeak at St. Michaels, Md., Nov. 20 was late, as were a Blue Grosbeak Oct. 19 and an Indigo Bunting Nov. 16—both at Tilghman's I. (JGR *et al.*). Breeding Dickcissels were still present near Hopewell Aug. 3 (five—FRS) and Frederick, Md., Aug. 1-3, two (DHW). Evening Grosbeaks first appeared in quantity Nov. 6-7 and remained Nov. 30+ but with a high of no more than 120 in Kent County, Md., Nov. 7 (JG). The only Com. Redpoll was near Baltimore Nov. 1 (HK, *fide* RPR). Pine Siskins and Am. Goldfinches were in good numbers in some areas with 210 and 275 respectively at Bellevue Nov. 7 (HTA). The only crossbill reports were of Red at Baltimore Oct. 28 and a White-winged at Westminster, Carroll Co., Md., Nov. 23 (*fide* RFR).

On C.B.B-T., an unprecedented sparrow extravaganza was witnessed this fall starting with a Lark Sept. 11 (DP, FRS). On Oct. 12 migrant landbirds of 30 species were seen here, 13 of them sparrows, including an ad.



Clay-colored Sparrow, 110 mi e. of Cape May, N.J., Oct. 3, 1980. Photo / R.A. Rowlett.

Henslow's, a Clay-colored and the first Virginia **Bachman's Sparrow** since 1968 (DFA, RAR, BW *et al.*, ph.). High winds kept these



Bachman's Sparrow, Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel, Oct. 12, 1980. Photo / D.F. Abbott.

birds on the islands all day, allowing excruciatingly detailed observation. Lincoln's Sparrows were at 7 locations, the latest being one banded at Sandy Spring Nov. 3 (JSW). Both Snow Bunting and Lapland Longspur were widespread, the former seen at 12 sites with a maximum of 50 at Craney I., Nov. 18 (TRW) and 38 at S.P.S.P., Nov. 13-14 (HW), the latter appearing at 12 places with a high of nine in Loudoun County, Va., Nov. 23 (JBB).

UNCONFIRMED REPORTS—An exceptional rarity, if confirmed, was an imm. Ivory Gull, the Region's first, described as "ternlike," and seen at L. Anna Oct. 29 but not later (HG, JM). There is only one more southern sight record, at Ft. Macon, N.C., Jan. 19, 1980 (see Lee, D.S., *Chat* 44:105-6).

CORRIGENDUM—Ash-throated Flycatcher reported at Haymarket, Va., Dec. 19 & 21 (AB 34:262) should read Dec. 9 & 11.

OBSERVERS—D.F. Abbott, J.M. Abbott, R.L. Ake, T.E. Armour, Bob Augustine, J.B. Bazuin, Henry Bielstein, C.R. Blom, Eirik Blom, M.R. Boatwright, Peggy Bohanan, Alan Brady, J.H. Buckalew, J.P. Church, Sam Cooper, Dave Czaplak, J.H. Dalmas, T.H. Dalmas, Doug Davis, J.W. Dillard, Margaret Donald, P.G. DuMont, S.H. Dyke, Jeff Effinger, J.W. Eike, David Field, A.J. Fletcher, John Frary, Helen Goldstick, Steve Graves, James Gruber, David & Anne Hallenbeck, M.L. Hoffman, Marvin Hewitt, David Hughes, H.C. Irving, Hank Kaestner, R.L. Kleen, Wayne Klockner, E.M. Martin, Dorothy Mendinhall, Mike & D.L. Mitchell, Jack Mozingo, Bill Murphy, Paul Nistico, H.C. Olson, F.L. Parks, Carl Perry, Darrell Peterson, Betsy Reeder, J.G. Reese, George Reiger, R.F. Ringler, B. Roszell, R.A. Rowlett, Friel Sanders, F.R. Scott, Anne & T.P. Smith, W.P. Smith, J.L. Stasz, C.E. Stevens, C.B. Swift, R.J. Tropician, Dotty Valentine, C.R. Vaughn, D.H. Wallace, M.L. Wass, J.S. Weske, Hal Wierenga, C.P. Wilds, Bill Williams, G.M. Williamson, E.M. Wilson, E.J. Willoughby, T.R. Wolfe, Paul Woodward—HENRY T. ARMISTEAD, 28 E. Springfield Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19118.

SOUTHERN ATLANTIC COAST REGION

/Harry E. LeGrand, Jr.

Throughout August and most of September, sweltering heat pervaded the Region, and little rainfall occurred. From late September to the end of the period, temperatures averaged slightly below normal, and precipitation returned to normal at most localities. Many lakes and ponds were very low during the fall, and some of the impoundments at Bodie and Pea islands in North Carolina were completely dry in September.

"Run-of-the-mill" would best describe the overall migration in the Region this fall, especially in regard to passerines. No large build-ups of migrants were reported from the coast, and birders along the coast (except around Charleston, South Carolina) generally failed to discover the outstanding rarities often expected at this season. On the other hand, the somewhat cold, late fall resulted in a better-than-average movement of waterfowl into the Region, and the first heavy irruption of winter finches and Red-breasted Nuthatches (but not crossbills) in three years left birders with the anticipation of seeing some of the rarer northern finches this winter.

LOONS THROUGH FRIGATEBIRDS—

Notable Com. Loon totals for interior Georgia were 14 at Atlanta Oct. 30 (FM) and 12 at Clark Hill Res., Nov. 2 (CB). A Red-necked Grebe at Jekyll I., Ga., Nov. 15 (JG *et al.*) was a very rare find for that state, and two Eared Grebes at L. Lanier, Ga., Oct. 21 (JP) provided the third state record. The most common of the shearwaters in this Region, the Cory's, was tallied in triple figures on North Carolina pelagic trips on five occasions Aug. 28-Oct. 7, with the peak 366 off Cape Lookout Aug. 28 (JF). The better counts of Greater Shearwater were 46 off Oregon Inlet, N.C., Aug. 28 (DL) and 50 off St. Simons I., Ga., Aug. 30 (JPe). No pelagic trip encountered Sooty Shearwater, but most produced a dozen or more Audubon's Shearwaters, with the most noteworthy totals being 130 off Cape Lookout Aug. 28 (JF) and 50+ off Cape Hatteras, N.C., on the late date of Nov. 20 (DL). Black-capped Petrels continue to increase off North Carolina, and in fall they now outnumber the similar-looking Greater Shearwater. The better Black-capped totals were 55 off Hatteras Sept. 7 (WR,DF *et al.*) and 161 off Capes Lookout and Hatteras Oct. 7 (RLP). Lee noted a Black-capped Petrel with no rump patch off Hatteras Nov. 20, and he carefully studied a dark-phase South Trinidad Petrel off Oregon Inlet, N.C., Aug. 21, which provided the third North American record. Caution is urged with the identification of *Pterodroma* petrels, since several species have two or three color phases, and some Black-capped observed off North Carolina in recent years have lacked the white collar and/or rump patch, thereby resembling a large Cahow (Bermuda Petrel—a species not yet recorded from the Atlantic Coast). Immature Great Cormorants were noted in North Carolina at Wrightsville Beach Oct. 14 (RD), Pea I., Oct. 31 (AB) and Nov. 29 (CW), and Hatteras Inlet Nov. 28

(CW). One to two Anhingas at Augusta, Ga., Sept. 20-Nov. 29 provided rare sightings for that area (AW), and an imm. Magnificent Frigatebird at North I., S.C., Nov. 16 was remarkably late (GM *et al.*).

WADERS—Augusta was the site of a very large heron roost in August; Aug. 14 eight species were noted, the most numerous being 100 Great Egrets, 700 White Ibises, and 1000 Cattle Egrets and imm. Little Blue Herons (AW,VW). Jordan Res., Chatham Co., N.C., was again home to dozens of post-breeding waders, with the best records being a Snowy Egret Aug. 2-10 (BL), a Louisiana Heron Aug. 2-7 (BL), a Least Bittern Aug. 9 (AB,RJH,BL), two Glossy Ibises Sept. 20-28 (AB,JOP,EP), and 140 White Ibises Aug. 14 (BL,HL). At least 300 Cattle Egrets at Rum Creek W.M.A., near Forsyth, Ga., from late August into September (TWJ) were notable, as were 10 at Beaverdam Res., n. of Raleigh, N.C., Sept. 28 (AC,BW). Other noteworthy wader reports were of 60 Black-crowned Night Herons at Eufaula N.W.R., Ga., Oct. 9 (SP *et al.*), 33 White Ibises at Beaverdam Res., Aug. 30 (SG,BW,MW), and a late White Ibis there Nov. 18 (BW, MW, JPay).

WATERFOWL—A few Whistling Swans were seen inland in late November at L. Surf, N.C. (CG) and at Augusta (AW,VW) and Fairburn, Ga. (DM). South Carolina finally recorded its first **Barnacle Goose**. One was seen Nov. 7-30 at Santee N.W.R., L. Marion, S.C. (PN,GM *et al.*). Although some birders may believe the goose to be an escapee, it was rather wary, and its arrival in late fall and presence at a well-known goose refuge seem to indicate that it was wild. Fulvous Whistling Duck occurred regularly along the Region's coast in the 1960s, but reports have been somewhat scarce during the last 5 or 10 years; the only sighting this fall was of six birds at Magnolia Gardens, near Charleston Sept. 20 (EF). Observers in inland Georgia noted many early waterfowl: a Pintail at Pendergrass Sept. 1 (JP,JC), six Am. Wigeon there Aug. 10 (JC,BG), three N. Shovelers at Augusta Sept. 20 (AW,VW), and eight Redheads at Atlanta Oct. 3 (FM). Other noteworthy inland records were of 100+ Buffleheads at Cumming, Ga., Nov. 28 (JPe), a ♀ White-winged Scoter at Jordan Res., Dec. 1 (JM,MS), and an imm. Surf Scoter on L. Cammack, near Burlington, N.C., Oct. 20 (AB).

DIURNAL RAPTORS—Although the hawk flight through the Region, both coastal and inland, was only fair-to-moderate at best, several notable totals of individual species were reported. A roost of 100+ Black Vultures was seen near Cumming, Ga., Sept. 6 (JC,JP), 124 Sharp-shinned Hawks were tallied in 3 hours at Ft. Fisher, N.C., Oct. 4 (RD), and 446 Broad-winged Hawks were observed in 4 hours at Stone Mountain S.P., N.C., Sept. 22 (THa). Nugent and Miller noted a late imm. Broad-winged Hawk at Santee N.W.R., Nov. 22, and they saw an ad. Swainson's Hawk at the entrance to Sea-



brook I., S.C., Nov. 9, for a second state record. The first record for South Carolina was also of an adult at Bull's I., November, 1935 (*Auk* 53:209). An adult and an imm. Golden Eagle were seen at Eufaula N.W.R., Ga., Nov. 22 (*vide* TM) and an immature was noted at St. Simons I., Ga., the same day (EY). Three reports of ad. Bald Eagles during the period near Winston-Salem, N.C., were rare for that area (RS *et al.*), and in Georgia, adults in early October were noteworthy near LaGrange (*vide* JH), and Macon (LR). The coastal migration of Peregrine Falcons returned to normal this fall, after the memorable flight of 1979. The best single-day count was of eight at Cape Lookout (no date—SPr), and 25± were tallied along the s. coast of Georgia Sept. 27-Oct. 5 (TM *et al.*). Five of the six inland reports of Peregrines were confined to the period Sept. 16-Oct. 3, with the other sighting being of one at Raleigh Nov. 13 (RSc). There were nine inland reports of Merlin, seven occurring Sept. 24-Oct. 26; one at Augusta Aug. 16 was very early (AW,VW).

CRANES THROUGH COOT—A Sandhill Crane seen near Dublin, Ga., Nov. 30 (TKP) represented a rare occurrence for that area, and a Virginia Rail at Jordan Res., Aug. 2 (AB,BL) was so early that the possibility of it having bred must be considered. Fussell worked the flooded marshes at North R., near Beaufort, N.C., Oct. 25, but he flushed only one rail—a Yellow! A Black Rail answered a taped call at dawn at Huntington Beach S.P., S.C., Oct. 12 (SC,GM,PN). A group of birders gathered at Cedar Island N.W.R., N.C. (where Black Rails commonly nest), Nov. 14, when refuge personnel had planned to burn 500 acres of upland habitat and 1000 acres of marsh. The effort was a dismal failure; 300 acres of upland were burned, yet the fire never reached the marshes, and the birders hoping to add Black and Yellow rails to their life lists were highly disappointed (*vide* JF, MT). Very late for North Carolina was an imm. Purple Gallinule at Sunset Beach Nov. 8 (KM,PE,PJC).

SHOREBIRDS—A group of 12 Am. Avocets at Griffin Res., Ga., Aug. 1 (HG) was exceptional, and even the one seen at Beaverdam Res., N.C., Aug. 31 (JGa,LGa, AC) was considered a very good find. The best shorebird record of the season was provided by four Mountain Plovers studied in great detail with a flock of Killdeers in a pasture near Dublin, Ga., Nov. 8 (TKP). The

two previous Regional records were also sight records from Georgia, both from along the coast in winter. I received 13 reports of Am. Golden Plovers, including five from inland localities; one near Dublin Aug. 16-Sept. 8, and seven there Nov. 8-10 (TKP); one at Gainesville, Ga., Oct. 1 (JP); one near Townville, S.C., Sept. 14 (SAG,HL); two at Clemson, S.C., Sept. 25 (HL); and up to 12 at Beaverdam Res., Sept. 25-Oct. 2 (BW,MW,SG *et al.*). Black-bellied Plover is somewhat rarer inland in fall than the Am. Golden, yet it was noted four times: at Clemson Aug. 24 (AA *et al.*), at Beaverdam Res., Sept. 2 (BW,MW), at Chapel Hill, N.C., Sept. 10 (JOP,EP), and near Dublin Nov. 1-13 (TKP). The only Long-billed Curlew report was of one at the s.w. tip of Ocracoke I., N.C., Nov. 28 (CW). Excellent counts of Upland Sandpipers for the fall were of 25 at Shaw A.F.B., near Sumter, S.C., Aug. 2 (ED), 20 at the airport at Wilmington, N.C., Aug. 8, and 31 there Aug. 14 (RD). Besides the Sumter birds, other Uplands inland were noted at Jordan Res., Raleigh, and Dublin, Aug. 7-Sept. 3.

Quite notable inland were single Willets at Jordan Res., Aug. 22 (SG), and Aug. 30 at both Beaverdam Res. (SG,BW,MW) and Santee N.W.R. (ED,RS); and just as unusual inland were single Ruddy Turnstones at Beaverdam Sept. 1 (DK *et al.*) and Dublin Sept. 6-8 (TKP), with five at Beaverdam Sept. 29 (SG) and two at Gainesville Oct. 1-12 (JP). Wilson's Phalaropes were not reported from the coast in numbers (double figures) this season, although eight at Bodie and Pea Is., Aug. 16 (BL,HL,AB) was a respectable total; inland reports of singles were at Jordan Res., Aug. 14-Sept. 28 (same bird?—BL,BW,SG), Beaverdam Res., Sept. 27 (SG), and Dublin Oct. 10-12 (TKP). No one reported a N Phalarope from inland, but five pelagic trips off the North Carolina coast Aug. 17-Sept. 7 each yielded 30-93 birds. Very rare inland was a Red Phalarope at Beaverdam Res., Sept. 28-29 (AB,KK,BW *et al.*), and a Long-billed Dowitcher near Townville Sept. 21 (HL,SAG), although not as exciting as the phalarope, was nonetheless an excellent find. Notable shorebirds at Jordan Res. included a Sanderling Aug. 22-23 (SG,AB), a White-rumped Sandpiper Aug. 22 (SG), and as many as six Stilt Sandpipers Aug. 14-Sept. 20 (SG,AB *et al.*). LeGrand found the only Baird's Sandpipers reported during the season: singles at Pea I., Aug. 18 (HL,BL,AB) and at Clemson Aug. 23-24. Buff-breasted Sandpipers provided a dismal fall migration showing through the Region in 1979, but reports were up considerably in 1980, with sightings from nine localities, including six from inland. Nearly unprecedented were 18 at Dublin Sept. 6-8 (TKP) and 14 at Clemson Sept. 14 (SAG,HL *et al.*); others inland were one at Santee N.W.R., Aug. 30 (ED,RS), up to three at Beaverdam Aug. 30-Sept. 8 (BW,MW,SG), one at Winston-Salem Sept. 5-6 (RS *et al.*), and up to four near Vass, N.C., Sept. 4-8 (JHC,TS *et al.*).

JAEGERS THROUGH SKIMMERS—A Parasitic Jaeger at Cumberland I., Ga., Aug. 27 (BI,EI) occurred rather early, and most unusual was an ad. Long-tailed Jaeger Aug. 17 off Hatteras, N.C. (PD,RA,HL *et al.*). Most of the Long-tailed off our coast in the

fall are immatures or subadults that generally require collection to insure proper identification. An imm. Glaucous Gull was very early at Morehead City, N.C., Sept. 21-Oct. 5 (JF). Lesser Black-backed Gull reports in the Region have multiplied greatly during the past few years, and Georgia's second and third records of the species came this fall from Jekyll I., where an adult was observed Aug. 31 (BM,JG), and a third-year individual was noted Aug. 31-Oct. 12 (m.ob.). Another adult was seen at Pamlico Pt., N.C., Oct. 24 (PJC *et al.*). No other rare gulls were reported for the season, although an early Bonaparte's at Huntington Beach, S.C., Aug. 16 (RP), deserves mention. A few Forster's, Caspian, Black and Com. terns were observed inland, as usual, with the best counts being of 17 Commons near Winston-Salem Sept. 29 (PC) and five Caspians each at Beaverdam Res., Sept. 3 (BW,MW) and L. Surf near Vass, N.C., Sept. 27 (TH). Quite surprising was an imm. Sooty Tern on a mudflat at Portsmouth I., N.C., Aug. 21 (SPR), but the only pelagic sighting was of three birds off Oregon Inlet, N.C., Sept. 10 (DL). One wonders if hurricane *David* (or some other hurricane) killed large numbers of Bridled and Sooty terns in the Caribbean Sea and the Atlantic Ocean last fall, as Bridled numbers were very low this summer and fall in the Region; ten off Jekyll I., Oct. 11 (G.O.S.) was fair for Georgia, but the best North Carolina count was just seven birds, off Oregon Inlet Sept. 10 (DL). An imm. **Black Skimmer** at Jordan Res., Aug. 30-Sept. 6 (AB *et al.*) supplied apparently the third inland record for North Carolina.

DOVES THROUGH FLYCATCHERS—A Ground Dove near Forsyth, Ga., Aug. 25 (TJW) was somewhat n. of its usual range. Late Yellow-billed Cuckoos included two at Ft. Fisher Nov. 1 (RD), one near Charleston Nov. 1 (LB,SH), and one at Clemson Nov. 2 (HL,SAG); and five Black-billed Cuckoos seen by Carusos in the Atlanta area in early October was more than most Regional birders see in 5 years. Most unusual was a Long-eared Owl on North I., S.C., Nov. 16 (GM *et al.*), and a Short-eared Owl were rather early at Pea I., Oct. 12 (JOP,EP). A heavy migration of Com. Nighthawks passed over Atlanta Sept. 3, with three parties each tallying 100+ birds (*vide* TM). Along the coast, where the species is uncommon as a fall migrant, 200+ nighthawks were noted at Sullivans I., S.C., Sept. 6 (SC). The best flycatcher record of the season was that of a Gray Kingbird studied carefully inland at Santee N.W.R., Oct. 25 (JB,LG,JPaq); another Gray was near Georgetown, S.C., July 31 (CE). All six W. Kingbird reports came from the North Carolina coast, with the highest counts being three at Pea I., Oct. 13 (JOP,EP) and three Nov. 1 at Cape Lookout (SPR). The best way to see *Empidonax* flycatchers in the Region in fall is not with binoculars, but with mist nets. Dabbs netted single Yellow-bellied Flycatchers at Sumter, S.C., Sept. 8 & 9, "Traill's" Sept. 13 & 20, and two Least Sept. 9. Netting at Clemson in September and early October yielded a few Least, a half-dozen "Traill's", and one Yellow-bellied (PH,HL *et al.*). Other flycatchers of note were Yellow-bellieds at Chapel Hill Sept. 13-14 (SG *et al.*) and Atlanta Oct. 4

(VJ,TJ), and the quite rare Olive-sided at Clemson Aug. 23 (HL) and Atlanta Sept. 16 (DG).

SWALLOWS THROUGH VIREOS—A Rough-winged Swallow Nov. 8 near Pendleton, S.C., was absurdly late (HL *et al.*); it was studied from all sides as it perched on a telephone wire. A Purple Martin at Whispering Pines, N.C., through Oct. 20 (RoD) was quite late, and late and unusual was a soaring flock of 30 Fish Crows Nov. 30 near Townville (PH,HL). Red-breasted Nuthatches were fairly common or common nearly everywhere, a welcome change from last fall, with one being quite early Aug. 30 at Bodie I. (FI,WI). Among other early records were a Winter Wren at Chapel Hill Sept. 14 (SG *et al.*), a rare Bewick's Wren near Fayetteville, N.C., Aug. 30 (PJC), and one-to-two singing Short-billed Marsh Wrens at Jordan Res., Aug. 7-22 (DA,SG,BL); a Golden-crowned Kinglet Sept. 23 at Raleigh (GW), a Ruby-crowned Kinglet at Decatur, Ga., Sept. 6 (PB), a Cedar Waxwing at Buxton, N.C., Aug. 16 (HL), and a Solitary Vireo n of Charleston Sept. 1 (SC). With the excessively hot weather throughout August and September, it is amazing that *any* fall migrants would be early in arriving in the Region! The six reports of Philadelphia Vireo spanned Sept. 11-Oct. 12, with the most interesting being of netted birds at Sumter Sept. 11 & 22 (ED), two banded at Jekyll I., Sept. 29 (D&DC *et al.*), and three seen in Forsyth County, Ga., Oct. 4 (JC,JP). An exceptional find was a **Warbling Vireo**, seen well and described in full, at Ft. Fisher Sept. 9 (RD). This probably represents a first fall record for the North Carolina coast, and it is one of the surprisingly few fall records for the entire Region.

WARBLERS THROUGH BLACK-BIRDS—Although the warbler migration was moderate at most localities, few really noteworthy finds were reported, and coastal waves were rather infrequent. Rare near the coast were two Blue-winged Warblers at Cape Lookout Sept. 5 (SPR) and three near Charleston Oct. 4 (PN), and rare anywhere in the Region were Brewster's hybrids at Augusta Sept. 14 (AW,VW) and at two places in the Atlanta area Sept. 7 (DP) & 14 (BP). Among the numerous Nashville Warbler reports, the most notable were one early at Jekyll I., Aug. 29 (BI,EI), and a first North Carolina Sandhills record established near McCain Oct. 7 (JHC,TH). Very late was a Cape May Warbler Nov. 29 at Seabrook I., S.C. (GM,PN), and single Ceruleans were sighted on four occasions: L. Lanier, Ga., Aug. 6 (JP), Clemson Sept. 7 (SAG), near Charleston Oct. 4 (PN), and Fayetteville Oct. 13 (PJC). The two October sightings were accompanied by excellent details; otherwise, they might have been rejected, as Ceruleans are very rare after mid-September. Late birds Nov. 4 were a Blackburnian Warbler at Gainesville (JP) and an Ovenbird in Atlanta (PB,DB); and the rare and secretive Connecticut Warbler was observed in early October near Durham, N.C. (JPay) and at Seabrook I., Nov. 15 (excellent details—PN *et al.*) A Bobolink at Ft. Fisher was late Nov. 1 (RD), and ♂ and ♀ Brewer's Blackbirds were found at Raleigh Oct. 25 (GW).

FINCHES—Late finches in Georgia included a Rose-breasted Grosbeak at Atlanta Nov. 4 (PB), a Blue Grosbeak at Kennesaw Nov. 8 (JP,JC), and a ♂ Painted Bunting at Augusta Nov. 15 (AW,VW). Two Dickcissels provided a rare occurrence at Gainesville Sept. 10 (JP) as did one at Ft. Fisher Oct. 4 (RD). Evening Grosbeaks were noted by practically all contributors in November, thereby indicating the first winter finch invasion into the Region since fall 1977. Similarly, Pine Siskins were observed by practically everyone; the earliest sighting was at Cape Lookout Oct. 12 (JF *et al.*), and 300 in one field near Zebulon, N.C., Nov. 5 (EPo) was an excellent number for so early in the season. Noteworthy for the coast were a House Finch at Buxton, N.C., Oct. 9 (GH) and 20+ at a feeder at Morehead City in late November (*vide* JF). Perhaps this winter House Finches will finally be reported from Wilmington, Charleston, and other coastal towns s. of Morehead City. A rare and elusive Henslow's Sparrow was noted Oct. 19 at Atlanta (PB); approximately five were observed at the site where one wintered last year, in w. Carteret County, N.C., Nov. 12-13 (JF,ML *et al.*). Quite rare inland were a Sharp-tailed Sparrow at the Chatahoochee R., near Atlanta Nov. 12 & 19 (TR) and a Lark Sparrow at Winston-Salem Sept. 5-6 (RS *et al.*). Seldom mist-netted, a Bachman's

Sparrow was banded at Jekyll I., Sept. 27 (D&DC,TM), and a Tree Sparrow at Chapel Hill Oct. 27 (SG) was so early that concern over its proper identification is present. Ricky Davis intensively worked the Ft. Fisher area again this season, recording a Clay-colored Sparrow there Nov. 1, for the fifth consecutive fall. Six Lincoln's Sparrows netted at Clemson Oct. 4-Nov. 6 (HL,PH *et al.*) attest to the numbers of this secretive species that migrate through the w. portions of the Region. Paget discovered a Lapland Longspur at the Gainesville airport Nov. 10, and probably the same bird was there Nov. 29 (TM *et al.*); two longspurs were also at Core Banks, N.C., Nov. 4 (CD,RH). Snow Bunting staged its best fall migration into the Region in at least a decade, with all reports being of coastal birds. In North Carolina several parties tallied 20+ birds, and 90± were noted at Pea I., in late November (S&EM). Farther s., one was at North I., S.C., Nov. 16 (GM *et al.*) and two were at St. Simons I., Nov. 22-29 (EY,TSO).

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FLORIDA REGION

/Lyn S. and Brooks H. Atherton

Summer rains continued to fall throughout the month of August with precipitation levels reaching near normal levels. But then the weather turned dry for most of the state as tropical hurricanes passing to the south and west drew most of the moisture away from the mainland. September was abnormally dry and warm, making it difficult to associate significant bird movements with weather patterns. For example, major movements of migratory birds occurred September 7, 21, and 28 in the absence of any distinctive weather patterns.

Later in the season a better correlation developed, as the normal progression of cold fronts resumed. That spiced up the birders' season as good movements coincided with the cold fronts occurring on October 2 and 25, and November 16 and 29.

ABBREVIATIONS—D.F.B.G.: Duda Farms at Belle Glade; E.N.P.: Everglades National Park; S.C.P.: Saddle Creek Park near Lakeland; T.T.: Tall Timbers Research Station; U.S.F.: University of South Florida.

Duda Farms at Belle Glade near Lake Okeechobee continues to be a major attrac-

tion for waders, shorebirds and ducks. Some species are found there in greater concentrations than perhaps in any other place in Florida. In fact, it is possible that there is no greater concentration of Black-necked Stilts east of the Mississippi River (*vide* PS). Following is a list of high counts for this fall: 320 Pied-billed Grebes Sept. 28; 2870 Great Egrets Aug. 17; 920 Snowy Egrets Sept. 7; 3540 Wood Storks Aug. 31; 860 Glossy Ibises Sept. 28; 1945 White Ibises Nov. 16; 1070 Fulvous Whistling Ducks Sept. 7; 9900 Blue-winged Teal Sept. 28; 1280 Killdeer Nov. 16; 2250 Black-bellied Plovers Oct. 26; 23,600 Lesser Yellowlegs Oct. 5; 3440 Pectoral Sandpipers Aug. 17; 11,010 Least Sandpipers Nov. 16; 5600 Short-billed Dowitchers Nov. 16; 1490 Stilt Sandpipers Sept. 28; 7900 Semipalmated Sandpipers Aug. 17; 1930 Black-necked Stilts Aug. 31 (PS, GH, HL, TT, A&BL).

GREBES THROUGH FRIGATEBIRDS—Four Horned Grebes inland at D.F.B.G., Oct. 26 (PS,HL) were unusual but more rare were the two Eared Grebes found there Sept. 14 (PS, GH *et al.*) with at least one remaining until Nov. 16 (PS,HL *et al.*). Another Eared Grebe found dead at L. Trafford, Collier Co., Sept. 14 (R&RW; *U.S.F.) represents the southernmost record for Florida and tied



those at D F B G , for the second-earliest date (*vide* TB). The more significant sightings of Cory's Shearwater were 77 Oct. 5 and 11 Oct. 23 off Cape Canaveral (JJ), and 152 off New Smyrna Oct. 12 (F.O.S.). One of the most surprising finds of the season was a Greater Shearwater road-killed Sept. 28 (WH; * U.S.F.) near U.S.F., in n. Hillsborough County at least 30 mi from the Gulf. Sightings off Cape Canaveral of the rarer Sooty Shearwater were of single birds Sept. 7 & Nov. 16 (JJ). F.O.S. members who took the pelagic trip during the fall meeting were not only rewarded with the large numbers of Cory's and 20 Audubon's shearwaters, but they also had excellent views of Black-capped Petrel, providing the first fall record for Florida. On Aug. 26 an apparently sick storm-petrel was brought to the Apollo Visitors' Center at Cape Canaveral Nat'l Seashore where it was identified as a Leach's Storm-Petrel by staff members (JB, WH, BP). Unfortunately, the bird flew away before it could be photographed.

Although White Pelicans may be expected anywhere along the s. Florida coast in late fall, 500 birds flying SW over Casey Key, Sarasota Co., Nov. 12 (A&SS) must have been a beautiful sight. Another single bird in Alachua County Nov. 16 (A.A.S.) represented only the second county record. The only Blue-faced (Masked) Booby reported was an immature found dead at Casey Key Aug. 3 (A&SS). While Brown Boobies are occasionally reported off Cape Canaveral where two immatures were observed Sept. 7 (JJ), an immature at Port Myakka on L. Okeechobee Nov. 27 (PW) was most extraordinary and possibly the only one recorded in inland Florida (*vide* PS)! Unusual because of their large numbers were 50 Gannets off Key Largo at John Pennekamp S.P., Nov. 29 (GY).

Single Great Cormorants were reported at Port Canaveral Oct. 23 (JJ), Virginia Key, Dade Co., Nov. 25+ (RT), and Alligator Pt., Nov. 28 (JM, RiH *et al.*) while a Double-crested Cormorant observed in c. Jefferson County Aug. 14 (GM) marked a rare n. inland occurrence in summer. A flight of 18 Anhingas soaring over Key West Oct. 26 (D&KM) was considered by Frances Hames to be a rare sighting similar to one she saw there "some years ago". The Magnificent Frigatebird, rare in fall in the n. section, was reported at Alligator Pt., Sept. 27 (C&JW), St George I., Oct. 27 (JMS) and Jacksonville Beach Nov. 30 (MJW).

WADERS, GEESE AND DUCKS—Far n. of its normal range was a white morph of the Great Blue Heron at Casey Key Aug. 28 (A&SS) while an imm. Reddish Egret was unusually far inland at a farm on U.S. 27, Palm Beach Co., Aug. 31 (RT). Two Glossy Ibises, rare in Leon County were at L. Lafayette Sept. 21 (GM, HMS) while five others near the Key West Airport Oct. 26 (D&KM) were of interest, since any number > one is very unusual there (*vide* FH). Years ago, White Ibis was considered rare there also, but this year as many as 17 were seen feeding on private lawns in town and 14 were observed at the White Street pier Nov. 14 (FH, MB).

Four White-fronted Geese were at L.

Lafayette Oct 25 (GM) with one also there Nov. 29 (GM, JC), while Snow Geese sightings were unusual s. of the Panhandle with two at the Bayway, s. Pinellas Co., Nov. 1 (JM, DG) and one at Port Tampa Nov. 8 (CH, T.A.S.). The Black-bellied Whistling Ducks at Zellwood in July were reported throughout early fall (KM, m.ob.), while D.F.B.G., had a late brood of nine young Fulvous Whistling Ducks estimated to be < one week old Sept. 21 (PS, HL, GH). Other noteworthy duck sightings included the early arrival of two Am. Wigeon at L. Lafayette Sept. 21 (GM, HMS) and two Canvasbacks near St. Marks Light, St. Marks N.W.R., Oct. 27 (FS). A Bufflehead at the Melbourne Sewage Treatment ponds Nov. 22 (FG) was unusual that far s. on the E. Coast.

RAPTORS—Swallow-tailed Kites are known to migrate through Key West, but sightings are rare (*vide* FH); therefore, seven birds observed there Aug. 23 (D&KM) were unusual. Also rare are Mississippi Kite sightings s. of the Gainesville area at any time of year, thus a sub-adult at S.C.P., Sept. 30 (LA) was a pleasant surprise! An Everglade Kite at the Savannahs County P., Ft. Pierce Sept. 21 (Ja&JoB, H&WD) was the first sighting of the species there in 18 months. There had previously been a successful nesting at the park.

Several interesting large migrations of raptors were reported. At Cape Florida Oct. 1 (RT) 762 Sharp-shinned Hawks were recorded and during a 2-hr period at mid-day on Cedar Key Oct. 7 (B&GC), 2 days after a front, the following were moving due E from the Gulf: 202 Sharp-shinned Hawks, five Cooper's Hawks, three Marsh Hawks, one Merlin and two Am. Kestrels. Broad-winged Hawk flights noted at Key West comprised 200 Oct. 26 and 1000 Nov. 8 (D&KM). Other significant raptor sightings included an early Cooper's Hawk at Jacksonville Beach Aug. 20 (MJW) and late Broad-winged Hawks at East Pt., Franklin Co., Nov. 1 & 8 (HMS, JMS). Two Swainson's Hawks were at Castellow Hammock P., Goulds, Dade Co., Oct. 23 (RT) with another two at Key West Nov. 14-17 (FH, MB). A light-phase Rough-legged Hawk, a very rare species for Florida and still unconfirmed by specimen or photo, was observed flying N over Casey Key Nov. 1 (A&SS). Seven Marsh Hawks at Ramrod Key were most unusual; that species has been considered rare anywhere on the Keys (*vide* FH).

An encouraging sight was a large congregation of four adult and 15 imm. Bald Eagles Sept. 13 (FG, RY) on the Florida Tpk., near the 190 mi marker. Kestrels must have had very successful breeding in the North; by late fall they seemed to be on every mile of utility wires in the s. Pen., where one arrived early at Homestead Sept. 26 (SB).

CRANES THROUGH PHALAROPES—Rare at St. Marks Light was a Sandhill Crane heard calling Nov. 2 (RC) while a Sora at D.F.B.G., Sept. 14 (PS, HL, GH) was early there. The Am. Oystercatcher was thought to be extirpated from the s.e. coast (*vide* RT); thus speculation exists as to whether two at Cape Florida Oct. 2 (RT) were residents or migrants. Cudjoe Key had an uncommon and early Piping Plover Aug. 14 (BFH) and also significantly high numbers of Wilson's

Plovers with 100 Oct 30 and 150 Nov. 13 (MB). Key West reported a total of 90 Killdeer Nov. 17 (FH, MB), the highest count ever for that species there. By late fall Killdeer seemed to be abundant everywhere in the state. Numerous reports of Am. Golden Plover were received from throughout the E Coast, from Ward's Bank at the mouth of the St. John's R., in Jacksonville, to Key West, with the latest and farthest away from the E Coast being one at L. Lafayette, Leon Co , Nov. 29 (JC, GM).

Palm Beach County recorded its first Long-billed Curlew at D.F.B.G., Aug 24 (HL ,GH, TT). One observed there Sept 21 (PS, C&RaP) was probably the same bird. Another at Ward's Bank observed throughout the period may have been the same bird that probably spent the past 2 years there (*vide* PP). A Whimbrel at Ft. Pierce Inlet Aug. 8 (H&WD) was early, while another at Zellwood muck farms on the n. boundary of L. Apopka was very unusual inland Sept. 12 (WH, LA). Both Upland and Buff-breasted sandpipers in larger-than-usual numbers made appearances in early fall at their favorite feeding grounds, the muck and sod farms in the e. portion of the state. However, an Upland Sandpiper at Key West Nov 17 (FH, MB) was rare there and very late, while six Buff-breasted Sandpipers at Jacksonville Sept. 12 (PP) and one at L. Lafayette Sept 12 (HMS) were considered rare at those locations. Unusual at Key West were six Pectoral Sandpipers Aug. 23 (D&KM) with three remaining through Sept. 7 (FH). Perhaps the rarest bird of the season was an **Hudsonian Godwit** at Zellwood Sept. 7 (KD, SV, MM; LA, ph T.T.). The bird was studied by m ob through Sept. 11 and the dark underwing linings distinguishing it from the Black-tailed Godwit were clearly noted. An Am. Avocet was early in Palm Beach Aug. 2 (RT) while another was rare at St. Marks Light Sept 20-Nov. 15 (GM, HMS, RC, CE).

Three hundred Red Phalaropes were 12 mi off Port Canaveral Sept. 28 (JJ) and large numbers of Wilson's Phalaropes were reported in the state, especially at the muck farms. Three at Blount I., Jacksonville Aug. 29 (PP) and two at L. Lafayette Sept. 21 (GM, HMS), with one remaining through Sept 25 (JC), were rare at those locations. One of two birds discovered at Hooker's Pt., Tampa Oct. 17 (LA, TM, GL) remained until the late date of Nov. 22 (TM, GL).

LARIDS—Normally, a large influx of gulls is noted during November but this year there was a noticeable decline in numbers in the areas where they usually congregate. Our surveys at Jacksonville, Ponce Inlet and the Tampa Bay area revealed populations to be 50% below normal and the Marco I.-Naples population was 65% lower than the 6-year mean (*vide* TB).



The only convincing "white-winged" gull sighting was of a first- or second-winter Glaucous Gull at the Merritt I. Causeway Nov. 28 (TM, GL). Occasionally, partial or complete albinism occurs in gulls; therefore, observers should be extremely cautious and take extensive notes when observing a possible "white-winged" gull or any other gull that might be rare for the particular locality. We have photographed complete albinoplumaged Herring, Ring-billed and Laughing gulls and also those species plus Great Black-backed and Bonaparte's gulls exhibiting partial albinism. Another interesting phenomenon we have photographed at both Toytown Landfill in Pinellas County and the Brownsville, Texas landfill is a pigmentation problem in the soft parts of some Laughing Gulls causing them to have completely orange bills, legs and feet in all plumages! Others have varying degrees of this soft-part color difference. It stands to reason that this problem can occur in other species of gulls (or other birds, as a matter of fact!), and thereby cause problems where soft-part coloration is important in helping to separate a rare from a common species, *i.e.*, Black-headed and Bonaparte's gulls.

The majority of Lesser Black-backed Gulls do not arrive until December, however Ward's Bank had an adult Nov. 2 and a second-winter bird Nov. 30 (JLW), while Red-dington Shores, Pinellas Co., recorded an adult Nov. 2+ (GA, m.ob.). Rare inland was a Laughing Gull at L. Ella in Tallahassee Nov. 29 (JC, GM). Palm Beach County had its first occurrence and possibly the earliest date for Florida of Franklin's Gull Oct. 19 (PS, BH). That bird was joined by another Nov. 9 (PS, HL) with the last sighting Nov. 16 (GH *et al.*). Toytown Landfill, where this species has occurred regularly for at least the past several years, again recorded as many as four birds by Nov. 1+ (LA), while two birds at the Ft. Pierce landfill Nov. 17+ (H&WD, m.ob.; ph. T.T.) were the first for St. Lucie County. An imm. Black-legged Kittiwake 15 mi off Cape Canaveral Nov. 25 (JJ) signaled the beginning of a hopefully exciting winter for gull-watchers. A flock of 2000± Com. Terns was feeding over a school of baitfish 25 mi off Cape Canaveral Oct. 5 (JJ). Sooty Terns were far n. of their usual range with one 8 mi off Ft. Pierce Aug. 8 (JaB, H&WD) and two 20 mi off Cape Canaveral Sept. 7 (JJ). Fourteen Caspian Terns at Summerland Key Nov. 13 (MB, LK) were unusual; a single bird is considered a good sighting there (*vide* FH).

DOVES THROUGH ANIS—Single White-winged Doves at Alligator Pt., Oct. 12 (RC) and near Sopchoppy, Wakulla Co., Nov. 8 (L&BA) were most likely w. strays while one at John Pennekamp S.P., Key Largo Nov. 29 (RC, CE) could have been from the Dade County population. On Hypoluxo I., Sept. 13 (PS, BH, HL) a flock including three Red-crowned, one Lilac-crowned, two Yellow-headed and two Blue-fronted parrots must have been a spectacular sight!

A Mangrove Cuckoo at Cape Florida Oct. 5 (RT) was n. of its usual range on the E. Coast. Records of the species on the W. Coast n. of Ft. Myers are rare because of developers' destruction of habitat. Thus it was unfortunate that a Mangrove Cuckoo was a hit-and-run victim in St. Petersburg Oct. 6 (BA; * U.S.F.) but at least one other on Lido Key, Sarasota Co., Oct. 26 (GT) was alive and, hopefully, well. Black-billed Cuckoos, unusual anytime and anywhere in Florida, were reported near Bartow Sept. 6 (PF), Dade County Sept. 25 (JK) and S.C.P., Oct. 4 (PF, CG, NS). A Smooth-billed Ani at the Auburndale Water Treatment Plant Nov. 8 (CG, m.ob.) was the species' first occurrence in that area while Pinellas County logged its second record of Groove-billed Ani Nov. 16 (J&LH, JM, JF) through Nov. 22 (TM, GL).

OWLS THROUGH HUMMINGBIRDS—A Burrowing Owl was on the Key West H.S. Campus Nov. 21 (KW); there are only two other previous records, both unpublished, in the area (*vide* FH). The Barred Owl at St. George I., Oct. 6 (JMS, CW) was possibly the first recorded there while the only reported Short-eared Owl was on Honeymoon I., Nov. 2 (RH, JM, LH) where this species has been found wintering for the past several years.

The only noteworthy goatsucker report came from the Stedmans at Casey Key. A Whip-poor-will originally banded in October 1979, returned Jan. 25, 1980, and again Nov. 16, 1980. Apparently the bird is pleased with its choice of wintering grounds! Up to four Chimney Swifts, uncommon in s. Florida, were seen regularly throughout August at Kendall, Dade Co. (RT). They may have summered nearby as several did the previous year. There were also several reports of this species in the area from late September through October (*vide* RT).

Excellent details accompanied the report of a Cuban Emerald in Hillsborough County Sept. 19 (TM). This is the 3rd consecutive fall that this island visitor has been reported in that county.

FLYCATCHERS—At Lanark Village, Franklin Co., Sept. 7 Kale observed a flock of 500+ E. Kingbirds fly from the trees and power lines just before dark, circle and disappear to the N. He surmises that they waited until dark to fly S over the Gulf for the 600 mi flight to Yucatan. At Alligator Pt., Oct. 3 (CW) an E. Kingbird was late while a Gray Kingbird at Kendall Nov. 26 (m.ob., *vide* RT) was one of the latest for Florida. While some W. Kingbirds and Scissor-tailed Flycatchers winter in s. Florida and the Keys, records in other areas of the state are of interest. Western Kingbirds noted were singles at Ft. DeSoto Oct. 26 (KT), Honeymoon I., Nov. 2 (LH *et al.*), Shell Pt., Wakulla Co., Nov. 9 (L&BA) and two at Venice Nov. 11-26 (KM, m.ob.). The only Scissor-tailed Flycatchers reported were at Ft. DeSoto Oct. 3-5 (L&BA), St. Marks N.W.R., Oct. 23 (JC) and Alligator Pt., Nov. 8 (L&BA). A Great Crested Flycatcher was late at Alligator Pt., Oct. 3 (HMS, CW; * T.T.) and another was even later there Oct. 8 (CW). A Wied's Crested Flycatcher was at the Hillsborough R., near the U.S.F. golf course Nov. 29

(T.A.S.). The bird was calling and the all-black lower mandible was carefully studied. Another *Myiarchus* flycatcher, either *tyrannulus* or *cinerascens*, was at St. George I., Oct. 26 (SC).

Single Yellow-bellied Flycatchers were calling at Tallahassee Sept. 12 (RC) and S.C.P., Oct. 3 (LA) and three others were banded at Casey Key Oct. 2-3 (A&SS). Seven "Trail's" Flycatchers were also banded at Casey Key Sept. 6 - Oct. 2 (A&SS) while single birds were at S.C.P., Oct. 3 (LA) and Ft. DeSoto Oct. 3-4 (LA). The only reported Least Flycatcher was banded at Casey Key Sept. 8 (A&SS) while Vero Beach had a very late E. Wood Pewee Nov. 15 (FG). A rare Olive-sided Flycatcher was at St. George I., Sept. 12 (JAS, JC) and the always-interesting flycatcher migration report concludes with note of a beautiful ♂ Vermilion Flycatcher that was at L. Harney, Volusia Co., from mid-November + (RH, m.ob.).

LARKS THROUGH STARLING—Ward's Bank had an imm. Horned Lark Nov. 2 (JLW) and E.N.P., and was host to an albino Barn Swallow Sept. 10 (SB). Cliff Swallows were reported in c. and s. Florida with six at Zellwood Aug. 10 (KD) the earliest and 23 at D.F.B.G., Oct. 5 (PS, HL *et al.*) the latest. An unusual sight was approximately 2000 Purple Martins roosting on the girders under the U.S. 98 bridge over Ochlockonee Bay Sept. 7 (HK).

Red-breasted Nuthatches made an unprecedented invasion this fall with early reports throughout the Gulf Coast signaling events to come. Twenty-four were counted on St. George I., Oct. 6 (JMS, CW), one was rare and early at Beer Can I., Sarasota Co., Oct. 9 (M&BS, m.ob.) and 63 were at St. George I., Oct. 26 (JMS)! In our own yard near downtown Tampa, three Red-breasted Nuthatches that arrived Oct. 26 remained for at least a month. Birders from other areas of the state who make their own "invasion" into the Panhandle every Thanksgiving weekend were delighted with the sight of these nuthatches everywhere along the coast.

A House Wren observed at St. George I., Aug. 24 (SC) represents the only record for any summer month in the Tallahassee Division (*vide* HMS). American Robins made early appearances; small flocks were noticed in Tallahassee Oct. 18 (HMS) and in Collier County in mid-November (TB). An early Swainson's Thrush was heard calling overhead at Tallahassee Sept. 7 (HMS) while a late one lingered on Casey Key, Sarasota Co., Nov. 20 (A&SS). Thirteen Veeries were found in Franklin and Wakulla Counties Sept. 20 (GM, HMS). The 70-80 Blue-gray Gnatcatchers seen feeding in Australian Pines in Key West Aug. 8 were unusual for their numbers (FH). One of the more unusual sightings in Pinellas County was an early Golden-crowned Kinglet observed at Tierra Verde Oct. 26 far s. of its normal range (JM, JH *et al.*) while the Ruby-crowned Kinglet found at Alligator Pt., Oct. 3 was also early (CHW, HMS). A single Sprague's Pipit returned to the causeway at St. George I., Nov. 23+ where the species has been a regular visitor for the past several years (L&BA). Two Cedar Waxwings were seen at Key West Nov. 14 (FTH) where their arrival is not expected

prior to January (*vide* FTH). Although it is unfortunately very common in most areas of the country, a Starling at St. George I., Oct. 18 (HMS, JMS) was rare there and was headed elsewhere, we hope!

VIREOS AND WARBLERS—Vireos made a strong showing throughout the state with the most remarkable occurrence at Virge Markgraf's backyard in Jacksonville. On Oct. 5 Virge noted a Bell's Vireo coming to her birdbath with one Red-eyed and two Philadelphia vireos. To top it off, she also found a Warbling Vireo there on the same day! Another Bell's Vireo was seen near L. Jackson Oct. 2 and represents the second record for Leon County (JC). A dead Black-whiskered Vireo was picked up in Key West Oct. 27, presumably a late date for the species (*vide* FH). There were 15 other sightings of Philadelphia Vireos statewide with the earliest one at Carrabelle Sept. 12 (JC) and the latest Oct. 27 (FS) in Wakulla County. The high count was of four at Ft. DeSoto Oct. 4 (LA).

On Nov. 15 a very late Prothonotary Warbler was discovered at the Lower Wekiva State Preserve (DF, NT, JD). Swainson's Warblers were seen in several locations in c. s. Florida. The earliest was banded at Casey Key Sept. 17 (A&SS) while the latest was at Cape Florida Oct. 14 (RT). Rare at these locations, three Golden-winged Warblers were found at Ft. Pierce Oct. 4 (H&WD, JaB) and one other was seen at Jacksonville Oct. 6 (MD). Brewster's hybrids, in the form of Blue-winged Warblers with golden wing-bars, were at Hillsborough River S.P., Aug. 31 (BD *et al.*) and S.C.P., Sept. 5-6 (L&BA). A very early Tennessee Warbler was discovered at S.C.P., Aug. 24 (PF). This year's report of five Nashville Warblers was unusual because sightings anytime and anywhere are unusual. Furthermore all five occurred within a 10-day period. The first was at Sarasota Oct. 2 (JeM), followed by singles at S.C.P., Oct. 4 (CG, PF) and Castellow Hammock Oct. 7 (RoH). Another differently-plumaged bird was seen at S.C.P., Oct. 10 (L&BA) and the last was at Pigeon Key Oct. 11 (MW, m.ob.). A very late Yellow Warbler was observed at Ft. Pierce Nov. 22 (H&WD). Cape May Warblers usually avoid the W. Coast during fall migration. However, they were found near Tampa Bay from a very early one Aug. 26 (LN) at Longboat Key to Nov. 14 (LA) when two were still present at Ft. DeSoto. Furthermore, only one record for the Tallahassee Div. is later than the Nov. 23 sighting at Alligator Pt. (GG, *vide* HMS).

Although common on the E. Coast during fall migration, a Black-throated Blue Warbler at S.C.P., Sept. 5 (LA) was both uncommon and early. One observer at Key Largo witnessed an impressive movement of Yellow-rumped Warblers Nov. 30, when he saw 10,000± flying N along the shore in a seemingly endless stream (GY). A very early date for Cerulean Warbler was recorded in the Keys at Stock I., Aug. 10 (PS, A&BL). The Blackburnian Warbler is a regular fall migrant; however, two records were of interest. The one at Seminole, Pinellas Co., Aug. 14 (JF) set possibly the earliest date for Florida and Oct. 2 in Sarasota, 40 in the observer's backyard must have been exciting (EM)! A Connecticut Warbler, rare even on the E. Coast in fall, appeared at Cape Florida Oct.

13 (CK). The Mourning Warbler reported at Dunedin Hammock, Pinellas Co., Sept. 21-22 (LH, KD, m.ob.) was in fall plumage; therefore, MacGillivray's Warbler, although less likely to occur, cannot be ruled out (see AB 32:179). A specimen of *Oporornis* taken this September in Pensacola and sent to the Am. Mus. Nat. Hist. could not be determined to species since the measurements fell into the overlap area of *philadelphia* and *tolmiei* (*vide* Lucy Duncan). No plumage descriptions were received for other Mourning Warbler sightings in Dade County Sept. 24 (JK) & Oct. 5 (RP, GK).

Yellow-breasted Chats are usually rare anywhere in the Region in fall. However, there were seven sightings this period with three from Alligator Pt. (HMS, CW) and St. Marks Light (Be&RLC), Aug. 24 - Nov. 2, one from Ft. Pierce Oct. 4 (H&WD, JB) and three from Dade County and E.N.P., Sept. 29 - Oct. 9 (RT). Although there was only one big "fall-out" of migrants from the first front in October, nine sightings of Wilson's Warbler and seven records of Canada Warbler, both usually rare in migration, again proved why birding in Florida is so exciting. Reports of Wilson's Warbler came from almost every area editor with the earliest sighting from Seminole Sept. 14 (JF) and the latest from near St. Marks Light Nov. 2 (RLC). Canada Warblers also appeared throughout the c. portion of the state with one at Seminole Sept. 7 (JF) the earliest and another at S.C.P., Oct. 5 (PF) the latest.

BLACKBIRDS THROUGH FRINGILIDS—The five sightings of Yellow-headed Blackbirds were scattered throughout the c. and s. portion of the state with single birds at Florida City Oct. 21 (LM), Melbourne Oct. 22 (LS, HH) and Kendall Nov. 27+ (*vide* RT) being the more unusual locations. Possibly the earliest arrival date for Brewer's Blackbird was Oct. 24 (GM) at Tallahassee while seven others returned to their usual wintering grounds in Pinellas County Nov. 15 (LH). Two Bronzed Cowbirds discovered in Hillsborough County Nov. 14+ (KM, m.ob.) acted much like human winter visitors, spending much of their time with the exotic animals at Busch Gardens and traveling across the street to visit the Schlitz Brewery. The Boat-tailed Grackle seems to be establishing itself in Leon County, with five at L. Jackson Oct. 25+ (HMS, GM, JC) and two at L. Lafayette Oct. 25, substantiating previous reports concerning their status in the area (see AB 33:858). The only unusual tanager sighting was of a W. Tanager at Cape Florida Sept. 27 (JG).

A lone Pine Siskin observed and heard calling at D.F.B.G., on the extremely early date of Oct. 26 (PS, HL) was also far s. of its normal range while an Am. Goldfinch in Leon County Nov. 2 (GM) and a Savannah Sparrow at E.N.P., Sept. 10 (SB) were both early arrivals. A Grasshopper Sparrow was a good sighting at Key West Oct. 23 (D&KM) while the "sparrow field" at the town of St. Marks had both a Le Conte's and a Henslow's sparrow Nov. 7+ (L&BA, m.ob.). Other Le Conte's Sparrows were at Lower Wekiva State Preserve Nov. 15 (DF, NT, JD) and n.w. Hillsborough County Nov. 16 (LA). The first Seaside Sparrow record for Palm Beach County, an immature in heavy molt, ap-

peared on Hypoluxo I., Aug. 30 (PS). Lark Sparrows were at Delray Beach Aug. 16 (BH) and Key Largo Aug. 31 (JM) while another at Alligator Pt., Nov. 22 (L&BA) was very late. Key Biscayne had an early Chipping Sparrow Oct. 5 (RT) while another at Key West Oct. 26 (D&KM) provided only the second record there (*vide* FH). Clay-colored Sparrows were found at Hickory Mound L., Taylor Co., Sept. 27 (HMS), Plantation in Broward Co. Oct. 7 (JT), Ft. DeSoto Oct. 18 (L&BA) and possibly the same bird but at a different location Oct. 26 (JH *et al.*) and finally, one at Key West Oct. 23 (D&KM). Two Field Sparrows at St. George I., Oct. 6 (JMS, CW) possibly set the earliest fall record for Florida. Noteworthy White-crowned Sparrows were recorded Oct. 26 at both Ft. DeSoto (LH *et al.*) and Ft. Pierce (H&WD, KD). Rare and very early at Ft. DeSoto Oct. 3 (LA) was an imm. White-throated Sparrow that apparently arrived just before the only significant front of the season. One of two Lincoln's Sparrows in Tallahassee Oct. 20 was still present Nov. 2 (RC).

ADDENDA—Three Black-billed Cuckoos were at Ft. DeSoto Apr. 12, 1980 (PF, BC). An Ash-throated Flycatcher was carefully studied on Virginia Key, Dade Co., Jan. 20, 1980 (Bill Murphy, Ellen Steiner).

CORRIGENDA—Yellow-headed Blackbirds were at St. Marks Light Oct. 30 *only* (AB 34:155). Brown Booby should read "Two in Gulf . . . April 2 (DG)" (AB 34:768).

OBSERVERS—(Area Editors in boldface) Alachua Audubon Society, G. Anderson, Brooks Atherton, Lyn Atherton, Sonny Bass, Ted Below, John Breen, Jane Brooks (JaB), John Brooks (JoB), Marge Brown, Barbara Bryan, Robin Carter, James Cavanagh, Sam Cole, Buck Cooper, Gwen Cooper, Beth Crawford (BeC), Robert L. Crawford, Mary Davidson, Jon Dodrill, Helen Dowling, Kevin Dowling, William Dowling, Caroline Eastman, Paul Fellers, Judy Fisher, Florida Ornithological Society, Dot Freeman, Chuck Geanangel, Dave Goodwin, Frances Graves, Gary Graves, Sam Grimes, Joe Gubanyi, Claude Haines, Wendy Hale, Frances Hames, Roger Hammer (RoH), Roger Harshaw, Helen Hodges, Wayne Hoffman, Brian Hope, Bill F. Hopkins (BFH), Donna Hopkins, Judy Hopkins, Larry Hopkins, Rick Hopkins (RIH), Gloria Hunter, Johnnie Johnson, Kelley Jones, Herb Kale, Gary Karch, Jim King, Lois Kitching, Claire Krusko, Howard Langridge, Al Lieberman, Barbara Lieberman, Gina Lopez, Dotty MacVicar, Keith MacVicar, Tim Mann, Virge Markgraf, Mike Martina, Larry McDonald, Kevin McGowan (KMc), Gail, Menk, Edith Miller, Jean Moore (JeM), Jeff Moore, Barbara Muschlit, Louella Newton, Barbara Parsons, Ted Peterson, Robert Pittell, Cynthia Plockleman, Ray Plockleman (RaP), Peggy Powell, Robert Repenning, Lois Savage, Norm Schuler, Bob Sokol, Marjorie Sokol, Annette Stedman, Stanley Stedman, Henry M. Stevenson, James A. Stevenson, James M. Stevenson, Mrs. Frank Stoutamire, Paul Sykes, Tampa Audubon Society, Nancy Tate, Karl Thompson, Robert Thorn, Gertrude Timm, Tadziu Trotsky, James Tucker,

and 55 and 415 respectively Oct. 12, when 81 Red-shouldered Hawks were also seen (*vide* RDW). Adult Broad-winged Hawks with a barely-fledged young at Windsor July 5 (PDP) provided a noteworthy southerly nesting record. Swainson's Hawks are becoming almost annual, as there was a well-documented report from Hawk Cliff Sept. 15 (AW *et al.*) A moderate flight of Rough-legged Hawks developed from Sept. 4. Eagle reports additional to those at the hawk watching stations totaled at least nine Golden and seven Bald, and corresponding falcon totals were 36 Peregrines and 46 Merlins. The eagle movement spanned Sept. 24-Nov. 30, while both falcons moved from the end of August-late October. All the totals seem a little low for recent falls, but much of this variation may be a product of the degree to which wind conditions during the fall move migrants down to the well-covered Great Lakes flight lines. Gyrfalcons were seen in unprecedented numbers. Normally Gyrs appear in the winter months and only two or three occur over the fall period, but at least eight were seen in the s., w. to Kettle Pt., Nov. 11 (AR) and e. to Ottawa. One was even banded on Amherst I. (GM, MM, RTa).

CRANES THROUGH GALLINULES—The strangest crane report was of an all-white bird at Hawk Cliff Nov. 11 (DEF *et al.*) A King Rail, always a rarity in Ontario, was at Long Pt., Sept. 14 (DT), and a Yellow Rail was at Cranberry Marsh Sept. 20 (MB). A Purple Gallinule was picked up exhausted at Kingston Oct. 17 (HQ, RDW), but new restrictions on the "exporting" of birds from Canada thwarted an attempt to send it back south *via* the airlines.

SHOREBIRDS—Marathon had a strange influx of friendly shorebirds with Am. Golden and Black-bellied plovers wandering about lawns and streets, the last Oct. 21 when they were joined by a Ruddy Turnstone. On Aug. 31 Nick Escott had to swerve to miss a Buff-breasted Sandpiper on a town street, and on Heron Bay Road a Whimbrel was dodging traffic in order to eat squashed earthworms. Elsewhere shorebirds occupied more orthodox habitat, which was again limited. Piping Plover is now so rare that all sightings are noteworthy. One was at Barrie Aug. 23 (CJM, EAM). There were a few early records, e.g., Am. Golden Plover at Bradley's Marsh July 20 (*vide* AHK), and some late, as two Red Knots on Amherst I., Nov. 2 (RKE). One of the two Willets seen was also late, on Wolfe I., Nov. 3 (*vide* CW), and the other was at Long Pt., Aug. 15 (JSt, NK). Upland Sandpipers occurred in unusually high numbers along the lower Great Lakes with 45 Aug. 13 at Kingston being one of the higher counts (*vide* RDW). The limited habitat resulted in some high totals where conditions were suitable: 600 Lesser Yellow Yellowlegs Aug. 6 and 20 Baird's Sandpipers Sept. 5 at Garson (JN), and 600 Dunlin and 200 Short-billed Dowitchers at R. Canard (PDP *et al.*). Long-billed Dowitchers presented an interesting dilemma. If all the birds were correctly identified the species is too common to be included here, but if it is as infrequent as experience suggests many Short-billeds are being misidentified! Pitelka,

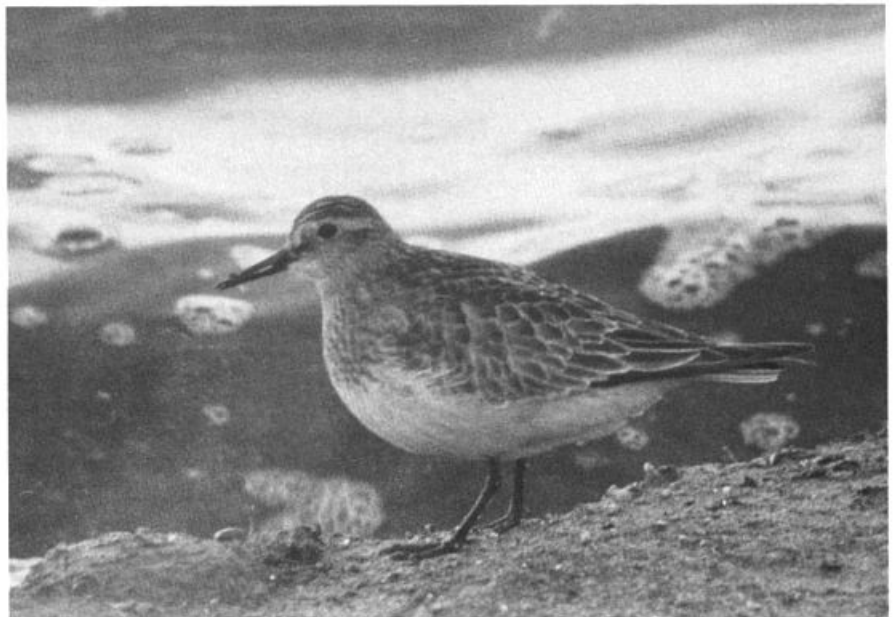
F., 1950 (Univ. Calif. Publ. Zool. 50:1-108) gives the range of variation in the bill-length of Short-billeds as 16.5 mm, and the difference between the longest-billed birds of both species as 12.3 mm, (0.48 in.) so bill size can be very misleading. The usual scattering of Purple Sandpipers in November was eclipsed by a flock of 134 at Toronto Nov. 11 (BW). The previous largest flock on record was of 25 in 1969.

The rarest shorebirds of the season were a Marbled Godwit at R. Canard Sept. 8-23 (m.ob.), a Ruff at Blenheim Sept. 1 (PAW, DM) and an Am. Avocet on MacDonald I., near Gananoque Sept. 5-12 (RO). One of the period's unidentified birds was a *Calidris* sandpiper seen by many and photographed at Strathroy Nov. 12-14 (*vide* WRJ). It resembled a Pectoral Sandpiper but had black legs and bill; it apparently was too large for a Baird's, and the back feathering and general posture seemed inappropriate for this species. Its call was a doubled, rather musical note which could correspond to descriptions of a Sharp-tailed's but the black legs and absence of rufous in the plumage seemed to eliminate this. Its identity remains an enigma at this time. All three phalarope species were widely reported, and at Kelly L., Sudbury, there were up to three Wilson's in July with territorial behavior seen July 27 (JN). Ten Red and 22 N. phalaropes constituted the highest fall numbers since the heavy flights in 1975-77. Noteworthy among the Reds was a bird inland at Strathroy Sept. 28-Oct 2 (NBJ, WRJ, m.ob.).

GULLS, TERNS—There were fewer jaeger reports than usual, most of them from the usual Sarnia and w. L. Ontario areas. On Oct. 4 Don Perks had both Pomarine and Parasitic jaegers together off Oakville. Another Pomarine was washed up dead on Amherst I., Oct. 28 (MM, RTa), and the Sarnia-Kettle Pt. area had six in all. A dead jaeger found on Long Pt., in mid-November proved to be a Long-tailed (MBr *et al.*), very rare on

the Great Lakes. Glaucous Gulls were seen at Port Hope Aug. 1 (ERM), in Simcoe County Aug. 23 (EAM, CJM), and one summered at Franchman's Bay (m.ob.) but was finally found dead. A summering Iceland Gull on Amherst I., met a similar fate. It was picked up with a fish hook in its mouth (RKE). Fall movement of white-winged gulls was light, from late October. Great Black-backed is unusual away from the lower Great Lakes, but this autumn there were birds at Peterborough Nov. 15 & 18 (GC), Hanmer Nov. 1-3 (WMcI), and at least three at Orillia Nov. 1+ (WZ). There were at least eight Lesser Black-backed Gulls seen, the most ever in Ontario: four at Ottawa Oct. 25-Nov. 29 (m.ob.), two at Queenston Nov. 10 & 30 (HHA, AS), and birds at Port Stanley Sept. 20 (WGG *et al.*), and on the St. Clair R., Nov. 11 (DR). Thayer's Gulls present a similar problem to that of dowitchers. Many of the birds reported probably were Thayer's, but the criteria offered in the reports (when any were provided at all) seemed to derive more from birder folklore than any published information. There were some good reports, however. The most interesting was of a bird at Dwight Nov. 10 (RJP). Ontario's fourth Mew Gull was on Amherst I., June 28 (MM), and confirmation is awaited on another bird reported from Ottawa Oct. 24 (*vide* SG). Readers may recall the comments in last winter's summary on the emergence of Sarnia as a premier area for watching waterbird migration, especially that of jaegers and gulls. This fall Dennis Rupert recorded five Sabine's Gulls Sept. 26 and others Oct. 13 (2) and Oct. 7. He had an equally astonishing 28 Black-legged Kittiwakes Oct. 20-Nov. 22, and there were five seen at Kettle Pt. (AR). By contrast, the Niagara R., was relatively unproductive this year—if thousands of gulls can be considered so—although there were up to two kittiwakes there Nov. 4-23 (RFA *et al.*)

Forster's Tern occurs very infrequently at the e. end of L. Ontario but this year there were three, at Sandbanks P.P., Aug. 4



Calidris sp.? Strathroy, Ont., Nov. 14, 1980. Photo/Marvin S. Smout. Opinions to Clive E. Goodwin.

(RDW), Presqu'île P.P., Sept. 5 (BW, m ob.), and Amherst I., Oct. 27 (RDW). I suppose it's conceivable that all records involved the same bird. There were some encouraging Com. Tern totals: 2000 on Amherst I., Sept. 21 (PM), 609 in Notawasaga Bay Aug. 23 (CJM, EAM), and heavy movements along the St. Clair R., at Amherstberg Sept. 4-12 with peaks of 1000 and 3000 (BE).

CUCKOOS THROUGH HUMMINGBIRDS—The Snowy Owl movement started Oct. 3, but was quite light to Nov. 30 with up to three birds seen in the Kingston area, the usual center of abundance (RDW), and only scattered reports from elsewhere. Kingston also reported a Great Gray Owl Sept. 6 (RKE, NM). The Owl Research and Rehabilitation Foundation processed eight Screech Owls over the period (KMCK), and three were banded at P.E. Pt., Oct. 2-10, an indication of movement in this sedentary species. This Observatory also netted 498 Saw-whet Owls in October, the highest total there since 1977; 75% were hatching-year birds. Six Com. Nighthawks were over Oakville on the very late date of Oct. 11 (DRG), but many observers listed this species as being in much reduced numbers, together with Chimney Swift and Ruby-throated Hummingbird.

WOODPECKERS THROUGH SWALLOWS—A Red-headed Woodpecker wandered N to Marathon Oct. 6 (NGE) for the second successive year. Algonquin P.P., had a N. Three-toed Woodpecker Oct. 25 (RT), but there were few sightings of this species s. of its normal range, and only a limited, late movement of Black-backed. Ottawa's first Scissor-tailed Flycatcher was seen Oct. 27 (BB, JD): it was almost annual in the Province during the 1970s. A Great Crested Flycatcher on Hannah Bay Oct. 1 (AW *et al.*) was well n. of its range. Fall reports of Acadian Flycatchers are so few that a bird banded at Long Pt., Sept. 16 (m.ob.) was of interest. Late *Empidonax* generally look more like Least Flycatchers than other common species in the genus, and usually are so called by those reporting them: there were several such birds this year, two at Whitby Oct. 19 & 20 (MB, DRc), one at Silver I., Oct. 8 (AW), and the latest at Warton Nov. 20 (LR). An E. Wood Pewee at Hamilton Nov. 2 (AW, RF) was also exceptionally late, as was a Cliff Swallow over Hannah Bay Oct. 1 (AW *et al.*). A pair of Purple Martins was still feeding young in a birdhouse at Luther Marsh Aug. 29 (GB), a date when most martins are well on the move. Are Tree Swallows really severely reduced in numbers? Typically fall counts generate some enormous numbers in favored localities, but the highest this year was of 2000 Sept. 19 on Amherst I. (RKE), and last year was little higher. The trouble with using such data to assess status is that high counts may often reflect no more than the happy coincidence of high observer activity, weather and date and have little to do with absolute or relative abundance. Birders often argue that such data are comparable from year-to-year, because their own activity levels tend to be the same, but unfortunately this is only one of several variables involved. Studies at Long Point Bird Observatory have

shown correlation between annual numbers there, through systematic daily coverage of a fixed area, and on Breeding Bird Surveys, hence the emphasis given at times to observatory results in this account.

CORVIDS THROUGH WRENS—Two Gray Jays were seen at Colpo Bay Nov. 14 (DF) and a Black-billed Magpie was at Puslinch Sept. 4 (DB). The latter is worth recording although the observer felt it was probably an escapee, which is always a strong possibility with sightings of this species in the south. Common Ravens continue their steady push S and three were seen flying S at Go Home Bay Oct. 13 (CGH), with others at Uphill Oct. 9 (JMS) and the Pinery P.P., Oct. 23 (AR). A substantial chickadee flight developed, the first since 1975, although its scale was much smaller than that of heavy flight years over the past two decades. There were relatively few Boreal Chickadees reported; in fact, only five at Holiday Beach (JPK) and three elsewhere along the lower Great Lakes. Black-capped reached their greatest numbers in the Holiday Beach area, with counts of 2000 during November, but at P.E.Pt. the peak was a low 140 Nov. 2 (*vide* RDW). At Long Pt., 628 were banded Oct. 24+, and 95% of the movement was accomplished by Oct. 31 (*vide* PV). The Pt. Pelee influx also started Oct. 24 (*vide* AW). Along L. Ontario some movement started much earlier, and indeed in the Toronto region there was suggestion of a movement developing in July (CEG). The pattern of the flight was quite different from that in 1975, when very substantial numbers passed P.E.Pt., while Long Pt. was by-passed.

The only Tufted Titmouse reported was one at Pt. Pelee Nov. 2 (JPK). Both nuthatch species moved in good numbers, and the Red-breasted flight was heavy. This species seems to stage heavy movements at roughly 5 year intervals, with 1965, 1968, 1969, 1974, and 1975 being the previous peak years. Long Pt. recorded a smaller peak in 1977 which was regarded as only moderate elsewhere. This year both P.E.Pt. and Long Pt. recorded heavy passage, but no mention was made of movement in the reports from the s.w., or Niagara. Apparently the birds by-passed these areas. There was a little more cheer in the wren reports with about one-half the reporting areas implying improvement and the rest still recording scarcity. This contrast was particularly noticeable with Winter Wrens, where up to 15 birds daily at P.E.Pt. represented a significant increase over the past 3 years, but in the s.w., the station at Bradley's Marsh only banded a total of 17 all fall (*vide* RDW, AKH). There were 17 Carolina Wren reports, which is a marked improvement over the three or four of the last few years, but is a far cry from 1971, *e.g.*, when 18 were counted on the Pt. Pelee CBC alone.

THRUSHES THROUGH VIREOS—An astonishingly late Veery visited a feeder in Virginiatown Nov. 28 (PWR). The highest count of E. Bluebirds was of 32 at L. Dalrymple Aug. 10 (CJM, EAM), with the species reported w. to Atikokan Sept. 19 (DHE), and in encouragingly good numbers. Both kinglet species appeared to have bounced back from their recently low populations. Three

Wheatear reports represent the most ever in one year: they were from Marathon Oct 11-12, Moosonee Sept. 26 (AW *et al.*), and Ottawa Sept. 8-14 (MR, m.ob.). The species was reported almost annually in the 1970s, but 12 of 21 reports have been from the n and one-half have been consistent with a dispersal down the w. coast of James Bay and the Ottawa R. Bohemian Waxwings appeared at Thunder Bay Oct. 5 (DA) and there were 50 at Atikokan Nov. 7+ (TN, DHE), when the species began to appear in the s., pre-saging a good winter flight. By contrast, N Shrikes were few, Oct. 22+. Loggerhead Shrikes were seen as late as Nov. 22 at Harmony (DC), and 15 reports was the best fall showing since at least the late 1960s. A White-eyed Vireo was at P.E.Pt., Aug. 30-Sept. 2 (K.F.N.) and a pair of Warbling Vireos summered at Sudbury and were last seen Sept. 8 (HB). Late vireo records included a Solitary at Niagara-on-the-Lake Nov. 22 (JDR, NW) and a Red-eyed on Amherst I., Nov. 16 (RKE).

WARBLERS—Warbler migration was unexceptional, and the Long Pt., statistics showed a decline in the numbers of "bud-worm" species. Rarer s. warblers included a Prothonotary at P. Pelee Aug. 17 (ASt), a Louisiana Waterthrush at Long Pt., Aug. 20 (JSt *et al.*), Yellow-breasted Chats at Port Britain Aug. 23 (ERM) and Whitby Sept 4 (NL); and four Hooded Warblers along the lower Great Lakes to Sept. 21. November 13 was an auspicious date for w. warblers: an Audubon's was seen at Ottawa (BB) and a Black-throated Gray at Niagara-on-the-Lake (HHA *et al.*).

BLACKBIRDS—An Orchard Oriole was at Peterborough Aug 29 (PH). Both Yellow-headed and Brewer's blackbird reports were unusually widespread. Most noteworthy of six Yellow-headed reports were of birds at Pimisi Bay Sept. 14 (LdeKL), and Nashville Nov. 2 (AD, GB), and a similar number of Brewer's included three at Parry Sound Nov 2 (BBW, JK, ND), and birds at Harmony Sept. 19 (MPD), Peterborough Nov. 12 (RDM, GC) and Ottawa Nov. 16 (BMD). The huge Coldwater blackbird roost consisted of an exceptional 250,000 Com. Grackles Oct 19 (CJM).

FINCHES, SPARROWS—A Blue Grosbeak in Eastnor Twp., June 30 (JBW) provided one of few summer records of this species. Most "winter finch" species were represented in an excellent flight. Movement started at the beginning of August, with Purple Finches and a few Evening Grosbeaks. By least four Hoaries. House Finch nestings at off, but it was not until the end of October that the main flights of other species began. By early November flocks of Evening Grosbeaks, Com. Redpolls, Pine Siskins, and a few Pine Grosbeaks were general across the s. There was a scattering of crossbills, with some flocks of several hundred White-winged; 1460 were tallied at Marathon (NGE *et al.*). The redpoll flocks contained at least four Hoaries. House Finch nestings at Kingston resulted in 27 being banded there (HQ) and six unbanded birds were in the area. Peterborough had its first-ever Aug. 19 (RDM), the Ottawa bird was present

throughout, and two were seen at Toronto Aug. 29 and Dec. 8 (BDP, JS). Sparrow reports included a late Grasshopper in the s.w., Oct. 27 (*vide* AHK), a Le Conte's at Long Pt., Sept. 13-14 (DTH *et al.*), five Sharp-taileds Sept. 14-Oct. 7 including Peterborough's first (HMcC), a late Clay-colored at Kettle Pt., Oct. 20 (AR) and the Kingston area's first Harris', at P.E.Pt., Sept. 13-Oct. 20 (K.F.N.).

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NIAGARA-CHAMPLAIN REGION

/ Douglas P. Kibbe

Relatively warm, mild, dry weather continued through most of the fall. Weather fronts in September caused enough major groundings to satisfy most observers and more rarities than usual appeared, particularly in the eastern portion of the Region. October and November were cool but no significant snowfall occurred until well into the latter month. All unusual sightings within the Region are now subject to assessment by Avian Records Committees before they become part of a state's permanent record. Full details of unusual sightings in Vermont should be sent to: Vermont Institute of Natural Science, Woodstock, Vt. 05091; in New York to: Laboratory of Ornithology, Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y. 14853.

Owing to time lags in the review process, publication in *American Birds* cannot be construed as acceptance of any record by the respective state review committee. Submission of full details (and bribes) to this editor may increase, but will not guarantee chances that a record will be published herein; all such inclusions or omissions remain the prerogative of this editor. Recent examples of records which were published in *American Birds* but which were subsequently rejected following committee review include: Barnacle Goose March 1979 at Iroquois N.W.R. (considered escapee); Gyrfalcon September 9, 1978 at Greece; Long-billed Dowitcher May 1979 at El Dorado; and Arctic Tern June 1979 at Elmira.

LOONS THROUGH DUCKS—As usual Red-throated Loons were scarce everywhere except locally in the Rochester area where > 250 were tallied Nov. 29 (DS *et al.*). A single Eared Grebe at Buck Pond (J&MCo, m.ob.) Nov. 1 was this season's only representative of this now annual straggler from the West. The Ontario lakeshore near Rochester produced not one but two separate imm. Gannets in mid-October (m.ob.). One must as-

sume that these misguided strays, unlike the kittiwakes, jaegers, eiders and Purple Sandpipers which appear annually, were doomed once winter struck the Great Lakes. An encouraging increase in Double-crested Cormorant reports was climaxed by a new Regional record: 108

at Derby Hill Oct. 6 (FS). Not surprisingly, the peak L. Champlain count of 15 also occurred on that date (WS). Southern herons put in their best fall showing in years. Oak Orchard W.M.A., and Montezuma N.W.R., topped a dozen localities with ten Great Egrets each. The latter area also hosted three Snowy Egrets as did Colchester, Vt. Seven other Snowies were sighted at 5 locations. A banded imm. Cattle Egret observed near Cape Vincent Oct. 17 (J&CCF) is particularly interesting since, to this writer's knowledge, none was banded within the Region. An ad. Little Blue Heron over a Winhall, Vt. hawk watch (WN) Oct. 5 and an immature at Barcelona, N.Y., in mid-August (RAS) were exceptional but were outclassed by a Louisiana Heron photographed Aug. 19 in Shelburne (BF *et al.*) providing Vermont's first verified record. Two Glossy Ibises were reported, one at Braddock Bay S.P., through Oct. 21 (m.ob.) being exceptionally late.

A Mute Swan spent the fall at El Dorado Shores and another was reported without details from N. Pomfret, Vt., in mid-October. Although most New York observers termed the Brant flight poor, 3325 over Derby Hill Oct. 20 (GS) was an excellent tally. Montezuma N.W.R., as usual, led all areas for peak puddle duck numbers; e.g., 40,000 Mallards, 3000 Gadwall, 8000 Green-winged Teal, 10,000 Am. Wigeon, 5000 N. Shovelers and 7000 Wood Ducks (*vide* WB). Derby Hill and Rochester vied for top diving duck totals; the former area hosting 7500 Greater Scaup while the latter had 2000 Oldsquaw, 5000 White-winged Scoter and 10,000 Red-breasted Mer-



gansers. The latter figures, all termed "typical" by local observers, would be considered enviable by most of the remainder of the Region. Eleven thousand Com. Mergansers massed at Robert Moses Power Dam on the St. Lawrence R., was twice the normal number and perhaps explains low tallies elsewhere this fall. Only a single Barrow's Goldeneye was sighted, at Niagara Falls through the latter half of November (RA *et al.*); but two Harlequin Ducks were spotted off Oklahoma Beach in late November (MDa *et al.*), and no fewer than six Ø King Eiders were identified on the Great Lakes.

HAWKS THROUGH GULLS—Continuing a recent trend, Turkey Vultures lingered well past normal departure dates, with singles at Chelsea, Vt., Nov. 5 (MM) and Naples, N.Y., Nov. 17 (NH). An ad. light-phase Swainson's Hawk was carefully identified over the Winhall hawk watch Sept. 9 (WN). There are at least 3 previous Vermont reports including one specimen. The Region's best hawk-watch this fall proved to be Mt. Philo in the L. Champlain valley where, on Sept. 15, 1014 Broad-winged Hawks and 61 Osprey passed (J&MD *et al.*). A single Golden Eagle was identified at Hamlin, N.Y. (G.O.S.) and four Bald Eagles were reported in Vermont (*vide* Vt. F&G). Six reports from W. New York seems lower than expected, given recent hacking success. About 20 Peregrines and 12+ Merlins were sighted.

Gray Partridge numbers were reported up near Massena and in appropriate habitat in Jefferson County, N.Y. (LC). Although the

Yellow Rail certainly migrates through the Region annually and probably breeds in a few n. marshes, a single bird at Tonawanda W.M.A., Oct. 24 (JM, *vide* B.O.S.) provided the first New York record of this elusive denizen of "quaking" marshes since 1975. The usual smattering of rarer shorebirds included a **Piping Plover** Aug. 10 at El Dorado Shores (GS), two **Whimbrel** sightings; a duo of **Willetts** on Bodgetts Beach Sept. 8 (B&OE *et al.*), Vermont's fourth occurrence; **Buff-breasted Sandpipers** at Sandy Pond and near Rochester in early September; a **Hudsonian Godwit** Aug. 29 at Charlotte, N.Y.; a **Ruff** Oct. 22 at Hamlin (NH, *vide* G.O.S.); and a host of **Red Phalarope** sightings including four Vermont occurrences (*cf* 3 previous records, all prior to 1947). A **Stilt Sandpiper** at Shelburne Bay in early September (WS) and a **Wilson's Phalarope** on the Barre, Vt. reservoir Sept. 26 (MM) were noteworthy but given the number of sightings in the remainder of the Region and the increase in observers may well be of regular occurrence in Vermont as are **Red Knot**, and **White-rumped**, **Baird's** and **W. sandpipers**. Several species were relatively late in departing including **Black-bellied Plover** Nov. 25; **Ruddy Turnstone** Nov. 4; and **N. Phalarope** until Nov. 23, all near Rochester.



Red Phalarope, Rochester, N.Y., Nov. 12, 1980. Photo/Susan Spahn.

Ten Pomarine Jaegers were reported from the vicinity of Rochester and Derby Hill. Parasitic Jaeger, the more commonly-encountered jaeger on L. Ontario, peaked in late October with counts of 38 and 40 at Derby Hill Oct. 19 & 26, respectively. A "Kumlien's" race Iceland Gull was spotted twice on the Niagara R., in November however white-winged gull numbers were generally low. A Lesser Black-backed Gull on the Niagara R., in November (B.O.S.) was upstaged by a virtual explosion of five **Laughing Gulls** at four localities: an adult at Charlotte Aug. 2; and immatures at Ithaca Aug. 3-9; Sandy Pond Sept. 11; and Braddock Bay Oct. 4. The temporal scattering and absence of associated weather influences would make any interpretation of these occurrences speculative at best. The now-expected buildup of Little Gulls at Rochester reached 23 by November. Farther e. sightings occurred at Sandy Pond, Robert Moses Power Dam and Westport, N.Y. Sabine's Gulls put in unprecedented showings with two adult at Rochester Nov. 30 (M&TT) and an immature at Onondaga L., Sept. 14 (FS) and Port Henry Oct. 26 (GC), the latter apparently the first L. Champlain

occurrence on record. The most astonishing of a dozen Black-legged Kittiwake reports is that of an immature tracked down Nov. 18 on Mt. Tabor after a heavy snowfall by a deer hunter, to establish Vermont's fifth record, and, subsequently released on the Massachusetts coast. Tardy terns included a Common through Nov. 11 and a Forster's until Nov. 15 at Braddock Bay (m.ob.).

CUCKOOS THROUGH FLYCATCHERS—A Black-billed Cuckoo at Penfield Oct. 31 (FDo, FDa) set a new Regional late departure date. Relatively few Snowy Owls appeared but Short-eareds were more abundant than usual. Diligent searching at Elizabethtown (GC) produced New York's first **Rufous Hummingbird** Sept. 3 at a weed-filled dump. Viewed by many and photographed, the bird fed with many Ruby-throateds on jewelweed



Rufous Hummingbird, Elizabethtown, N.Y., Sept. 3, 1980. Photo/John M.C. Peterson.

for 10 days before departing. Presence of single ♂, ♀ and imm. Red-bellied Woodpeckers at Henderson extend the probable breeding range of this species in New York but were expected in view of recent occurrences. Continued expansion into the St. Lawrence R., and L. Champlain valleys is likely. An extralimital sighting of a Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker at Hamlin, N.Y. (S.H., m.ob.) in mid-October was noteworthy. A N. Three-toed at Ferdinand, Vt., Oct. 28 (MM) may have been a winter visitant but only strengthens this writer's conviction that the species nests nearby. Although October reports of Olive-sided Flycatcher are usually viewed with considerable skepticism (*e.g.*, Bull J. *Birds of New York State* p. 378) a report from an experienced observer Oct. 15 in Syracuse's Oakland Cemetery (MR) and another banded Oct. 24 near Dunkirk (MJ) may lead considerable credence to previous reports.

SWALLOWS THROUGH WRENS—Proponents of Blue-listing for the Purple Martin may be heartened to learn of a flock estimated at 83,000 at Times Beach Aug. 31 (AS, AC). The Com. Raven continues to strengthen its hold in the Region. There were several sightings in s.w. New York and one of the two birds seen in the Rochester area spent most the fall in seclusion at Hamlin Beach S.P. Ithaca's Fish Crows continued. An immense movement of Black-capped Chickadees was evident in New York September through November. Estimates from various localities ranged to 25/min and 500/3 hrs with an estimate that 12 — 18,000 individuals may have passed Derby Hill alone during the

period (GS). Although no Boreal Chickadees were reported in the w. portion of the Region, a 6± extralimital sightings in Vermont indicate that at least a few participated in the movement too. An influx of White-breasted Nuthatches was also noted at Dunkirk (MJ) but other observers failed to note any fluctuation in populations of this ubiquitous woodlands resident. Despair over an "exodus" of Red-breasted Nuthatches from the e. mountains was soon followed by an invasion in w. New York. A weather-induced grounding of migrants Oct. 6 at Sandy Pond (FS) included at least 42 Brown Creepers, by far the best tally in a decade, and an amazing 105 Winter Wrens, exceeding the previous Regional high by an order of magnitude. A Carolina Wren at Proctor (RP) was noteworthy as the only Vermont report.

THRUSHES THROUGH WARBLERS—A major Am. Robin roost, 3000+ birds, was present again through November at Onondaga and another occurred at Montezuma N.W.R., earlier in the month. A **Varied Thrush** at a Cattaraugus County feeder Nov. 6 (SE) was the only one to appear prior to the close of the season. A moribund Wood Thrush found Nov. 7 at Chittenango (MS, *vide* PD) was exceptionally late as was a Swainson's Nov. 2 at Greece (F&RDo). Vermont's first **Wheatear** found Oct. 3 (JM, m.ob.) tarried nearly 2 weeks on Colchester Pt., before departing. The Oct. 9 grounding at Sandy Pond left > 400 Golden-crowned and 350 Ruby-crowned kinglets behind (FS). Appearance of small numbers of Bohemian Waxwings at several locations Nov. 6+ heralded what might have been the start of the first major invasion since the winter of 1977-78. Very few N. Shrikes appeared but, surprisingly, 4 localities reported Loggerheads. One at Winhall, Vt., Sept. 11 (WN) was particularly unusual since this mountainous site is far from the Ontario and Champlain plains where the species is normally, although infrequently, encountered.

A Philadelphia Vireo was closely observed in a Hamlin hedge by two experienced observers (DS, RGS) Nov. 2, an unprecedented late date. Other late departures included a Tennessee Warbler at Conesus L., Nov. 17 (CC *et al.*), Nashvilles Nov. 2 at Ithaca and Nov. 8 near Rochester (SS&RGS), Magnolias Oct. 22 at Herricks Cove (WN) and Nov. 1 at Island Cottage, a Blackburnian Oct. 30 in the Oneida L. basin (DM), a road-killed Yellow-breasted Chat found Nov. 15 in Cato (*vide* MR), and a tardy Hooded Warbler also at Island Cottage Nov. 1 (NHe *et al.*). About 15 Orange-crowned Warblers were reported, virtually all Sept. 28 - Oct. 9. Rarer warblers included two Kentuckys near Rochester (*vide* RGS) and four Connecticuts, all Sept. 3-25.

ICTERIDS THROUGH SPARROWS—An oversized, yellow-eyed, ♂ grackle discovered at Greece Nov. 26 (MDa) and seen by several thereafter was apparently the Atlantic (*i.e.*, yellow-eyed) race of the Boat-tailed Grackle. Although descriptions and photos received to date have not conclusively ruled out Great-tailed Grackle which, given its habitat preferences and recent rash of extralimital occurrences (to Illinois), would be considered equally (if not more) likely than the coastal-marsh loving Boat-tailed; consul-



Boat-tailed Grackle (?), Greece, N. Y., Nov. 29, 1980. Photo/R.G. Spahn.

tation with an expert on the two species supports original contentions that it was indeed Boat-tailed (*vide* RGS). A female and imm. ♂ Rose-breasted Grosbeak were reported in the Rochester area Nov. 9 (F&RDo) & 13 (WL). One Dickcissel appeared in Elmira (*vide* WB)

and another was banded in Plainfield, Vt. (MM). Although some termed this the start of a "finch winter flight", Purple Finch, Pine Grosbeak, Am. Goldfinch and crossbills were all only reported in modest-to-very low numbers. The one possible Hoary Redpoll reported was probably just the first of a host of reports, since the Region was enjoying perhaps the best invasion of Com. Redpolls since 1974. Reported rarities included an "Oregon" Junco at Rochester (*vide* RGS), imm. Harris' Sparrows at Elmira (WH, MW) and Saranac L. (m.ob), and an unconfirmed Sharp-tailed Sparrow at Colchester, Vt. (SA). Numerous Lapland Longspurs and Snow Buntings appeared early, a Lapland near Rochester Sept. 13 (WL) being exceptional.

CORRIGENDUM: The Derby Hill Gyrfalcon reported *Am. Birds* 34:774 appeared March 19 not May 11, 1980.

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APPALACHIAN REGION

/ George A. Hall

Autumn was mild in this Region and this brought both a good and a mediocre migration season depending on the point of view. At the Pittsburgh weather station August and particularly September were much warmer than normal, while October and November were slightly cooler than normal. August rainfall was above normal, September was well below normal, and the latter two months about normal. However, in the East the summer's drought continued into October. There were no frosts until at least mid-October, and a surprise snowstorm that dumped several inches of snow on western Pennsylvania in mid-November was the only significant snowfall of the season.

The migration had actually begun in July, when, as reported in the last account, the shorebirds began to arrive in numbers. This movement continued into August and early September, and shorebirding was unusually good for this Region. The passerine migration began in late August and was about on time. A few observers thought the movement was poor, but most reporting areas felt that it was a good migration. The mild October weather meant that it was also a prolonged one. However, the waterfowl migration was generally poor, possibly also the result of the mild, late autumn weather.

As is usual in the fall, many of the quantitative data on the passerine migration come from the two big banding stations, Powdermill Nature Reserve near Ligonier, Pennsylvania (hereafter, P.N.R.), and the Allegheny Front Migration Observatory in Grant and Tucker counties, West Virginia (hereafter, A.F.M.O.). Additional data were available

from another station, Presque Isle State Park (hereafter, P.I.S.P.). The only data on TV tower kills came from Youngstown, Ohio, where kills occurred on 11 nights with a total of only 143 birds of 28 species involved. The highest night-kill was September 17 with 80 birds (WB). [Locations cited below will have state designations included the first time listed only].

L O O N S THROUGH IBIS-ES—The Com. Loon flight was poor, although a total of 100+ at Tullahoma, Tenn., Nov. 22 was noteworthy (LD). A very early loon was at Saegertown, Pa., Aug. 25 (RFL, ML). A Red-throated Loon was seen near Harpers Ferry, W. Va., Nov. 15-17 (TD) and six were seen at Bald Eagle S.P., Pa., Nov. 22, the largest number ever recorded locally (RW & SB). A count of 200 Horned Grebes was made at Pymatuning L., Pa., Nov. 8 (RFL & ML). A Red-necked Grebe was seen in Warren County, Va. on an unspecified date (RSi) while Eared Grebes were reported from Stuart's Draft, Va., on the remarkable date of Aug. 16 (MH & LT), constituting the first local record; and one was as P.I.S.P., for the second year in the same spot Nov. 4-22 (JM).

It was a banner year for Double-crested



Cormorant which was reported from P.I.S.P. (JM, SS, CZK), Bald Eagle S.P. (RW), Pittsburgh (CB), Sunbury, Pa. (SS), Botetourt County, Va. (BK & JA), Seneca L., O. (ME), Rowan County, Ky. (FB), Austin Springs (SG & MD) Knoxville (K.T.O.S.) and Chattanooga (RSt) with dates throughout September and early October.

The late summer flight N of Great Egrets mentioned in the summer report continued well into August, with a few remaining into early October at Warren, Pa. (AE), and very late Nov. 6 & 11 at P.I.S.P. (CZK). The only Snowy Egret report came from Bald Eagle S.P., Aug. 10 (KJ & JJ), while Little Blue Heron was reported only from Rockingham County, Va., Aug. 3-16 (LT), Clinton, Tenn

to Aug. 22 (CN), and Watauga L., Tenn., Aug. 11 (GE). Cattle Egret was reported from LaFollette, Tenn., Aug. 5 (GM), Knoxville Oct. 29 & Nov. 4 (BF), P.I.S.P., Nov. 9 & 10 (SS, JGS), Bald Eagle S.P., Nov. 10 (RW), and McDowell County, N.C., Oct. 18 (RR). A Yellow-crowned Night Heron was seen in Westmoreland County, Pa., Aug. 5-21 (KLC), and an adult with young was seen at Radford, Va., Aug. 23-31 (CK).

The summer report had noted the unusual influx of imm. White Ibises, and this continued into August with records from Montandon Marsh, Pa., Aug. 26 (*vide* SST), Rockingham County, Va., two Aug. 16 (R.B.C.), Botetourt County, Va., Aug. 31 (BO & TK), Kingston, Tenn., to Aug. 10 (LTu), Surgoinsville, Tenn., eight Aug. 1 (WJ), Blount County, Tenn., Aug. 22 (TH), Chattanooga, eight in late August (m.ob.), and Dalton, Ga., three sightings of four birds in early August provided first local records (AH & HD).

WATERFOWL—This Region generally does not get the large flights of waterfowl that occur in some places, but the migration this year was on the light side. This may have been owing to the mild weather, but on consulting reports from past seasons I find that this makes at least the fourth year in a row that low autumn numbers have been ascribed to the mild weather. One is forced to wonder then if these recent low numbers do not indeed reflect a dwindling continental population.

Western Pennsylvania, and n. West Virginia lie on the main flight path of the Whistling Swan, and in some years the flight of this species is quite impressive. This year was no exception; the major movement occurred Nov. 16-18. The largest number from any one place was 2000 over Ligonier, Nov. 18 (RCL), but equally large numbers passed over many places in w. Pennsylvania. The only report away from the usual flight path was one at Princeton, W.Va., on the early date of Oct. 19 (JP).

Some of the more unusual records were of: Brant, Bald Eagle S.P., three Oct. 25, two Oct. 30 (RW), Waterford, Pa., Nov. 8 (JM), and P.I.S.P., Nov. 30 (JB). One to six Snow Geese of both color phases, were observed at: Erie County, Pa., Oct. 25-26 and Nov. 1 (JM & SS), Kingston, Tenn., Oct. 3 (SJS & BS), Montandon Marsh, Oct. 20-21 (SSt), and 12 at Chattanooga Oct. 26-27 (RSt, LD & KD); Eur Wigeon at Pymatuning L., Oct. 4 (RFL & ML); 32 Black Scoters at Lock Haven, Pa., Oct. 23 (PS), and one at Black Moshannon S.P., Oct. 23 (PS); White-winged Scoter at: L. Chillisquaque, Pa., Oct. 13 & Nov. 9 (SSt), Bald Eagle S.P., Nov. 15 (RW & SB), Kingston, Nov. 22 (BJS, BS, MDa); Surf Scoter at Athens, W.Va., Nov. 2 (JP); and King Eider at P.I.S.P., Nov. 10 (SS & JM).

There were some unusually early "first seen" dates: Canvasback, Aug. 6 (JM), Lesser Scaup, Aug. 14 (JM), Hooded Merganser, Aug. 3 all in Erie County (JM), and 22 Com. Mergansers in Warren County Sept. 4 (TG).

RAPTORS—The interest in hawk counting continues to increase and more lookouts reported this year than before. A summary of

Table 1. Hawk Migration, Appalachian Region, Fall 1980

	Days Obs.	Sh.-sh.	Br-wg.	Br-wg. High	Total
Tuscarora Summit, Pa. (CG)	86	2053	2971	668 (9/17)	6886
Hooversville, Pa. (GRS)	38	24	500	214 (9/18)	585
Beam Rocks, Pa. (RCL)	15	146	48	*	311
Allegheny Front, W.Va. (GP)	18	*	*	1400	c. 4000
Peter's Mt., W.Va. (GH)	15	78	5648	1575 (9/26)	5877
Charleston, W.Va. (GH)	*	*	*	3000 (9/25)	*
East River Mt., W.Va. (JP)	8	43	1522	831 (9/19)	1610
Massanutten Mt. Va. (CZ)	4	8j	1747	1214 (9/20)	1788
Chilhowee Mt., Tenn. (SJS)	11	31	2054	1679 (9/20)	2685
Chattanooga (3 stations) (RSt)	*	15	c. 2700	1409 (9/23)	c. 2800

*Data not submitted.

the data reported is given in Table 1. As a rule the migration was not as good as in 1979. At Look Rock, Chilhowee Mt., Tenn., the total count was only 50% of 1979, and at Tuscarora Summit, Pa., the count was 80% of 1979. Most of this decrease was a decline in Broad-winged Hawk numbers, as other species remained at nearly previous levels.

An impressive migration of Turkey Vultures was seen Nov. 3 near Chattanooga, when 150 birds were counted in two hours (RSt, KD & LD). There were four reports of Turkey Vulture at Leeper, Pa., n. of the usual range (LC). Black Vultures have joined the N-moving group as records came from Rector, Pa., Sept. 22 (HS) and in the mountainous section of West Virginia, Pendleton County Aug. 30 (R.B.C.), and A.F.M.O., (KF).

In the n. there was a good Goshawk flight, with 22 listed for the season at Tuscarora Summit (CG), two records from P.I.S.P., (JM), five from Beam Rocks, Pa., with an early date of Aug. 16, suggesting a local bird at P.N.R. (RCL), and records from Lock Haven, Nov. 2 (JW), and Jersey Shore, Pa., Nov. 21 (PS). The southernmost record came from Cumberland Gap, Ky., Oct. 8 establishing also the earliest state record (AS). Most observers felt that the *Accipiters* were at least holding their own, but Sharp-shinned Hawk appeared to be in good numbers at most places. Red-shouldered Hawk was reported as more common than usual, as witness 19 on Oct. 24 at Tuscarora Mt. (CG). A Swainson's Hawk was seen at Look Rock, Chilhowee Mt., Sept. 27 providing a first state record (BHS, MLA). Rough-legged Hawk was more widely reported than usual.

There were 20 reports of Bald Eagles throughout the Region. Six were logged for the season at Tuscarora Summit (CG). About six of these reports were made during August which must represent post-breeding wandering of s. birds. Golden Eagle was reported from: Tuscarora Summit; 28 for the season (CG), Warren County, Oct. 4, and one was shot in Shenandoah County Va., Dec. 5 (RSi), Botetourt County, Nov. 5 & 14 (HB), Swannanoa, N.C., Oct. 16 (RR), and Great Smoky Mountains N.P., Sept. 9 (TH).

At Tuscarora Summit 11 Peregrines were tallied for the season with a noteworthy four occurring Oct. 4 (CG). Other Peregrine sightings came from P.I.S.P., Oct. 5 (SS & JF), L. Arthur, Pa., Sept. 7 (DF), Linesville, Pa., Oct. 4 (RFL), East River Mt., W.Va., Sept. 14 (JP), Harvey's Knob, Va., Sept. 19 (MM),

Pisgah N.F., N.C., Aug. 13 (AO), Norris, Tenn., Oct. 5 (CN), Norris L., Tenn., Sept. 25 (JH), and Kingston, Sept. 16 (KD & LD), and Oct. 5 (DT & LTu). A very early Merlin was seen at Beam Rocks, Pa., Aug. 25 (BM) while other records came from P.I.S.P., Nov. 2 (SS), two from Allegheny County, Pa., Nov. 1 (WH), one banded at A.F.M.O., Oct. 7 (GAH), Menifee County, Ky., Sept. 28 (WBr), and Roan Mt., Tenn., Sept. 20 (ES).

RAILS AND CRANES—A Yellow Rail was picked up moribund at Chattanooga Oct. 14. Sandhill Cranes were reported only from the extreme s. part of the Region. A good migration was reported from the Knoxville area with a total of 422 reported in two main flights; Nov. 1-5 & 20-22 (CN), while at Chattanooga numbers were rather low with 55 Nov. 5 (LD) and 30 on Nov. 22 (JPh). From Dalton came reports of two flocks, 47 Nov. 3 (VG) and 20 on Nov. 2 (HDi).



Yellow Rail, Chattanooga, Tenn., Oct. 14, 1980. Photo/ Ken Dubke.

SHOREBIRDS, GULLS AND TERNS—Once again this fall shorebirds made news. The numbers of birds were not at great as last year's but there were a great many unusual records. The shorebird "hotspots" in the Region are the L. Erie shore, particularly at P.I.S.P., and the settling ponds of the power plant at Kingston; but, this year the continuing drought in the East produced large areas of mudflat habitat resulting in some good records.

Perhaps the most outstanding events were the unusually large numbers of reports of Red Knots and Buff-breasted Sandpipers. Knots were reported from P.I.S.P., mid-August-mid-September with as many as 11 seen at one time (DS). The first c. Pennsylvania record came from Bald Eagle S.P.,



Red Knot, Bald Eagle State Park, Pa., Sept. 13, 1980. Photo/ Rick Wiltraut.

Sept. 14 (RW). The first s.w. Pennsylvania record came from Somerset, Pa., Sept. 9-11 (MHo), and Kingston Sept. 6-17, with as many as four at one time (SJS, CN *et al.*). The Buff-breasted Sandpiper was reported at P.I.S.P., Aug. 30 and Sept. 6 & 10 (SS, JM), at Somerset, Pa., Sept. 22, providing the first s.w. Pennsylvania record (RCL), Linesville, Pa., Sept. 19 (RFL & ML), Kingston, Sept. 7 (6 birds) (CN, LTu), and Clinton, 8-17 (CN, LTu, DH). American Golden Plover was observed at P.I.S.P., Aug. 18 - Nov. 1 (JM), and was also reported from Pymatuning L., Sept. 19 (RFL & ML), Bald Eagle S.P., Pa., Sept. 21 and Oct. 2 (RW), Augusta County, Va., Sept. 12 (LT), Stuarts Draft, Sept. 26 (BMe), and Kingston Sept. 7-14 (SJS), while Black-bellied Plover was reported from Bald Eagle S.P., Oct. 29 (RW), P.I.S.P., Aug. 30 (725—RFL & ML), Seneca L., O., Sept. 16 (ME), Kingston, Sept. 17-20 (SJS, CN), and Norris L., Tenn., Nov. 8 (JH). Other notable records included: Whimbrel, four records from P.I.S.P., Aug. 3 - Sept. 4 (JM), Willet at P.I.S.P., Aug. 20 (JB), Long-billed Dowitcher at Union City, Pa., Sept. 11-12 (JM), and in Rockingham County, Va., Oct. 15 (LT), Red Phalarope at Corry, Erie Co., Pa., Oct. 14-19 (JM), P.I.S.P., Nov. 3 (SS), Black Moshannon S.P., Pa., Oct. 19 (RW), N. Phalarope at Somerset, Sept. 11 (MHo), Kingston, Sept. 12-16 (SJS, KD & LD), Wilson's Phalarope at West Fairview, Pa., Sept. 16-17 (SSt), and Kingston, Aug. 30 - Sept. 7 (SJS, RSt), and eight Am. Avocets at Kingston Sept. 7 (LTu, LD & KD, RSt). An unusual number of inland records of Sanderling came in. Baird's Sandpipers were seen at P.I.S.P., Sept. 25 (RFL, ML, & SF), Roanoke, Va., Sept. 15-16 (NM & MP), Kingston Sept. 17 and Oct. 22 (SJS), and Clinton, Sept. 8-17 (CN), while White-rumped Sandpipers were reported from P.I.S.P., Oct. 4, and 13 there Oct. 12 (JM & SS), Bald Eagle S.P., Sept. 6 (PS), and Oct. 30 (RW), and Daleville, Va., Sept. 9 (JA). An unusual number of records of Stilt Sandpiper came in: P.I.S.P., Sept. 14 (JM), Union City, Aug. 30 (SS), Bald Eagle S.P., Oct. 2-5 (RW, MC & CH), Somerset, Pa., Sept. 9-15 (MHo & RCL), Roanoke, Sept. 19 (MP), Augusta County Sept. 24 & Oct. 2 (BMe), and Kingston Aug. 23 - Sept. 26 (SJS).

The Great Black-backed Gull reported from Bald Eagle S.P., Pa., in the summer report remained through the fall season (MW). There were three reports of Glaucous Gull at

P.I.S.P., Aug. 24 (early), Nov. 11 & 27 (JM, JB). The Little Gull was reported from P.I.S.P., Aug. 30 (JM) and Oct. 12 (SS). Laughing Gulls were seen at P.I.S.P., Nov. 11-16 (JB, JM, SS), at Bald Eagle S.P., Sept. 1 (MC & CH), and at Kingston Sept. 17 (CHy). A Franklin's Gull at the Hiwassee Recreation Area, near Chattanooga Nov. 2 provided the second local record (RSt, KD & LD). Forster's Terns were reported from P.I.S.P. Aug., 20 (JB), Chattanooga Sept. 29 (RSt), and Knoxville Sept. 28 (*vide* CN).

OWLS THROUGH HUMMINGBIRDS—Snowy Owls were reported from P.I.S.P., Nov. 3-7 (SS & CZK), & 29 (JM), and from Erie airport Nov. 11 (m.ob.). Short-eared Owls were found at P.I.S.P., Oct. 25 (JM), Nov. 7 (CZK), & 9 (JHS), and at Roanoke, Nov. 22 (NM). A Saw-whet Owl was found at Bickell's Knob, Randolph Co., W.Va., Nov. 12 (DW). Screech Owls are making a slow comeback but remain in low numbers in w. Pennsylvania (PH). Barn Owls were reported from Washington County, Pa. with six young banded Aug. 6 (RB), Lewisburg, W.Va. (CHa), Harrisonburg, Va. (R.B.C.), and three sites at Elizabethton, Tenn. (GE).

The migration of Com. Nighthawks was quite good at most places, with some high counts reported: 1500 in Pendleton County, W.Va., Aug. 24 (CZ), 1000+ at Jefferson, N.C., Aug. 27 (VM), and 3700 near Troutville, Va., Aug. 30 (TK). At P.N.R., 77 Ruby-throated Hummingbirds were banded during the season (an average number), the last seen Oct. 1 (RCL), while at A.F.M.O., a "hummingbird watch" logged 395 birds Aug. 23 - Sept. 2 (GAH).

WOODPECKERS AND FLYCATCHERS—At Elizabethton, the flight of Red-headed Woodpeckers along the mountain ridges was better than usual (GE), but at nearby Knoxville it was lower than in the past few years (SJS). At A.F.M.O., 3-4 birds were seen daily Sept. 17+ (KF). Two Red-bellied Woodpeckers at Erie Aug. 3, provided a noteworthy record (JF). The flight of Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers was generally poor.

At P.N.R., 69 (avg. 70) Yellow-bellied Flycatchers were banded with a late date of occurrence Oct. 19 (RCL), but none was netted at A.F.M.O. (GAH). One was banded at S. Holston L., Tenn., Sept. 20 (RK). At P.N.R., Least Flycatchers were handled in 40% lower numbers than average, Acadian Flycatchers in 25% above average and E. Wood Pewees 13% above average (RCL). It was another good year for Olive-sided Flycatcher with reports coming from 11 areas ranging from Bald Eagle S.P., Pa., to Knoxville. At P.N.R., five were banded (RCL).

LARKS THROUGH NUTHATCHES—The Horned Lark seems to be slowly disappearing from this Region, but until recently this had not been widely noticed. There were some very late dates for swallows: Tree Swallow, Botetourt County Nov. 2 (BK & JA), Meadville, Pa., Nov. 7 (RFL), and Bald Eagle S.P., Nov. 11 (RW); Purple Martin Oct. 23 (DF).

The Com. Raven range continues to expand. There were three sightings involving five birds in Warren County, Pa. (WHi), and in the Elizabethton area there were 5-6

sightings at low elevations this fall (GE). Another corvid that appears to be expanding its range is the Fish Crow which continues to be reported from State College, Pa. (RW), and is continuing its expansion S through the Great Valley of Virginia, being reported from Daleville (JV). The Blue Jay flight was good, but apparently not as heavy as that of 1979.

In late October Black-capped Chickadee staged a S eruption, but the numbers were not as heavy as in some of the great invasion years of the past. At P.N.R., 143 were banded (RCL). After several years of low numbers the Red-breasted Nuthatch showed a good S movement. At A.F.M.O., 37 were banded (GAH). The Brown Creeper flight was also better than in recent years. For the third consecutive fall a Brown-headed Nuthatch has appeared at Waynesboro, Va. This is apparently the same bird as it is tame enough to sit on the hand of the landowner (R.B.C.). Brown-headed Nuthatch occurrences are common at Chickamauga Dam, Tenn., where the first one was seen last fall (RSt).

WRENS THROUGH VIREOS—At P.N.R., House Wren bandings were 11% below average (RCL). The Carolina Wren remains scarce but is beginning to make a comeback in s.w. Pennsylvania and n. West Virginia. Mockingbirds continue to increase N with a Warren County report, Nov. 7 (TG), and increased numbers in Lock Haven area (PS). A late record for Brown Thrasher was submitted from P.I.S.P., Nov. 1 (JM).

Hermit Thrushes were thought to be in lower than normal numbers in w. Pennsylvania (PH), but P.N.R., with 64 banded was 135% above average. At P.N.R., 458 (50% above average) Swainson's Thrushes were banded (RCL), while at A.F.M.O., 592 (average 456) were banded (GAH). Gray-cheeked Thrushes were also handled in above average numbers at these two stations. At A.F.M.O., the Veery staged a very good flight but occurred in below-average numbers at P.N.R. A Varied Thrush was recorded at Blacksburg, Va., Nov. 6 (CK).

There were mixed feelings among observers about both kinglet species. At some places the numbers were back up, as witnessed by 140 Golden-crowneds banded at P.I.S.P., this fall compared with an average of 10 for the past 3 years (RFL). But at Lock Haven for example, there was only one record of Ruby-crowned and none of Golden-crowned Kinglet (PS). Rather unusual were the early Allegheny County, records for Ruby-crowned Kinglets Aug. 22 (GMa) & 24-25 (BZ).

Cedar Waxwings were reported as abundant throughout the n. part of the Region. At P.N.R., for example, 501 were banded (RCL). A Bohemian Waxwing was seen at L. Arthur, Oct. 19 (DF). The only N. Shrike report came from Meadville Nov. 23 (RFL & ML).

At both P.N.R. (RCL) and A.F.M.O. (GAH), banding records of Red-eyed Vireo were down about 29% from average. Philadelphia Vireos were reported more commonly than usual in Allegheny County (PH), but numbers banded were down at P.N.R. (RCL). This species was reported from the Chatahoochee N.F., Ga., Aug. 31 (HDi), and Sept. 12 (BP). Thirteen were banded at Norris, Tenn. (CN).

WARBLERS AND ICTERIDS—It is noteworthy that each fall most of the comments on the warbler migration come from banding stations. This is quite in contrast to the spring season when "binocular birders" seem to pay great attention to the warblers. Can it be that the fiction that fall warblers are difficult to identify promulgated by the field guides (including the latest revision of the classic guide) have deterred birders from reporting observations of this group at this season?

At P.N.R., 1680 birds of 27 species were banded and the season was considered to be below average (RCL). At A.F.M.O., 5324 birds of 27 species were banded, constituting a well above average year (GAH), while at P I S P., 121 birds of 20 species were banded in what was labeled the "poorest numbers in several years" (RFL). At P.N.R., 11 species were handled in above-average numbers, four in average numbers and 15 in below-average numbers, while at A.F.M.O., 12 were above, eight below and four in average numbers. However the two stations disagreed about the status of 12 species and agreed in only eight cases Nashville and Tennessee warblers in lower than average numbers, Canada Warbler in average numbers, and Cape May, Black-throated Blue, Yellow-rumped, Ovenbird, and Com. Yellowthroat in above average numbers. At A.F.M.O., as in the past few years, the "spruce budworm specialists", Cape May, Bay-breasted, and Tennessee warblers dominated the list.

A Brewer's Warbler was seen at State College Aug. 17 (RW) and a Lawrence's Warbler was seen in the Chattahoochee N.F., Aug 13 (HDi). No Orange-crowned Warblers were banded at P.N.R. (RCL), but the species was reported from A.F.M.O., Sept. 12 (GAH), Clarksville, Pa. banded, Oct. 23 (RB), Butler, Pa. (FP), Staunton, Va., Oct. 30 (LT), Warren County, Va., banded Oct. 7 & 10 (RSi), Look Rock, Chilowhee Mt., Tenn., Oct. 26 (SJS), and 3-4 sightings at Elizabethton (GE).

There were a number of rather late dates: Black-and-white at Ligonier, Pa., Oct. 19 (KC) and Butler County, Oct. 20 (MG), Nashville at Clarksville, Pa., Nov. 18 (RB), Ovenbird at P.I.S.P., Nov. 8 (JM), and Mourning at Black Moshannon S.P., Oct. 23 (PS)

An interesting event was the netting of a hybrid Black-and-white x Blackburnian Warbler at P.N.R., Sept. 16, details to be published elsewhere (KP).

Bobolinks were reported as more common than usual this fall and the large concentration that roosted near Stuarts Draft, Va., Sept 7 - Oct. 11 peaked at 6000 birds Sept. 9 (BMe). Brewer's Blackbirds were reported from Lewisburg Oct. 26 (CHa), and from Chattanooga Oct. 27 (RSi).

FRINGILLIDS—Dickcissels were reported from Warren County Aug. 17 (RSi), and Jefferson Oct. 14-18 (VM).

Evening Grosbeaks appeared in late October and early November, and by Nov. 30 had penetrated as far s. as Knoxville. However no place reported very large numbers and it was not a major invasion. The only report of a Pine Grosbeak came, as it often does, from the State College area, on the early date of Oct 19 (RW). Redpolls were reported from

P I S P., Nov 10-11 (JM, CZK), and Warren Nov. 12 (TG). In the n. Purple Finches staged a very good flight in late October. At P.N.R., 564 were banded. House Finches returned to e. Tennessee areas in mid-October. So far only a few have nested in that region, but elsewhere it has become a common to almost abundant breeder. Pine Siskins arrived in numbers in early October, and by Nov. 30 were reported as common throughout the Region. American Goldfinches were considered as abundant during October and were reported more numerous than usual by Nov. 30. Red Crossbills were seen feeding young in the Chattahoochee N.F. Aug. 18 (HDi), but the only other report came from Shenandoah Mt., Va., where it nested last spring (R.B.C.). The only White-winged Crossbill report was from Forest County, Pa., Oct. 24 (RFL).

Where have all the Tree Sparrows gone? For the second consecutive winter none has appeared in n. West Virginia (GAH), and while most reporters failed to mention them, those that did commented on their absence or scarcity. It was an unusually good year for Lincoln's Sparrows, and Dark-eyed Juncos occurred in excellent numbers. A Dark-eyed (Oregon) Junco was banded at P.N.R., Nov. 2 (RCL). Noteworthy records include: Lark Sparrow, L. Arthur Sept. 7 (DF), Sharp-tailed Sparrow at P.I.S.P., Sept. 27-28 (SS, JM), and Clay-colored Sparrow, L. Arthur Oct. 19 (DF). As usual Snow Buntings were reported only from the n. Pennsylvania localities, and the only report of Lapland Longspurs came from P.I.S.P., Sept. 28+ (SS).

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WESTERN GREAT LAKES REGION

/ Daryl D. Tessen

August and September were excessively wet with the two months yielding a total of 12-19 inches of rain. Violent storms, high winds and occasional hail punctuated this period, especially during August and the first half of September. October saw a return to more average precipitation with November proving to be a drier-than-normal month. Michigan was the exception as excessive precipitation continued through October before finally abating.

August maintained the summer pattern of being excessively hot and humid. As September progressed temperatures became unusually cool with this trend maintained through October. November had near-average temperatures with limited snow in the more northern portions of the Region.

Most birders lamented the seemingly endless stormy weather that prevailed most weekends, predominantly during the first half of the period. The passerine flight proved to be a disappointment, in particular of the thrushes, vireos, sparrows and especially warblers. However the reader may be surprised by what follows. Despite the negativity expressed by many and the deceptively quiet start during August and early September the season almost instantly developed into one of the most impressive in years. An amazing array of rarities punctuated the remaining months. This was especially true during October. Minnesota exemplified this pattern with dazzling variety. The best place to have been was Duluth, which produced an almost overwhelming number of finds this season. Wisconsin and Michigan had equally unusual discoveries but not quite in the numbers that characterized Minnesota's migration. Unfortunately one fact became all too apparent during this migration. Too many of the rarities failed to linger. In fact many put in one-day appearances. What birders needed this fall, perhaps more so than for quite some time, was the luck to be at the right place at the right time. The other noteworthy point of this season was the number of late sightings. There was truly a remarkable number of record or near-record departures reported from throughout the Region. With this combination, and despite the season's apparent deceptiveness, the reader should find what follows to be an ornithological treat. In the report following, names in *italics* are counties.



LOONS THROUGH HERONS—A peak of 350 Com. Loons was found on Mille Lacs L., Minn., Oct. 10 (KL). One of the most outstanding finds among the numerous rarities of this season was that of an imm. **Yellow-billed Loon** on Minnesota's L. Winnibigoshish, *Itasca*. Savaloja discovered it swimming with two winter-plumaged Commons Nov. 16. Then Nov. 26 a similar individual, probably the same bird, was located on L. Superior at Duluth (JG). The bird was relocated the following 2 days 20 mi n. at Two Harbors by additional observers where it was photographed. These sightings represent the first Minnesota record. Unusual was the sighting of Red-throated Loons in all three states. For Michigan one was at the meeting of the St. Clair R. and L. Huron Oct. 26 (HD); in Minnesota one was on Battle L., *Otter Tail* Nov. 1 (G&MO); Wisconsin had a total of five birds seen mainly during late October - early November on L. Michigan in *Ozaukee* and *Milwaukee* (DG, DH, DT). Red-necked Grebes were found in 3 Michigan locations and the usual 2 nesting sites in Wisconsin. An Eared Grebe was at the Muskegon wastewater treatment area Sept. 11 & 21 (CV, A&MH, BB). Wisconsin had two birds with the summering individual at Milwaukee lingering until Sept. 24 (DG *et al.*). Another was on Goose Pond, *Columbia* Sept. 27 - Oct. 4 (TD, RH, AS *et al.*). Western Grebes were found in n. Wisconsin Oct. 30 & Nov. 8 at Ashland (GB, JL, DV) and three Nov. 30 at Superior (JP).

White Pelicans were present in all 3 states. Michigan had single birds in *Ottawa* Sept. 29 (BM), *Muskegon* Oct. 7 (LF) and in *Monroe* Nov. 7 (PB). For Minnesota several were seen in *St. Louis* at Boulder L., during August (m.ob.) with a lone bird at Duluth Oct. 27-28 (m.ob.). The latter individual apparently wandered over to Superior, Wis., as it was seen during late October by several observers. Most encouraging was the improving status of the Double-crested Cormorant in the Region, particularly in Wisconsin. This autumn concentrations in several of its Wisconsin breeding sites peaked at 600. However most significant was a concentration of 3000+ in the lower Green Bay Oct. 7-9 (JT). Late November - early December birds were reported from *LaCrosse* (FL), *Brown* (TE), *Jefferson* (KH) and *Milwaukee* (JI). Very late was a Green Heron in Milwaukee Nov. 15

(DT). The only Little Blue Heron reports came from Wisconsin, with single birds at Rush L., *Winnebago* Aug. 10 (DT) and *Dane* Aug. 16 (RH).

Cattle Egrets were observed in all three states, max. 62 in *Brown*, Wis. (ECI, BC). November sightings occurred in both Wisconsin and Michigan. Record departure dates for Great Egret were established in Michigan and Minnesota with a Nov. 17 sighting in *Monroe*

and Nov. 28 in *Dakota*, respectively. The nesting pair of Snowy Egrets remained at Green Bay until Sept. 14 (TE). The only Yellow-crowned Night Heron observations came from Wisconsin with three Aug. 7 in *Trempealeau* (EE) and single birds Sept. 3 at Milwaukee (EE) and Sept. 10 in *Columbia* (RH). Late was an Am. Bittern in *Marathon*, Wis., Nov. 28 (K&LL). A *Plegadis* ibis was found in Minnesota's *Lyon* Oct. 10 (BMe, TV). This represents a record late date.

WATERFOWL—Mute Swans continue to increase in Michigan with sightings occurring from additional areas outside of their traditional nesting area. Sightings in Wisconsin also are increasing, but at a slower pace. Unusual was one that summered at L. Butte des Morts, Oshkosh, eventually having to be rescued from the ice in mid-December. Unusual was a Whistling Swan in *Marquette*, Mich., Aug. 9 (K&VK). The Whistling Swan migration was above average this year with more than the usual number of reports. Thousands were again present along the Mississippi R., in w. Wisconsin with an additional 6000 at Weaver, Minn., Nov. 29 (OJ). A major movement occurred Nov. 15-16 in both Wisconsin and Michigan with numerous reports of hundreds to thousands moving E during those two days. The rare **Brant** appeared in Minnesota, with one photographed Oct. 12 in *Wilkin* (F&KS) and in Wisconsin with one in a field Oct. 7 in *Chippewa* (JP). A White-fronted Goose was observed feeding in company with Snows and Canadas Oct. 2 in *Clark*, Wis. (SR). Two were at Rochester Nov. 16 (JH). Early was a Snow Goose in Wisconsin's *St. Croix* Sept. 2 (JP). Michigan was provided its second state record for Ross' Goose when one was shot by a hunter Oct. 9 and identified by a Shiawassee N.W.R. naturalist.

There was an especially good migration of diving ducks during much of October along the Wisconsin side of L. Michigan. For example 10-12,000 Greater Scaup were observed in *Ozaukee* Oct. 5. Duluth had Harlequin Ducks present during most of the period. A male appeared Sept. 13 (SM) and was subsequently joined by two females during October (m.ob.). They were last seen Nov. 22 but two birds were discovered at Two Harbors Nov. 29 (PE). A Harlequin was at Har-

ington Beach S.P., Wis., Oct. 18 (DT). The scoter migration presented a mixed picture this autumn. Michigan had only a few sightings of all three species. Minnesota had more sightings, mainly concentrated, as expected, along L. Superior. However Wisconsin had a remarkable migration for all three species, undoubtedly one of the best in recent times. Hundreds of White-wingeds, Surfs and Blacks were observed moving along L. Michigan primarily early October to mid-November. The most productive areas included select spots in *Door*, *Sheboygan*, *Ozaukee* and *Milwaukee*. For example, a total of several hundred scoters of all three species was watched passing by Harrington Beach S.P. during a 3-hour period Oct. 18 (DT), while 500± Surfs/Blacks were estimated off Whitefish Bay in *Door* Nov. 16 (RH). A concentration of 305 Hooded Mergansers was in *Trempealeau*, Wis., Nov. 7 (RD)

HAWKS—A tardy Turkey Vulture was found in *St. Louis*, Minn., Nov. 2 (LH). Most unusual was the careful observation of a **Black Vulture** migrating with hawks Oct. 26 in *Manitowoc* (JS) and Oct. 27 in *Sheboygan* (DB, CW). This represents only the third record for Wisconsin. Again this autumn the unfavorable weather conditions produced a poor hawk migration. For example, Hawk Ridge at Duluth tallied only 34,159 hawks, a record low number. Similar disappointing numbers were recorded at Wisconsin's two stations, Little Suamico and Cedar Grove. Among the more interesting sightings was the increased number of Cooper's Hawks seen in Wisconsin and Minnesota. The Broad-winged flight was poor, with the best peak being 3858 on Sept. 17 at Little Suamico (TE). Four Swainson's Hawks were reported, with two sighted in Michigan, one in Wisconsin. The one reported from Minnesota at Hawk Ridge represented a record late departure date, Oct. 18. Minnesota had ten Golden Eagle sightings, Wisconsin eight and Michigan two. Again this fall a good Osprey flight was noted Regionwide. Two **Gyr-falcons** were found in Minnesota, the first at Duluth Oct. 11 (*vide* PR) and the second in *St. Louis* Nov. 30 (KE, KS). There were five Prairie Falcon sightings in Minnesota with three from *Wilkin*, and one each in *Clay* and *Traverse* (SM). There was another good Peregrine Falcon flight in Wisconsin with the main movement occurring during the last week of September. Minnesota reported 15 while Michigan had four reports.

GROUSE THROUGH RAILS—Spruce Grouse were sighted twice in Michigan, once each at Whitefish Pt. and in *Marquette*, and also twice in Wisconsin in *Vilas* and *Oneida*. A King Rail was found in *Oconto*, Wis., Sept. 9-10 (AS, TE). A Yellow Rail studied at leisure [unique!] Sept. 13 in *Monroe* represented the first fall record in s.e. Michigan (ECo *et al.*).

SHOREBIRDS—This fall's migration proved to be disappointing. Primarily this was the result of very limited habitat. It was either too wet or too dry in the prime spots, apparently causing most individuals to move

straight through. There were some notable exceptions as the reader will soon see but they were far fewer than in recent years. Michigan was provided a new record departure date for Semipalmated Plover when one was seen in the s.e. corner of the state Nov. 13. Two Piping Plovers were in *Emmet*, Mich., Sept. 1 (EK). Wisconsin had three sightings, all of single birds that included LaCrosse Aug. 1 (FL), Madison Aug. 2-9 (AS, RH *et al.*), and Belgium Sept. 17 (MD). The only numbers of Am Golden Plovers reported this year were 3-600 in *Dodge* and *Columbia* during early October. Minnesota had a very late bird in *Nicollet* Nov. 21 (JF), representing a new departure record. Whimbrels were present at Duluth Sept. 6-14 (m.ob.) and in Milwaukee Sept. 9-11 (JI *et al.*). Willets were found in Michigan's *Ontonagon*, with four Aug. 5, two Aug. 13 (AM, JM) and two Nov. 3 at L. Erie, Metropark (JAF). In Wisconsin four were present Aug. 5-6 at LaCrosse (FL) and one Aug. 5-8 at Manitowoc (CS). Minnesota had an albino Greater Yellowlegs in *Stearns* Sept. 6 (RJ) with a very late individual on Nov. 15 in *Lake of the Woods* (TS). Michigan had a record-late Lesser Yellowlegs Nov. 19. At least 12 Red Knots were found in Wisconsin and five in Michigan. A Purple Sandpiper was watched Nov. 9 & 15 at Muskegon S P by many observers.

The Pectoral Sandpiper found Nov. 29 in s e Michigan provided a new late departure date. At least ten White-rumped Sandpipers were reported from Wisconsin, with two each in Michigan and Minnesota. Peak Baird's Sandpiper numbers included 31 in Michigan and 70 in Wisconsin. An Oct. 26 Least Sandpiper at Thief River Falls, Minn. (S&KS) was very late. The 200 Dunlins Nov. 22 in *Monroe*, Mich., was an unusually large number at such a late date. However Dunlins remained at Milwaukee into December (JI). Another departure record for Michigan was the Nov. 29 Semipalmated Sandpiper. Both Wisconsin and Michigan had sightings of W. Sandpipers with at least nine and four birds, respectively.

S.A.

Easily the most outstanding shorebird attraction in Wisconsin was the Buff-breasted Sandpiper migration. The numbers seen Aug. 1-Sept. 25 greatly surpassed any previously recorded. Conservatively 250 were counted statewide during this period with a few birds in the n.w., e c., and s.e. sections. However the majority were concentrated in *Dane* and *Columbia*. Here at least 235 were found with a maximum flock size of 50+. The favorite habitat proved to be sod farms and sheep pastures (m.ob.). Michigan had 10-15 birds reported from 3 counties.

A Marbled Godwit was at Green Bay Oct. 7 (TE). Eleven Hudsonian Godwits were present Sept. 1 in *Van Buren*, Mich. (DP, RA). A tardy Sanderling was at Duluth Nov. 9. An Am. Avocet was in s.e. Michigan Aug. 10. The locally rare Red Phalarope appeared twice in the Region. The first was a cooperative bird found by JG Oct. 15 in Duluth. It remained for the next 2 days and was

photographed. This represents the fifth state record. The second bird was found in Michigan at the Muskegon S.P., Nov. 9 (CR, BB, SMi, JW). Michigan had 15+ N. Phalaropes, all at the Muskegon Water Treatment Plant, while Wisconsin had a total of seven.

LARIDS—A good number of jaegers passed through. Most sightings occurred at Duluth. A **Pomarine Jaeger** was in Duluth Oct. 15 (SM) with a **Long-tailed Jaeger** there Oct. 14-16 (KE *et al.*). This represents the eighth and sixth state records, respectively. At least 11 Parasitics were identified at Duluth during September-October with an additional six unspecified jaegers (m.ob.). One Parasitic was also observed at Mille Lacs L., Sept. 1 (TS). In Wisconsin all jaeger sightings occurred at Superior, with a total of four Parasitics seen Sept. 13-30 (RH, DT, JP). Michigan had a jaeger at Whitefish Pt., Aug. 30 (EK) with three Parasitics on L. Huron Oct. 3 (AW).

A substantial number of Glaucous Gulls was sighted in all three states this autumn. A Great Black-backed Gull was at Metrobeach, Mich., Nov. 29. Most surprising was the appearance of a **Lesser Black-backed Gull** in the Milwaukee harbor Oct. 12. The adult bird was carefully studied in the late afternoon by Idzikowski. Unfortunately it was not photographed and an extensive attempt to relocate it the following day proved unsuccessful. This represents Wisconsin's first record, albeit hypothetical owing to the lack of a substantiating photograph. Minnesota had its most sightings ever for the Thayer's Gull. At least seven were at Duluth Oct. 15-Nov. 26 (m.ob.) with additional birds in *Cook* Oct. 30 and *Dakota* Nov. 12 (KE). Wisconsin had two adults at Superior Sept. 9 (JP). A Laughing Gull was at Manitowoc Aug. 5 (CS). A modest number of Franklin's Gulls were located in 8 Wisconsin counties until early November. Michigan had one at Muskegon Oct. 6 (LF). Very late was one seen in *Dakota*, Minn., Nov. 30 (JD). Single Little Gulls were at Duluth Sept. 19, an immature (DM), and Metrobeach, Mich., Oct. 19 (JAF). Several were at both Manitowoc and Milwaukee during the early part of the season with the last Oct. 17 (m.ob.). Apparently the same **Heermann's Gull** returned to *Macomb*, Mich., this fall. It was discovered by Leasure Oct. 24, remaining into November during which time several diagnostic photographs were taken. An ad. **Black-legged Kittiwake** was observed along L. Michigan in *Ozaukee*, Wis., Oct. 26 (MD). This represents about the 17th state record. A freshly shot specimen was found at Minnesota's Mille Lacs L., by Savolaja Nov. 20. It represents the fifth state record. An ad. **Sabine's Gull** was located at Duluth Oct. 12 (TS). It was subsequently located 8 and 18 mi n. of Duluth the following day (DS, KE), representing only the fifth record. Very late was a Forster's Tern at Manitowoc Nov. 2 (CS). Arctic Terns appeared at Manitowoc early in the period with one Aug. 6 and two Aug. 13 (CS).

ALCIDS THROUGH KINGFISHERS—The Chuck-will's-widow was last noted Sept. 8 in *Kalamazoo* (RA). A Barn Owl nest with three owlets discovered during late September

in a church steeple at L. Church, *Ozaukee*, represented the first Wisconsin nesting in 5 years. A major movement of Snowy Owls swept the entire Region this autumn. It commenced during late October, picking up momentum rapidly during November and at the period's end all three states were reporting them from virtually all sections. The only reports of Hawk Owls were of individuals in Minnesota Oct. 25 in *Beltrami* (JK) and *Douglas* Wis., Nov. 12 (RP). There were seven reports of Great Gray Owls from 3 n Minnesota counties. Included in this was a family group (two adults and two fledged young) Aug. 15 in *St. Louis* (KE). Short-eared Owls were seen frequently in Wisconsin and Minnesota. A **Boreal Owl** was banded at Hawk Ridge Oct. 28 (DE). Also at Hawk Ridge a combined total of 111 Long-eared and Saw-whet Owls was banded Oct. 1-2 (DE). A Ruby-throated Hummingbird at Duluth Oct. 17 (MK) was late. However unprecedented was one coming to two feeders in *Door* well into December (RL, ph.). Unexpected was the appearance of two breeding plumaged ♂ **Rufous Hummingbirds** this autumn. The first was studied at leisure at Waunakee Aug. 31 in association with 15-20 Ruby-throateds (RH). This represents only Wisconsin's second record. Another was at Mrs. Young's feeder in Bloomington Oct. 13-18 (m.ob.). This marked a fifth state record for Minnesota.

WOODPECKERS THROUGH STARLINGS—Farther n. than usual were Red-bellied Woodpeckers Aug. 17 in *Clay*. (TG) and Oct. 10 in *Aitkin* (WN), Minn. Leshner counted 188 Red-headed Woodpeckers Sept. 13 at Reno, Minn. Black-backed Three-toed Woodpeckers were observed in n. Wisconsin with single birds Aug. 28 and Sept. 1 in *Forest* (JP, MP), Sept. 21 in *Douglas* (DT) and Nov. 28 in *Oneida* (PV). The rarer N. Three-toed Woodpecker was found in *Cook* Nov. 15-21 (K&MH). Most unusual sightings within the tyrant flycatchers were single W Kingbirds Sept. 20 along I-94 between Milwaukee and Madison (TD) and Oct. 5 in Milwaukee (MD) and two **Scissor-tailed Flycatchers** in *Rock* early September-October 21 (GM *et al.*), all in Wisconsin. There was an exceptional number of late dates within this group. For Minnesota they included an Oct. 4 Great Crested Flycatcher in *Mower* (RK), a Nov. 15 E. Phoebe in *Fillmore* (AR), and an Oct. 8 E. Wood Pewee in *Olmstad* (RJ) Michigan's contribution was an Oct. 19 E Wood Pewee in *Kalamazoo* (RA). There were several late observations of swallows. These included a Nov. 7 Tree in *Nicollet* (JF), a record Oct. 19 Rough-winged at Duluth (LW) and an Oct. 31 Barn in *Otter Tail* (NJ), all Minnesota, and a Barn in *Dane*, Wis., Nov. 2 (ST).

Red-breasted Nuthatches were present in exceptional numbers in Michigan and Minnesota. In the latter state it was termed a major invasion, with maximum numbers in the n. part during September, normal numbers thereafter with peak numbers in the s. part during November. While Wisconsin had good numbers they were not comparable to the movement in the other two states. The only Carolina Wren report was of one from

Michigan Oct. 5 in *Kalamazoo* (TL). A total of nine Mockingbirds was located this fall, three in each state. Varied Thrushes were seen in Madison Oct. 22 (LZ) and one came to a feeder in Menasha, Wis., Nov. 15+ (MLM *et al.*). Minnesota had two at different Twin Cities feeders during November. A Gray-cheeked Thrush found at Duluth Aug. 5 (KE) represented the earliest arrival date. Remarkable was the observation of two **Wheatears** at St. Ignace, Mich., by Weir Sept. 19. This represents only the second state record. Townsend's Solitaires were found at Duluth Oct. 19—early November with a total of four birds (m.ob.). In Wisconsin at least two individuals turned up at 3 locations: Oct. 26 Manitowoc (JS), Nov. 1 Appleton (TSY, AWe) and Nov. 16 Devil's Lake S.P. (KLa). Unusual was the sighting of a Sprague's Pipit at Duluth Sept. 7 (MW, LP). Wisconsin and Minnesota had many sightings of Bohemian Waxwings, predominantly in the n. part of each state. By contrast Michigan had only one sighting. Northern Shrikes were present in average numbers. Loggerhead Shrikes were seen in Michigan (one) and Wisconsin (three).

VIREOS THROUGH WARBLERS—Surprisingly there were four reports of White-eyed Vireos this fall. Three came from Wisconsin and included Aug. 20 Manitowoc (CS), Sept. 5 Milwaukee (WW), and Sept. 6 Dane (RH). The other was from Minnesota, representing only the state's sixth record with one banded Oct. 27 in *Dakota* (RC). Bell's Vireos lingered in Wisconsin with two in *Trempealeau* Aug. 7 (EE) and one in *Dane* Sept. 3-6 (RH). A record-late Solitary Vireo was watched in Richfield, Minn., Nov. 15 (PE). The warbler migration was characterized as poor this year, especially in Wisconsin and Michigan. The only s. species recorded was Kentucky with one Aug. 16 in *Kent*, Mich. (CM) and an Aug. 28 tower kill in *La-Crosse*, Wis. As proved typical of other species there was a rash of late sightings. For Michigan they included an Oct. 22 Black-and-white, a Black-throated Blue still coming to a feeder Nov. 21 in *Mason* (EG), a very late N. Waterthrush in the Upper Pen., (*Marquette*) Oct. 12, (EL), and an Am. Redstart Nov. 19 in *Kalamazoo* (RA). Minnesota's contributions were a record late Black-and-white in Brooklyn P., Nov. 13 (*fide* OJ), a Nov. 7 Nashville in *Nicollet* (JF), a Cape May present at a Stoney Pt. feeder until Dec. 2 (*fide* KE), an Oct. 25 Blackpoll in *Sibley* (RJ), an Oct. 19 Wilson's in *Clay* (L&CF) and an Am. Redstart Oct. 26 in Hutchinson (RG). For Wisconsin the late sightings included a Nov. 10 Palm in *Waupaca* (JA), a Nov. 1 Ovenbird at Manitowoc (JP), an Oct. 7 Connecticut in *Waukesha* (LS) and an Oct. 14 Yellow-breasted Chat in *Sheboygan* (DB).

BLACKBIRDS THROUGH BUNTINGS—Over one million blackbirds, predominantly Red-winged, grackles and cowbirds, were observed flying into Horizon N.W.R. by Idzikowski at sunset Nov. 9. A Scarlet Tanager in Minneapolis Oct. 27 was late (*fide* RJ). Unusual, especially considering the n. location, was ♂ Summer Tanager seen at a feeder in Duluth Aug. 24 & Oct. 8.

(DGr). This is the second consecutive year this species has appeared at Duluth. A tardy Rose-breasted Grosbeak was in s.e. Michigan Nov. 17. Also late were Indigo Buntings in Wisconsin Oct. 18 in *Oconto* (TE) and in Michigan Oct. 21. After two consecutive "finchless" autumns/winters this year's movement was a welcome and pleasant contrast. Interesting was the varied picture reported from the three states. For Wisconsin the most abundant finch proved to be Pine Siskin. For Minnesota it was White-winged Crossbill with hundreds in the n.e. section and fewer from the s. counties. In Michigan Com. Redpoll proved to be the dominant species with flocks of 100-200 generally statewide, and an incredible flock of 3000 in *Newago* Nov. 30 (J&WW). Evening Grosbeaks were reported in good numbers Region wide. The Purple Finch proved to be the least common of all the finches with only a few passing through. The one exception was the Detroit area which had good numbers in late November. Pine Grosbeaks were very abundant in the n. sections, beginning to filter down to the c. and s. areas by late November. Common Redpolls were considerably less abundant in Minnesota especially Wisconsin, than in Michigan. Pine Siskins were present in good numbers in Michigan but fewer than in Wisconsin. Red Crossbill was the second rarest finch this fall in Wisconsin and Minnesota. However in Michigan's w. Upper Pen., it was very numerous during November (JM), beginning to trickle into the Lower Pen. White-winged Crossbills were present in good numbers in n. Wisconsin but proved especially numerous in Michigan's Upper Pen., again during November (JM) with a few birds being located in the Lower Pen. late in the period.

Especially interesting was a ♂ **House Finch** at a feeder in Minnetonka Nov. 22. This represents the first record for Minnetonka in this century. Six Sharp-tailed Sparrows turned up at 4 Wisconsin locations. A Nov. 22 Vesper Sparrow in *Hennepin*, Minn. (SC) was late. A Lark Sparrow was observed in company with Savannahs Aug. 21 in *Wayne*, Mich. (JAF). Representing only Minnesota's second record was an imm. **Black-throated Sparrow** that came to Eckert's feeder Oct. 7 (m.ob.). Tree Sparrows were unusually low in numbers this fall in Michigan. A Harris' Sparrow remained in *Ontonagon*, Mich., Oct. 12-19 (JM). Early was a Fox Sparrow in *Douglas*, Wis., Sept. 9 (JP). A Smith's Longspur was in Duluth Sept. 11 (KE).

ADDENDUM—Minnesota's first nesting record for Hawk Owl occurred during the past summer (1980) with a nesting pair and seven young discovered in n. *Aitkin* (SL). Another bird was seen July 13 in *Beltrami* (MJ).

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MIDDLEWESTERN PRAIRIE REGION

/Vernon M. Kleen

The 1980 fall migration will be best remembered for its general lack of luster for most observers, although highlights included a modest finch invasion, arrival of Snowy Owls, appearances of uncommon species among the loons, ibises, ducks, hawks, shorebirds, and jaegers, a Common Puffin, and the gulls and passerines, and a slight-to-modest recovery of species populations decimated in past winters.

The rains of late August and early September inundated many of the good shorebirding areas, which ended the quality and quantity of good records initiated in July. The season was quite mild (warm and dry for the most part) and was probably responsible for the lack of ducks moving into the Region. There were no cold fronts noted that could be associated with mass migration movements.

As usual, all extraordinary sight records must be thoroughly documented at the time of observation. For the fall migration, 233 documentation forms were received: Illinois, 61; Indiana, 58; Ohio, 45; Iowa, 36; Missouri, 26; Kentucky, 7. In addition, 17 photographs were received. All documented records have been denoted by a dagger (†), specimens by an asterisk (*).

As a reading aid, the following abbreviations have been used in the text: Horseshoe L. (Horseshoe Lake, Madison County, Ill.); I.B.S.P. (Illinois Beach State Park, Ill.); L. Cal. (Lake Calumet, Ill.); M.M.W.A. (Magee Marsh Wildlife Area, Ohio); M.T.N.W.R. (Mark Twain Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, Ill.); S.C.R. (Squaw Creek Nat'l Wildlife Refuge); Spfld. (Springfield, Ill.).



Since this is my last report as Regional Editor I wish to thank the many contributors who have submitted notes for the Middle-western Prairie Region over the past ten years. This Editorship has been especially meaningful to me and your courteous and continuous assistance has been greatly appreciated. **Bruce Peterjohn, 105-K E. Ticonderoga Drive, Westerville, O., 43081, will be the new Regional Editor;** send him all Winter Season (Dec. 1-Feb. 28) reports, due March 15. Again, many thanks to all of you and continued good birding.

LOONS THROUGH IBISES—Common Loons passed through in typical numbers; arrivals were first detected in mid-October and peaks up to 30 birds occurred late October—mid-November (m.ob.) except for the 68 at Columbus, O., Oct. 28 (J). Indiana's sixth documented Arctic Loon was present in Allen County Oct. 28–Nov. 25 (†KB, †m.ob.); at least four different individuals occurred at Spfld., Nov. 15–29 (†H., m.ob.)—three being observed at one time Nov. 16. Single Red-throated Loons were encountered in St. Charles County, Mo., Oct. 29–Nov. 17 (†PS, †m.ob.); Wellington Res., O., Nov. 8 (†JP); Cleveland Nov. 22 (M, m.ob.); Spfld., Nov. 16–17 (†H *et al.*); Indianapolis Nov. 29 (TK); and two birds at Beverly Shores, Ind., Nov. 16 (PG). The only Red-necked Grebe reported occurred at Bay Village, O., Nov. 1 (†JP). Fair numbers of Horned Grebes migrated through the Region; the largest concentrations, e.g., 100–200 along L. Erie, and 76 at Louisville, occurred late October–mid-November; the largest numbers at inland locations ranged 10–20 birds. An Eared Grebe was present in Pocahontas County, Ia., Aug. 11; however, the other eight reported Regionwide, occurred Sept. 5–Nov. 22 (m.ob.). Four W. Grebes were observed; three in Iowa Oct. 15–Nov. 1 and one at Chicago Nov. 7. Generally, Pied-billed Grebes passed through in low numbers; however, high concentrations, e.g., 102 at Spfld., Sept. 17 (H) and 212 in Mills County, Ia., Sept. 9 (BW) did occur; other concentrations did not exceed 37 birds.

The peak of the White Pelican migration (max., 570) occurred Sept. 9–17 in the w.; eight were noted in Illinois at 4 locations Oct. 2–Nov. 7 for the e. distribution limit this fall. An excellent number of Double-crested Cormorants was reported throughout the

Region; largest numbers were observed in w. (190 at S.C.R., Sept. 27), but examples such as 65 along L. Erie Sept. 25 (JP) and 100 at Savannah, Ill., Nov. 1 (BSh) were noteworthy; the species was observed in Kentucky Sept. 19–Nov. 29 (max., eight) and there were 8 reports from Indiana with a max. of 21; inland records ranged 1–20 at 20+ locations. Observers felt that Great Blue Herons occurred in greater numbers than in recent

years; 6 areas reported concentrations of 40+ while many others encountered groups of up to 20. There were only isolated occurrences of post-breeding Little Blue Herons; in most instances, singles (9 locations) were reported—primarily in August but lingerers until Sept. 23 (18 birds) at Kentucky Lakes, Ky. (LSt); Sept. 21 at Columbus (J); Sept. 13 at Big River S.F., Ill. (LMc); and Sept. 28 (25 birds) in the vicinity of the nesting colony at Horseshoe L. (RK); 16 birds were present at the Potaka R. bottoms, Ind., Aug. 17 (CMi).

Only small numbers of Cattle Egrets were reported—from just Ohio, Iowa (2 reports) and Illinois (6 locations); lingerers were detected at Rossville, Ill., Nov. 10 (MC); Bay Village, O., Nov. 6 (J); O.W.R., Nov. 2 (m.ob.); and Baldwin L., Ill., Nov. 2 (RK). At least 270 Great Egrets were present at L. Chautauqua, Ill., Aug. 4 (K, CBe); 89 occurred in Cook County, Ill., Aug. 25 (JL); 60 was the largest Iowa concentration (Red Rock Ref., Sept. 6—RMy) and smaller numbers (several instances of 10–40 birds) were scattered throughout the Region. Five Snowy Egrets were noted at Horseshoe L., Sept. 10 (PS); one to three were regularly observed near Springfield, Mo., Aug. 10–Sept. 6 (CBo, m.ob.); one to two at L. Cal., Aug. 10–Sept. 3 (†m.ob.); two at Greendale, Ind., Aug. 12 (†DS); and singles at 6 other Ohio, Iowa, and Illinois locations in August. Groups of 12–24 Black-crowned Night Herons were observed at 5 locations, primarily in Illinois; 175 were present at O.W.R., Aug. 3 (m.ob.). Yellow-crowned Night Herons were reported from 9 locations—primarily as singles, but 18 in Peoria County, Ill., Aug. 3 (VH) and 17 at S.C.R., Aug. 2 (L). Twelve Least Bitterns were noted at Union Slough N.W.R., Ia., Aug. 10 (TS *et al.*); seven were seen at L. Cal., Aug. 11 (MMa); four occurred at S.C.R., Sept. 10 (L); only small numbers elsewhere. Four dark ibises were documented: Crab Orchard N.W.R., Ill., Oct. 19 (†HD); Cook County (†JSu); Browning L., Mo., Oct. 27–Nov. 1 (†L *et al.*); and Columbus, Nov. 2–7 (†JF, m.ob.). A modest incursion of post-breeding White Ibises was encountered: five birds in Warrick County, Ind., Aug. 21 (JC) was the highlight; singles were noted in 4 other Indiana counties July 27–Aug. 21; one occurred at Allenville, Ill., Aug. 11–15 (RC, †m.ob.); and another at Kentucky Lakes Aug. 30 (†JEr); all birds were immatures.



Immature White Ibis, Indianapolis, Ind., Aug. 6–8, 1980. Photo/ Tom Potter.

WATERFOWL—The primary Whistling Swan flight passed within a short distance of L. Erie in mid-November and observation was confined to n. Ohio counties; smaller groups were observed w. of the regular flight corridor, although including 180 birds in the Mississippi R., in n.e. Iowa Nov. 16 (T); practically all swan reports were in mid-November. Five Brant were reported: Decatur, Ill., Oct. 2–10 (†SSt, m.ob.); Bay Village, Oct. 31–Nov. 9 (†TL); DeSoto Bend N.W.R., Ia., Nov. 2 (†RSe); Lorain, O., Nov. 9–11 (†J, m.ob.); and in Porter County, Ind., Nov. 16–29 (†KB, †m.ob.). A Barnacle Goose was photographed at Swan Lake N.W.R., Mo., Oct. 20–26 (DG). A Bar-headed Goose (escaped?) occurred at Pigeon River F. & W. Area, Ind., Sept. 30–Oct. 1 (Haw *et al.*). Three to five Ross' Geese were observed at S.C.R., Nov. 15 (L, †MN). Owing to the mild fall, duck concentrations had not materialized by the end of the period. Several possible Cinnamon Teal reports were received, but none provided enough information to be considered conclusive.

The Eur. Wigeon at L. Rockwell, O., Sept. 13–Oct. 22 (†Lro, m.ob.) has appeared there 2 consecutive years. Expected diving ducks were scarcely reported—hopefully owing to the mild fall and lack of concentrated migration. Canvasback appeared in modest numbers (3000) near Hamilton, Ill. (Keokuk, Ia.), Oct. 24 (T). More than 100 Oldsquaw were seen at Chicago Nov. 15 (JL); otherwise, seven (Spfld., Nov. 11—H) was the greatest number reported elsewhere (including L. Erie). Two Harlequin Ducks were present at Chicago Oct. 22–25 (†PC); another was noted at Avon L., O., Nov. 3 (†JP). White-winged Scoters were noted from L. Michigan and L. Erie shorelines (max., 50 and 55 birds) as well as 7 or more inland locations (one to seven birds) Sept. 9 (Chicago) to Nov. 27 (Wilmette). Surf Scoters were less common than the previous species; however 44 were observed at Michigan City Oct. 19 (KB); one–15 were reported from other coastal locations Oct. 11–Nov. 10; three were documented at Gilmore City, Ia., Oct. 5 (†RCu); two at Louisville Nov. 16–Dec. 4 (ABA *et al.*); and singles at two additional inland locations. The Black Scoter was the least abundant scoter—reported as a maximum of eight at coastal locations and as singles at Alton Dam, Ill./Mo., Oct. 28–Nov. 1 (†BR) and

Fayette County, Ia., Nov. 21 (†JSc). The 360 Hooded Mergansers at East Harbor S.P., O., Nov. 9 was a high concentration for this species, which was considered in poor numbers at most places. Concentrations of Red-breasted Mergansers along L. Erie were considered normal: 70,000 Nov. 10, the highest single total.

VULTURES THROUGH FALCONS—

Fair numbers of Turkey Vultures were observed including 270 in Morrow County, O., Sept. 26 (JP). Two Mississippi Kites were still present at Union Co. Cons. Area, Ill., Sept. 1 (HD); five were reported from w. Kentucky Aug. 23 (ABa *et al.*). Only three Goshawks were reported, all exceptional records: Pocahontas County, Ia., Sept. 6 (†WJ); Westville, Ill., Oct. 26 (*fide* MC); and Mahomet, Ill., Nov. 2 (†RB, †RCh). Many Sharp-shinned Hawks were reported—including daily totals of 12 and 18 in mid-September. Cooper's Hawks were encountered in greater numbers. An early flight of Red-tailed Hawks (24 birds) was noted in Porter County, Ind., Aug. 15 (KB). One to three Red-shouldered Hawks were observed at 9 locations this fall. Concentrations of 300-2000 Broad-winged Hawks were reported from 14 areas—all in Missouri and Illinois—Sept. 18-25; an immature was near a nest at Ledges S.P., Ia., Aug. 7 (*fide* DN). Swainson's Hawks were noted as follows: two Fayette County, Ia., Aug. 3 (JSc); three Guthrie County, Ia., Sept. 20-21 (RCu, MN *et al.*); one Brussels, Ill., Aug. 31 (†PS); and one Carbondale, Ill., Nov. 30 (†JJa). Rough-legged Hawks were only sparingly reported, arriving after mid-October, but primarily in late October-early November. Two Golden Eagles were reported from both Allamakee County, Ia., Nov. 29 (DK) and Savannah, Ill., Nov. 29 (BSh); singles were observed at 7 other widely scattered Regional locations—everywhere except Kentucky. Bald Eagles were detected as early as Aug. 24 at Charleston, Ill. (LH) and Sept. 6-16 at 6 locations (most states); the next detectable movement began in mid-October. Marsh Hawks were scarce, but reported early; Aug. 8 Cleveland (m.ob.); Aug. 13-27 at 4 c Illinois locations; however, increased numbers were reported from n.e. Indiana and much of Ohio. This may have been the best year in quite some time for Ospreys; positive responses came from all states. Two Prairie Falcons were present together at the Lawrenceville, Ill. airport Nov. 16-19 (†DJ); one was present in Sangamon County, Ill., Nov. 22 (†H); another was found at DeSoto Bend N.W.R., Nov. 15 (LPa); and one occurred at St. Joseph, Mo., Oct. 25 (†L). Several observers documented Peregrine Falcon sightings; in all, 35 were reported with 20 along major lakefronts. Twenty Merlins were reported, most documented; 11 were along the lakefronts. Observers believed that it was a good season for Am. Kestrels.

BOBWHITE THROUGH GALLINULES

—Bobwhite remained scarce but a slight comeback was evident. About 10,000-13,000 Sandhill Cranes staged at the Jasper/Pulaski W.M.A., Ind.; flocks of 40-300 were noted in the flight path of a n. Illinois and n. Indiana Oct. 31-Nov. 16 (m.ob.); 150 passed over

Louisville Nov. 22 (JR *et al.*) while 60 and 30 passed over Frankfort, Ky. (*fide* BM) and Danville, Ky. (FL) the same day; three were noted at DeSoto Bend N.W.R., Nov. 22 (*fide* TBr). The three Yellow Rails encountered were found at Willow Slough, Ind., Sept. 20 (KB *et al.*); Butler County, Ia., Sept. 21 (JHs); and Chicago Oct. 18 (†RGo). A Purple Gallinule was discovered at Omaha, Ill., Aug. 7 (†RBr). Ninety Com. Gallinules were present at Gary, Ind., Sept. 4, one remaining until Nov. 8 (KB).

SHOREBIRDS—When habitat was available, observation of shorebird migration was good; late August and early September flooding inundated many areas otherwise noted for excellent shorebirding. Three Semipalmated Plovers were still at the Dillon, O., reservoir Nov. 3-7 (JP). Piping Plovers (1-3) were found in 5 areas Aug. 3-Sept. 7 (m.ob.). It was a good fall through c. regions for returning Am. Golden Plovers; flocks of 200, 500 and 600 were reported in mid-October; two were still at Iowa City Nov. 22 (†T). Groups of 18-28 Black-bellied Plovers were the highest concentrations encountered Aug. 19-Nov. 2 (m.ob.). Ruddy Turnstones (1-4) appeared at 18 locations Aug. 3-Oct. 7, primarily during September; 12 were noted at Chicago Sept. 3 (JL). There were 5 reports of Whimbrels along L. Erie Aug. 1-Sept. 24, with a peak of eight, Aug. 3 (DHo). Another was present at L. Chautauqua Aug. 4 (K, CBe). The largest groups of Upland Sandpiper occurred Aug. 3-23 with peaks of 13, 20, 24 & 25 in Iowa and Ohio. Good numbers of Red Knot were present Aug. 16-Oct. 7; five or more (max. 17) were reported from 4 coastal areas (Ohio, Indiana and Illinois); inland occurrences at 7 locations were of only one or two birds Aug. 31-Sept. 29. Two Purple Sandpipers occurred at East Harbor S.P., O., Oct. 19 (†JP); singles had arrived at Michigan City by Nov. 28 (KB); at Waukegan Nov. 20 (JN); and Chicago Nov. 29 (RB *et al.*). Still Sandpipers were encountered in moderate numbers; only 3 reports indicated a maximum flock size in excess of 40 birds. Buff-breasted Sandpipers were also only moderately encountered; greatest numbers did not exceed ten birds.

Marbled Godwit (1-3) occurred at 8 locations in 5 states July 23-Sept. 13 except for the one at O.W.R., Oct. 25 (BST). There were four reports of Hudsonian Godwit along L. Erie, Aug. 3-Oct. 4 (max., four at O.W.R., Oct. 4) and two at Union Slough N.W.R., Ia., Aug. 10 (TS *et al.*). Single Ruffs were encountered at Buffalo, Ill., Sept. 11 (SSt, †H) and at Urbana, Ill., Aug. 8-12 (†RCh). A heavy influx of Sanderlings was noted in the Gary area Sept. 23 (RGr) when 535 were present with 350 still there Oct. 4; 45-55 were noted at Chicago Sept. 9-15 (RGo, PC); 30 peaked at Louisville Sept. 14 (ABa); small numbers occurred many other places (m.ob.). Single Am. Avocets appeared at 10 locations in all 6 states July 17-Oct. 26; but 11 were present at St. Joseph, Mo., Aug. 2 (L), and four at Union Slough N.W.R., Aug. 10 (TS *et al.*). Red Phalaropes invaded—all as singles: Baldwin L., Ill., Sept. 21 (†RK); Michigan City, Ind., Oct. 3 & 23 and Nov. 11-15 (SJ, KB, ABR); Columbus Oct. 28 (†J);

Decatur Oct. 27-28 (FI), Chicago Oct. 31-Nov. 7 (JL); L. Erie, O., (ten different birds) beginning Oct. 31 (†m.ob.); Port of Indiana, Nov. 1 (m.ob.). Wilson's Phalaropes were rather scarce and so were N. Phalaropes except in n. Ohio marshes.

JAEGERS THROUGH PUFFINS—A

Pomarine Jaeger occurred at Lorain Nov. 20-28 (†DHo, m.ob.). Parasitic Jaegers were identified at St. Joseph, Mo., Sept. 24-Oct. 1 (†L, m.ob.) and Bay Village Nov. 6 (†J, TL), three or four unspecified jaegers were also reported along L. Michigan and L. Erie. Glaucous Gulls returned in early to mid-November; six were reported including two near Alton, Ill./Mo. (m.ob.). An Iceland Gull was identified at the Alton, Ill./Madam Nov. 19-29 (†TBk, †RK). A Lesser Black-backed Gull was detected at Lorain Oct. 25 (†JP); two were identified there Nov. 23-28 (†J, m.ob.). A Great Black-backed Gull arrived at Michigan City Aug. 23 (†PG), another was present in St. Charles County, Mo., Nov. 28-29 (†TBk). Four-to-six Thayer's Gulls were found at Chicago Nov. 29-30 (†JL); one-to-three were reported from the St. Louis area Nov. 6-29 (TBk, BR *et al.*), one had arrived at Michigan City by Sept. 28 (KB). The California Gull at Chicago Oct. 28-29 (†PC, †RGo) was thoroughly documented. Indiana's third Black-headed Gull was recorded at Michigan City Aug. 16 (†CK, m.ob.). One-to-three Laughing Gulls were present at E. St. Louis, Ill., Aug. 31-Sept. 2 (†BR, †m.ob.); one to two were noted at Spfld., Aug. 23-28 (†H); two occurred at Huron, O., through Aug. 8 (TL, m.ob.), and singles were reported from Sandusky, O., Sept. 28-Oct. 5 (JP) and Michigan City Sept. 1 (†EH). The 15 Black-legged Kittiwakes at Evanston, Ill., Nov. 27 (†RB *et al.*) were unprecedented; two individuals were present in w. Missouri Nov. 15-16 (†MN, †DJ); three immatures were spotted along L. Erie, O., Nov. 5-28 (m.ob.); two occurred near Toledo in late November (*fide* ET); one was present at Dayton Nov. 28-30+; and one was found at Spfld., Nov. 22 (H *et al.*). There was a modest flight of Little Gulls along L. Erie—max., four, Nov. 1 (M); singles were reported from Evanston and Waukegan Nov. 27-28 (m.ob.). Two or three Sabine's Gulls were seen at Michigan City, Oct. 26 (†KB *et al.*); singles were observed at Urbana, Sept. 25 (†RCh); Swan Lake N.W.R., Sept. 28 (†IA); and Cleveland Oct. 20 (†TL). Both Common and Forster's terns were sparsely reported; however, 1020 Commons were noted at Cleveland Aug. 25 (M) and one lingered at Huron Nov. 30+ (TL). Least Terns (1-3) were observed at 13 locations in all states Aug. 1-30 except for the one at Columbus Sept. 23 (†J). Moderate numbers (peak 130) of Caspian Terns occurred this fall. Black Terns had a rather successful fall migration; peaks of 360 and 220 were reported from Cleveland and Huron, respectively, in August; but 600 were noted at Michigan City, Aug. 27 (KB); a single was still present at Hammond, Ind., Oct. 18 (CK). The most unusual find of the season was probably the Common Puffin that was picked up on an Oregon, O., driveway Nov. 18 (ET) and subsequently died Nov. 22, this

represented Ohio's first definite record and perhaps the first for the Great Lakes area.

CUCKOOS THROUGH WOODPECKERS—There were good numbers of Yellow-billed Cuckoos this fall; a nest with eggs was still being incubated near L. Waveland, Ind., Aug. 31 (ABr). Black-billed Cuckoos were rather scarce; lingering individuals were detected at Chicago (JL), Spfld. (H) and in LaGrange County, Ind. (Haw) Oct. 11, 4 and 2, respectively. Ohio's third **Groove-billed Ani** was found at Columbus Aug. 10 (†J). A Barn Owl was present in Ashland County, O., Sept. 29 (JP). What may prove to be the greatest-ever invasion of Snowy Owls first arrived during the last part of November; at least 12 were reported from Illinois by the end of the period; the earliest were: Nov. 2 at Rockford, Nov. 4 at Sterling and Nov. 8 at Ottawa; one appeared in s. Illinois at Union Co. Cons. Area Nov. 19; the species was reported from 7 Iowa locations (first Oct. 14), 2 Missouri locations (*Nov. 13) and numerous Ohio locations (earliest Nov. 9) including seven along L. Erie, Nov. 26 (WS). The Illinois/Indiana **Burrowing Owl** remained on location until Sept. 24 (m.ob.); another was observed in Cass County, Mo., Sept. 22 (†JJe). Only a few Long-eared and Short-eared owls were reported, with not more than two or three birds at any one location. Very few Saw-whet Owls were detected, even by banders; one was heard at Chesterton, Ind., Aug. 19 (KB) and another located at Michigan City Oct. 4 (KB *et al.*).

A Whip-poor-will was calling in Tippecanoe County, Ind., until Sept. 21 (DA) and another at Athens, Ill., through Sept. 18 (K); a few individuals were sighted later. The largest concentrations of Com. Nighthawks were: 1000+ at Waukegan Aug. 20 (JN); 500 at Columbus Sept. 9 (BSt); daily flights of up to 150 at Chicago Aug. 26–Sept. 2 (PC, RGo); and 140 at Cherokee, Ia., Aug. 28 (DB). A Ruby-throated Hummingbird was reported from Ledges S.P., Ia., Nov. 20 (DN); at this late date, observers should consider the possibility of other species; *e.g.*, a possible Rufous Hummingbird was reported from Beverly Shores, Ind., Sept. 21 (†PG) and Oct. 15 (†RGr). The 160 Com. Flickers at Chicago Sept. 10 (JL) were noteworthy. Many Ohio observers indicated increasing numbers of Red-bellied Woodpeckers. There were mixed reports about Red-headed Woodpeckers; it appeared that many would spend the winter months in areas where they are not usually encountered. Observers opined that Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers were not so plentiful.

KINGBIRDS AND SWALLOWS—Except for 4 small-to-moderate flocks reported (12–28 birds Aug. 14–Sept. 5), the E. Kingbird migration was rather poor. Extra-limital occurrences of W. Kingbirds included singles at Chicago Aug. 21 (†RGo) and in Warren County, Ind., Aug. 28–Sept. 6 (†KB, m.ob.). The Scissor-tailed Flycatcher in Washington County, Mo., Sept. 2 (DJ) was considered unusual there. An E. Phoebe at Rockford, Ill., Nov. 9 (LJ) was the latest date ever there. The Yellow-bellied Flycatcher at Spfld., Nov. 13 (†H) was exceptional. Olive-sided Flycat-



Burrowing Owl, Hammond, Ind., Aug. 24, 1980. Photo/ Tim C. Keller.

chers passed through the Region in relatively good numbers Aug. 9–Sept. 20 (m.ob.). Large concentrations of Tree Swallows were: 3000 at St. Joseph, Mo., Sept. 29 (L); 2000 at M.T.N.W.R., Oct. 4 (BR); 1500 at Spfld., Oct. 4–5 (H); 1000 at St. Louis, Sept. 15 (PS); 1000 at Swan Lake N.W.R., Oct. 12 (BGo); and 400+ at Pulaski County, Ky., Sept. 4–5 (JE1). There were 2000 Bank Swallows at M.T.N.W.R., Sept. 23 (HW) and 6000 Rough-winged Swallows at St. Joseph, Mo., Sept. 21 (L); the latter species was found to be quite scarce in many areas. Concentrations of Cliff Swallows were: 800 at Clinton, Ill., Aug. 2 (RCh); 600 at Cherokee, Ia., Aug. 20 (DB); and 100 Aug. 17 at both Spfld. (H) and Columbus (J); five were still present at I.B.S.P., Sept. 21 (JN). The 10,000 Purple Martins at Waukegan, Aug. 24 (JN, TC) was an annual occurrence; smaller numbers were building up around Chicago earlier in August (m.ob.); there were no large concentrations reported elsewhere.

CROWS THROUGH WRENS—Two Fish Crows were heard and seen in Madison County, Ill., Sept. 1 (PS). Tufted Titmouse seems to be increasing in several areas—most notably in Indiana. The Red-breasted Nuthatch invasion began in mid-August and was widespread by late August–early September; observers reported one to eight birds at most locations. The Brown Creepers at Louisville Aug. 23 and in both Summit and Delaware cos., O., during August were probably summer residents since the migration was not detected until later. The Winter Wren population experienced a slight recovery, as did Carolina Wren populations.

MIMIDS THROUGH SHRIKES—Mockingbird populations made modest gains in the s. and c. portions of the Region, but remained scarce in the n. The **Curve-billed Thrasher** at Solon, Ia., Nov. 17–30+ (RBe, m.ob., ph.) constituted the second record for the state. Hermit Thrushes were less common than typical and there were mixed reports about Swainson's Thrush; 200 of the latter species at Chicago, Sept. 2 (JL) was exceptional, not typical; one was still present at Spfld., Oct. 26 (H). There was a paucity of Gray-cheeked Thrushes and a near-normal movement of Veeries. There may have been a slight recovery of E. Bluebirds; 253 at Cherokee, Ia., Oct. 3 (DB) was exceptional; 150 were reported from Red Rock Ref., Ia.,

(*vide* GB); 70 were noted in Summit County, O., Oct. 11 (WS) and 30 immatures were banded at Rockford during the period (LJ). A Blue-gray Gnatcatcher at S.C.R., Nov. 12 (L) was rather late. Observers believed that Golden-crowned Kinglet demonstrated a remarkable recovery; birds arrived *en masse* at Chicago Sept. 17 (PC, RGo); 84 were observed at Cleveland Oct. 7 (M); and 100+ were found along Indiana's lake shore Oct. 4 (KB *et al.*). The Ruby-crowned Kinglet population was nearly back to normal. Poor numbers of Water Pipits were encountered; the only exceptions were flocks of 100 in Seneca County, O., Oct. 24 (TBa) and at Spfld., Oct. 25 & 28 (H). There were good numbers of Cedar Waxwings. Three N. Shrikes were reported: singles at Waterloo, Ia., Oct. 18 (TS); Cherokee, Oct. 19 (†MB); and in Allen County, Ind., Nov. 28 (Haw). The two Ohio reports of Loggerhead Shrikes were both near Columbus Oct. 20–Nov. 2; another was found at Chicago Sept. 28 (JL).



Curve-billed Thrasher, Solon, Iowa, Nov. 18, 1980. Photo/ Michael Newton.

VIREOS AND WARBLERS—The Nov. 9 presence of a White-eyed Vireo at M.M.W.A., was unexpected (JP); another at Franklin, Ind., Oct. 18 (BGi) was also noteworthy. Solitary Vireos were apparently rather scarce. Comments relative to the warbler movement included: "poor fall," "way down," "scarce," and "unimpressive"; moderate waves were detected at Chicago Aug. 18 and at Kentucky Lakes Sept. 28 (JEr). A Worm-eating Warbler was banded at Spfld., Aug. 28 (K). There was a moderate movement of Golden-winged Warblers and an above-normal flight of Blue-wingeds. Brewster's Warblers were "reported" from Summit County, O., Aug. 12 (DPe) and Ft. Wright, Ky., Sept. 23 (EG). A Tennessee Warbler had appeared in Winneshiek County, Ia., by Aug. 9 (JSc) and one lingered at Savannah, Ill., through Nov. 1 (BSh). A N. Parula was banded at Spfld., Nov. 4 (K). Fifty Magnolia Warblers were present at one Chicago area Sept. 2 (JL); one was still there Nov. 3 (PC, RGo). Thirty Cape May Warblers were reported from Chicago Sept. 1 (JL). The Sept. 11 presence of a Cerulean Warbler at Fox I., Ind. (Haw) was exceptional there. September 20 was rather late for a Yellow-throated Warbler at Spfld. (H). The **Sutton's Warbler** of Indiana fame was last observed Aug. 10 (*vide* DA). There were good numbers of Bay-breasted Warblers especially around Chicago; one was detected at

Gary Nov 1 (KB) Several hundred Palm Warblers were estimated present along Indiana's lakefront Oct. 18-19 (CK); 75 were reported from Chicago Sept. 17 (PC, RGo); one was observed at Danville Nov. 28 (FL). Except for the 26 Connecticut Warblers at Chicago Aug. 25-Sept. 17 (JL), this species was poorly detected this fall; there was also a scarcity of Mourning Warblers. Single Com. Yellowthroats in Jasper County, Ill., Nov. 22 (RB *et al.*) and at Chicago Nov. 1 (RD) were beyond normal expectations. Eight Hooded Warblers were banded at Akron (MMo) this fall. A Wilson's Warbler was still present at Iowa City Nov. 2 (†T).

BLACKBIRDS THROUGH CROSS-BILLS—There were more fall reports of Bobolinks than usual, including flocks of up to 150 birds in mid-August and early September. Except for the seven Yellow-headed Blackbirds at Sweet Marsh, Ia., Aug. 23 (FM), all other encounters were of single birds: Madison County, Ill., Aug. 2 (MP); Sangamon County Aug. 17 (†H); O.W.R., Aug. 29-31 (J, m.ob.); and L. Cal., through Sept. 3 (JL). At Louisville an estimated one million blackbirds were roosting Nov. 3-22 (DPa) and diminished to 50,000 thereafter; a roost of nearly one million birds occurred at Somerset in October (JE1). There was a good migration of N. Orioles; 20 were present at L. Rockwell, O., Aug. 27 (LRo). Rusty Blackbirds were scarce everywhere. A peak of 38 Rose-breasted Grosbeaks occurred at Cleveland Sept. 11 (M). Single Black-headed Grosbeaks were documented at Schneider, Ind., Sept. 12 (†MD) and at Beverly Shores, Ind., Oct. 3 (†NG). Three Blue Grosbeaks were noted at Somerset, Ky., Aug. 27 (JE1); one-to-two were present in Mills and Pocahontas cos., Ia., Aug. 15 & 17 and Sept. 2 (TBr, m.ob.); one was noted at Frank Holten S P., Ill., Aug. 7 (m.ob.) and another in Newton County, Ind., Aug. 13 (KB). Dickcissels were scarce all fall. The arrival of a few Evening Grosbeaks everywhere triggered a hoped-for invasion; although birds arrived in small groups (up to 50±) in late October in Iowa and early to mid-November elsewhere, an abundance was never reported.

Purple Finches were first detected from late October to mid-September; however, they were only thinly encountered. House Finches became more and more common at Ohio feeders; small numbers regularly appeared at Cincinnati, Dayton and Toledo; flocks of 40 were noted in Columbus; and 200 at one time at Lorain with 160 banded at one feeder during the period (JP); one was noted at Louisville Oct. 20 (ABA) and another appeared at Urbana Nov. 18-30+ (†RCh, m.ob.). The 1000 Com. Redpolls at Cleveland Nov. 8, then 300 Nov. 9 (DC) were not typical for the Region as only small flocks were encountered thereafter; small groups also appeared elsewhere along L. Erie and L. Michigan in early and mid-November (m.ob.) and were rarely encountered away from the lakeshore areas. There was a moderate invasion of Pine Siskins. They appeared Region-wide in October or early November; most were encountered in small flocks, but the 1000 at Port of Indiana, Ind., Nov. 1 (*vide* KB) was exceptional. Red Crossbills were

noted in only 5 areas (3 in Illinois, and one each in Missouri and Iowa) Oct. 26-Nov. 16. White-winged Crossbills were found in 10 areas, Oct. 28-Nov. 30 (5 in Illinois; 2 in Iowa; 2 in Indiana; and one in Ohio); most were encounters of one to three birds, but 13 were noted at Lisle, Ill., Nov. 30 (EA *et al.*).

SPARROWS THROUGH BUNTINGS—

There were 8 reports of Sharp-tailed Sparrows Sept. 14-Oct. 9; most were of singles, but five were found at Huron Sept. 19-28 (JP) and two were noted at 2 other locations. An excellent number of Le Conte's Sparrow was reported with single encounters, e.g., ten birds in Rock Island County, Ill., Oct. 8 (P); seven in Spfld., Oct. 18 (H); six in Greene County, Ia., Sept. 21 (T *et al.*); and six at M.T.N.W.R., Oct. 10 (MP). The 25 Chipping Sparrows at Spfld., Oct. 4 (H) was a high number for a fall concentration. Single Clay-colored Sparrows were reported from Chicago, Sept. 2 & 15 (PC, RGo); Spfld., Sept. 10 (†H); Kent, O., Sept. 14 (†LRo); and Rockton, Ill., Aug. 4 (LJ). Except for the 110 White-crowned Sparrows at Spfld., Oct. 25 (H) the species was considered very scarce. Twelve Lapland Longspurs arrived at I.B.S.P., Sept. 27 (JN) and at Michigan City Oct. 4 (KB); most records were of November observations and small numbers. A Smith's Longspur occurred in St. Charles County, Mo., Nov. 13-16 (CS, m.ob.). A Snow Bunting had arrived at Michigan City, Oct. 14 (KB); small numbers arrived Oct. 17-23 at other "coastal" locations (m.ob.); larger flocks were noted by the period's end.

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CENTRAL SOUTHERN REGION / Robert D. Purrington

Following a late summer and early fall that were the hottest on record (at New Orleans the months June through September each set all-time records), October and November were mild and dry. Predominantly dry frontal passages led to near-drought conditions in some areas, which concentrated migrating shorebirds. Especially heavy movements of migrating raptors and passerines were associated with the fronts of October 11 and November 1; these dates will appear frequently below. One of the more interesting aspects of this fall migration was an almost total absence after two years of heavy flights, of western vagrants. Mid-October brought extraordinary numbers of Red-breasted Nuthatches and Golden-crowned Kinglets, and Purple Finches arrived early and in good numbers. Scattered reports of Pine Siskins gave further indication of at least a moderate boreal influx.

On the morning of October 12, following an overnight frontal passage, the Duncans and Steadman observed a continuous stream of passerine migrants moving all morning up the St. Joseph Peninsula in a northerly direction. Steadman estimated a rate of 20,000 birds/hour passing his location, with the majority being Yellow-rumped Warblers On November 1, at the same location, Henry Stevenson witnessed the largest passerine migration he had ever seen, dominated by large numbers of eight species of sparrows, but including many Yellow-rumped Warblers, Tree Swallows, etc. There was a significant raptor movement as well.

There was no important tropical storm activity with the exception of hurricane *Allen*, which went ashore near Brownsville, Texas in mid-August. The circulation of this large storm may have been responsible for a few unusual inland records after mid-August.



LOONS THROUGH CORMORANTS—Common Loons arrived early and migrating numbers were often impressive. Earliest were at Hattiesburg Sept. 4 (TF, DH) and in Hancock County, Miss., Oct. 3 (JT). Peak numbers were 85 at Wheeler N.W.R., Ala., Nov. 1 (DMB, CAB), 50+ at Woods Res., Tenn., in November (D&PC), and 140 on the Gulf in Jackson County, Miss., Nov. 18 (MH, JT). Both Horned and Eared grebes continue to arrive at the Hattiesburg Sewage Ponds (hereafter, H.S.P.) in early September, usually much ahead of nearby coastal areas. This fall, however, a single Horned Grebe at Reserve Sept. 10 (MW) was the earliest-ever for Louisiana. One at Pensacola Oct. 3 (OF) was earliest for n.w. Florida. An Eared Grebe at Nashville Nov. 1-21 (MLB, m.ob.) provided the fourth Tennessee record. A Greater Shearwater was seen on the Gulf 9 mi s. of Pensacola Bay Pass Aug. 14 (WV, MIM). This established the seventh record of a species considered casual along the n. Gulf coast but which has been recorded with increased frequency during the past decade. A single Brown Pelican seen from the L. Pontchartrain Causeway Nov. 24 (PN) was the first on the lake since 1967, while a Brown Booby at Ft. Morgan, Ala., Sept. 27 (CB, HME, CDD, m.ob.) was the first recorded after August in Alabama. Upwards of 2000 migrating Double-crested Cormorants were counted at L. Millwood, Ark., Sept. 1 - Nov. 30 (CM, m.ob.); they were unusually early at Decatur, Ala., and Sardis L., Miss., Sept. 22 & 23, respectively.

HERONS AND IBISES—Mills commented on the concentrating effects the drought conditions had on waders in s.w. Arkansas, typified by a group of 208 Great Egrets, with Snowy Egrets and Little Blue Herons, in a roadside pond. An Am. Bittern found in a Nashville yard Aug. 23 (VLP) was apparently an extremely early migrant, although there are area summer records. A Wood Stork over the Honey I. Swamp, St. Tammany Par., La., Aug. 18 (JR) marked only the fourth s.e. Louisiana occurrence. There were four sightings of individual

Plegadis ibises in Arkansas Sept. 17 - Nov. 30, two from Hempstead County, and one each in Lonoke and Polk cos. The first bird was identified as a **White-faced Ibis**, for the second state record. White Ibis staged a major invasion in Tennessee according to Bierly, establishing the first Nashville area records in early August.

WATERFOWL—A Whistling Swan at Sardis L., Miss., Dec. 6 (WMD) was unusual there and earlier than the few previous records. At the end of the period, waterfowl totals for Wheeler N.W.R. were: 24,000 Canada Geese, 1800 Snow Geese, and 35,000 ducks (TA). A White-fronted Goose at L. Millwood Sept. 26 - Oct. 3 (CM) was the earliest-ever for Arkansas, while ten in Mobile Bay Nov. 30 (PB) support the presumed annual occurrence in coastal Alabama. Two **Fulvous Whistling Ducks** at Gulf Breeze, Fla., on the surprisingly early date of July 24 (JAC) represented the second record for n.w. Florida, while four in Hempstead County, Ark., Aug. 14 (CM), the first in 28 years in that state, were conjectured to have been displaced by hurricane *Allen*. Another individual was at the H.S.P., Sept. 5-6 (TF, DH). A number of duck species reached the Region unusually early; typical were Gadwall at Hattiesburg Sept. 9 (TF), at Gallatin, Tenn., Sept. 27 (D&PC), and New Orleans Oct. 5 (MM, NN, RDP, SP, SF); two Pintail at Wheeler N.W.R., Aug. 2 (DMB, CAB, CDC) which were the earliest-ever in fall for Alabama, and very early Green-winged Teal at Hattiesburg Sept. 5 (TF, DH). Two each ♂ and ♀ Eur. Wigeon were at the H.S.P., Sept. 27 (TF, DH). An Am. Wigeon at Clermont Harbor, Miss., Sept. 16 (JT) was the earliest in fall for the Mississippi coast. Earliest for Alabama was a N. Shoveler at Mobile Sept. 2 (GDJ) and another was at Hattiesburg Aug. 31 (TF, DH). Other early records included a Redhead at Destin, Fla., Sept. 20 (CLK, FW, GG, L&HC, MLM), Canvasbacks Oct. 3 at Hattiesburg (TF, DH) and Oct. 13 at Decatur, Ala. (DCH), the earliest inland record for the state, Lesser Scaup at Hattiesburg Oct. 4, Com. Goldeneye at Nashville Nov. 5 (MLB), the earliest-ever there, and Bufflehead at Nashville Oct. 22 (MLB) and in Jackson County, Miss., on Nov. 1 (MH, JT). Of scoters there were the following records: White-winged, two each from Arkansas and coastal Mississippi, and Surf, 4 records of eight birds from Nashville, coastal Mississippi, and Sardis L., Miss. Three at Nashville Oct. 8-18 (MLB) were the earliest-ever there by 10 days. Five Ruddy Ducks summered at Hattiesburg (TF, DH) but gave no evidence of breeding.

DIURNAL RAPTORS—Raptor migration was rated as mediocre-to-disappointing, with Broad-winged Hawk and *Accipiter* numbers down considerably from 1979. In Arkansas no major flight of Broad-winged was noted, and the count of 249 at Gulf Breeze, Fla., was very low. Of 3200 raptors reported to Duncan through the Hawk Migration Assn. of N.A. from the Central-Southern Region, 897 were Broad-winged, only one-half of 1979's total. For the relatively poor results from Gulf Breeze, St. Joseph Pen., and Ft. Morgan, Duncan blamed poor coverage and unfavorable wind directions relative to the alignment of these peninsular sites. At his raptor banding station at Ft. Morgan, Wischusen recorded 302 Marsh Hawks and 884 Am. Kestrels. A Mississippi Kite at Nashville Aug. 22 (MMa) provided only the third area record, while one at L. Millwood Sept. 18 (CM) was late. Sharp-shinned Hawks continue to do well, and more than one observer thought Cooper's Hawks were up a little in numbers. A very late Broad-winged was seen at St. Joseph Pen., Nov. 29 (JMS). Two records of Golden Eagle were submitted: Nov. 30 at Ft. Morgan (PFC), and Wheeler N.W.R., Dec. 1 (*vide* TA). Seven each ad. and imm. Bald Eagles were reported including birds at two nests near the Louisiana-Mississippi border. Reports of Ospreys numbered 45 including 25 from coastal Mississippi. A **Prairie Falcon** reported from Memphis, Tenn., Oct. 12 (LCC *et al.*), represented only the second record for the state. Duncan transmitted 45 reports of Peregrine Falcons for the Region, including 38 from Ft. Morgan where 17 were banded Sept. 27 - Oct. 6 (DTR); there were several additional records as well. There were also 45-50 sightings of Merlins, with again 80% resulting from the coverage at Ft. Morgan. At New Orleans there was one where last year there had been at least seven wintering. American Kestrel numbers were thought by Imhof to be the highest since 1968; Touns estimated 8-12/4 hrs afield.

GALLINACEOUS BIRDS, SHORE-BIRDS—Sandhill Cranes migrating through middle Tennessee Nov. 1-25 totalled 500+ individuals, including seven rather far w. at Cookeville. Latest were four in Yell County, Ark., Nov. 30 (H&MP). A Black Rail was seen at Buccaneer S.P., Miss., Nov. 20 (JT, EJ) in coastal salt marsh habitat. Two downy young Purple Gallinules along with 30 adults Aug. 30 in Covington County, Ala. (CLK, FW, D&LR) represented a rather late nesting and up to four individuals at New Orleans through Oct. 16 (NN) were the latest-ever there. As many as three Am. Oystercatchers were present at the Pascagoula R. marsh, Jackson Co., Miss. Sept. 11-Nov. 13 (JT, MH, m.ob.). A Piping Plover, which would be unusual inland at any season, was at Birmingham Sept. 26 (AM, MMCD, MMi), establishing the latest inland Alabama record. A Ruddy Turnstone at Memphis Sept. 21 (BBC, LCC) was the first-ever there, while three near Decatur a day later were the latest-ever in fall for the Tennessee R. valley of Alabama. A Long-billed Curlew at Tensaw Delta, Ala., Oct. 11 (DMB) was the latest-ever for the state, while a Whimbrel at New Orleans Sept. 5-6 (JR, MB) was only the

third fall record for s.e. Louisiana. There were several inland records of Red Knots, including at Birmingham, Starkville, Miss., L. Millwood, and the Bonnet Carre Spillway, La., all late August – mid-October. Peak numbers of Pectoral Sandpipers at Wheeler N.W.R., were 575 Aug. 30 (DMB, CDC, CAB), a state high. White-rumped Sandpipers are rare in the Region in fall; one at Hattiesburg Aug. 11 (TF, DH) was thus of interest. The count of 68 Baird's Sandpipers Sept. 4 & 30 at L. Millwood stands in stark contrast to the scattered reports from other parts of the Region, including a state-high of five at Alabama Pt., Sept. 1 (GDJ, DGJ) and one on the same day at Ft. Pickens, Fla. (RD, LD), where it is considered casual in fall. Reports of single **Curlew Sandpipers** were received; Aug. 16 at Alabama Pt. (OF, CLK, FW, DR), and at Tensas Delta Oct. 10 (DMB, CDC), providing the third and fourth Alabama records; and one Nov. 13 at the Pascagoula R. marsh (MH) for which details were evidently submitted but failed to reach this writer. Peak counts of Buff-breasted Sandpipers were 80 at Sardis L., Miss., Sept. 4 (WMD), 91 at L. Millwood Sept. 12 (CM, CMA), and 115 at New Orleans Sept. 20 (JR).

A Marbled Godwit at L. Millwood Aug. 21 (CM) was the first record for that locale. A **Ruff**, the third record for Louisiana, was present in New Orleans Aug. 12 (NN, m.ob.) one year to the day after and at the same location as the second (and first documented) state record. Sanderling was encountered inland more frequently than usual, as evidenced by records from L. Millwood (195 total), Memphis, Starkville, Miss., and the Bonnet Carre Spillway, La. Of Red Phalaropes there were 4 records: single birds at L. Millwood Sept. 14–15, 25–28, and Nov. 23 (CM, CMA *et al.*)—there were four previous records for Arkansas; and one was seen and photographed Oct. 12–15 at Hattiesburg (TF, DH, RM, PR), for the third record for Mississippi. Wilson's Phalaropes were late at Birmingham Sept. 23–24 (HW, SH, AM), the latest for the mountain region of Alabama, Nov. 18 at the Bonnet Carre Spillway, (RJS, MW), latest for s.e. Louisiana, and Nov. 8 at Santa Rosa, Fla., the latest for the Florida section. There were 3 reports of single N. Phalaropes from Mississippi: Sept. 5 and 11 in Harrison County (JT), and Sept. 7 at Starkville (DMcN).

GULLS, TERNS, SKIMMER—An ad. Great Black-backed Gull was at Destin, Fla., for the seventh consecutive year, Nov. 12–25 (RD), while a Lesser Black-backed Gull was reported from Ft. Pickens, Fla., Nov. 24 (B&LA). No details reached this writer on the latter, which would be the first n.w. Florida occurrence. Laughing Gulls at L. Millwood Aug. 21–Sept. 5 (CM) could be attributable to the effects of hurricane *Allen*. There were but two previous records for Arkansas. There were several reports of Franklin's Gull from areas e. of its main migratory track, including Decatur, Ala., Sept. 5 (DCH), the Bonnet Carre Spillway, La., Oct. 4 (MW), and Bay St. Louis, Miss., Nov. 10 (JT). At L. Millwood the peak count of 410 was on the rather late date of Nov. 9 (CM, m.ob.). For probably the third year in the last four, **Sabine's Gull**

was recorded at L. Millwood. The occurrence this fall of two immatures was the fourth Arkansas record, the second substantiated by photographs. Common Terns at the H.S.P., at various dates during August–October (TF, DH) and at L. Millwood throughout September (CM, CMA, M&HP, E&HH) were unusual, and the latter conceivably storm-related. The Bridled Tern now seems regular well offshore along the n. Gulf coast in summer; a sighting 20–40 mi off Orange Beach, Ala., Sept. 29 (CDD, HME, m.ob.) was the latest-ever for the state. There was no consistency to reports of numbers of Least Terns from inland locations, but two at Sardis L., Miss., Sept. 4 (WMD) were the first in at least 15 years for that area. Two imm. Black Skimmers at the Morganza spillway, La., Sept. 4 (DWG) were unusual at that inland locality.

DOVES THROUGH WOODPECKERS—Although there were 8 previous sight records for Louisiana, an **Inca Dove** collected in Cameron Par., Oct. 11 (SWC, DHa) provided the first specimen for the state (*L.S.U.M.Z.). White-winged Doves were found along the coast from s.w. Louisiana to Ft. Morgan in modestly increased numbers, as were Groove-billed Anis. Their regular occurrence at the e. extreme is now evident, although the majority winter in coastal Louisiana. Among the few true w. vagrants was a Lesser Nighthawk seen in Cameron Par., Nov. 9 (RJN, BC, NNe, PN, SH, EHe). Late Chimney Swifts were noted Nov. 4 & 8 at Metairie, La. (NNe) and Shaw, Miss. (TF, DH, MS), respectively. A count of 59 Ruby-throated Hummingbirds at Wheeler N.W.R., Aug. 9 (DMB, CDC, CAB) was a maximum for the Tennessee valley. Up to a dozen Rufous Hummingbirds were visiting Reserve, La. area feeders from early September on (RJS, MW) and at least as many were in the New Orleans area, especially at the Newfield's feeders. One at Monroe, La., Nov. 18 (DTK) was the second n.e. Louisiana record. A **Buff-bellied Hummingbird** collected in Metairie, La. Oct. 24 (NNe, PNe) provided the second specimen for the state (*L.S.U.M.Z.). The species has occurred in 4 of the last 7 years in the New Orleans area. Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers at Ft. Morgan Sept. 4 (VF) and at Nashville Sept. 9 (AP) were the earliest-ever for Alabama and the Nashville area, respectively.

FLYCATCHERS, SWALLOWS—At Lake Charles, La., migrating E. Kingbirds Aug. 27 (CWo) were estimated "in the thousands;" one day later a roost harboring 1000 individuals was found at Memphis (JS). Fewer than usual W. Kingbirds were reported from coastal Louisiana and only one other observation was submitted, from Hattiesburg Nov. 15 (TF, DH). A very early Scissor-tailed Flycatcher was at New Orleans Aug. 30 (JR). A Great Crested Flycatcher reported from Gulf Breeze, Fla., Nov. 1 (CLK, GG) was the latest-ever by 16 days for n.w. Florida and surely one of the latest records ever for the Region. On the other hand, an E. Phoebe at Marianna, Fla., Aug. 15 (MG, KW) was earliest-ever there by over 2 weeks. During September Lucy Duncan banded *Empidonax*

flycatchers at Gulf Breeze she identified as "Traill's"—7, Acadian—5, Yellow-bellied—8, and Least—10; at Nashville, Katherine Goodpasture banded nine Yellow-bellied Flycatchers Sept. 5–28. An Olive-sided Flycatcher at New Orleans Aug. 13 (NN) was earliest-ever for s.e. Louisiana. Two Vermilion Flycatchers were reported Oct. 10 in Cameron Par., La. (SWC, VR, DHa), and Oct. 22 in Santa Rosa County, Fla. (PM, OF, BM) where the species is considered casual. Late were six Tree Swallows at Birmingham Nov. 18 (HW, AM) and a single Rough-winged Swallow in Garland County, Ark., Nov. 21 (MP). At Tensas Delta, Ala., Oct. 12 following a frontal passage, 900 Rough-winged set a state maximum. A late Purple Martin was seen and heard at Wheeler N.W.R., Oct. 4 (DMB).

BLUE JAY THROUGH PIPITS—Movements of Blue Jays were highlighted by 2612 counted on the Wheeler Fall Count Oct. 4 and 300+ at Noxubee N.W.R., the next day (DMcN). Red-breasted Nuthatches staged a major invasions—the greatest in memory in some areas. The earliest record was Aug. 23 in Rapides Par., La. (HG, CG), easily the earliest ever for the state. They were seen at Nashville Sept. 11 (JCA) and at Little Rock Sept. 16 (TC) and had reached New Orleans (JR) and the Mississippi coast by Oct. 2 (JAJ). Brown Creeper was also much above normal and early: Oct. 4 Wheeler at N.W.R. (DMB, CAB, NP), earliest for the Tennessee Valley, Oct. 5 at New Orleans (MM, RDP, NN, SP, SF), earliest for s.e. Louisiana Oct. 6 at Ft. Pickens, Fla. (WV), earliest for n.w. Florida. Jackson (JAJ) banded six at Ft. Morgan on Ship I., Miss., Oct. 12, and 15 were seen in Cameron Par., La., the same day (VR, SWC, DP).

A House Wren at Wheeler N.W.R. Aug. 9 (CDC, DMB, CAB) was the earliest in fall for Alabama, assuming it did not summer there. The record of a Carolina Wren at Fayetteville, Ark., Sept. 20 (DJ) along with other recent records in n. Arkansas from which it had completely disappeared, is encouraging evidence of recovery. McNair reported at least 17 singing Short-billed Marsh Wrens on Aug. 15 at Noxubee N.W.R., a date which would suggest breeding. In coastal Mississippi, peak movements of Gray Catbirds and Brown Thrashers occurred in the first week of October, with 200+ of each recorded Oct. 4 (JT). On the same day 205 Brown Thrashers on the Wheeler N.W.R. Fall Count set an Alabama high. At Starkville, McNair found the nocturnal thrush migration "unimpressive," with a peak rate of ten Veeries calling per minute on the night of Sept. 10–11, and a total of 300. At the St. Joseph Pen., a Swainson's Thrush Sept. 6 (HMS) was the earliest ever by 5 days for n.w. Florida while a Gray-cheeked Thrush Nov. 1 at New Orleans (JR) was latest-ever for s.e. Louisiana. There was some evidence of increased numbers of E. Bluebirds, with Bob Duncan asserting that there were more than any previous year in his memory. One was seen on the coast at Cameron, La., where it is virtually unknown, and 15 were seen in Jackson County., Miss., Nov. 18 (JT, MH). Numbers of Golden-crowned Kinglets from late October on were

astonishing, Stein and Weber estimated 75/trip in the Reserve, La. area. In Iberia Par., they were more common than Ruby-crowned Kinglets (MJM). The earliest record was of one at Ft. Morgan Oct. 13 (GDJ, PFC), the earliest-ever for coastal Alabama. Sprague's Pipits were unusually common and easy to find at the Bonnet Carre Spillway this fall (RJS, MW).

WARBLERS—Unprecedentedly early records of migrating warblers included a Tennessee at Nashville Aug. 6 (MMA), a Blackburnian at Wheeler N.W.R., Aug. 9 (DMB, CDC, CAB), earliest for Alabama, and a ♂ Wilson's Warbler at Nashville Aug. 4 (MMA). Latest-ever were three Worm-eating Warblers and two Blue-winged Warblers at Wheeler N.W.R., Oct. 4 (DMB, CAB, NP, CDC), and two Tennessee Warblers in Cameron Par., La., Nov. 22–23 (VR, DW). A Brewster's hybrid was identified at Gulf Breeze, Fla., Sept. 18 (RD, LD). As a circum-gulf migrant through Texas, the Nashville Warbler is common only in the extreme w. part of the Region. This fall there were at least a half-dozen observations in New Orleans during October, one was recorded in Hancock County, Miss., Oct. 3 (JT), three at Wheeler N.W.R., Oct. 3 (CDC, DMB) represented a Tennessee valley maximum, and four in Grant County, Ark., Oct. 27 (MP) were surprising. A late Yellow Warbler was in Santa Rosa County, Fla., Nov. 8 (GG, JJ, DT). The total of 332 Magnolia Warblers tallied on the Wheeler Fall Count Oct. 4 was an Alabama record. A Cape May Warbler carefully identified at Cameron, La., Oct. 12 (JR, MB) was the first fall record for the state.

While regular in coastal Alabama in fall, Black-throated Blue Warblers become rare very quickly as one moves W. along the coast. One at Biloxi Oct. 21 (JT) was thus of interest. Also unusually far w. for the fall were Blackpoll Warblers in Cameron Par., Oct. 12 (JR, MB) and at New Orleans 2 days later (JR). Mourning Warblers at Gulf Breeze Sept. 12 (LD) and at Bellefontaine Beach, Jackson Co., Miss., Sept. 18 (JT, MH) were unusual and one in Cameron Par., Oct. 19 (VR, LH, JK) was latest-ever for Louisiana. Also very late at Cameron was a Yellow-breasted Chat Nov. 2 (BC, SH). Wilson's Warblers were unusually common at Gulf Breeze in September and early October, where Lucy Duncan banded four, and a Tennessee valley maximum of three was found on the Wheeler N.W.R. count Oct. 4 (CDC, DMB, CAB, NP).

ICTERIDAE, FRINGILLIDAE—At least 12 Yellow-headed Blackbirds were seen, including a very early one at Gulf Breeze Aug. 23 (RD) and inland sightings in the Starkville, Miss. area Sept. 7 (DMcN) and at Fayetteville, Ark., Nov. 26–28 (PG, CWh, MMo, TM). A very late or wintering Orchard Oriole was in Cameron Par., Nov. 23 (VR, DW, DHa); the species normally departs almost 2 months earlier. A flock of 26 Great-tailed Grackles near Texarkana, Ark., Nov. 23 (CM) is indication that they are at least holding their own in Arkansas. Estimates of

peak numbers of Rose-breasted Grosbeaks in late September and early October were impressive: 1322 Sept. 27–28 in the Nashville area (T.O.S.), and 401 on the Wheeler N.W.R. count Oct. 4. One at Gulf Breeze Aug. 6 (OF) was the earliest ever for n.w. Florida. A few Evening Grosbeaks were reported from the Nashville area, beginning with a flock of 13 on Nov. 12 (AP); there was little evidence of an irruption. On the Wheeler fall count a state maximum of 1944 Indigo Buntings was seen and "several hundred" were flushed in Chicot County, Ark., Oct. 8 (NH). Purple Finches pushed S in large numbers and had reached the proximity of the coast by Nov. 3 when two were seen at Hattiesburg (TF). House Finches were reported from Nashville Oct. 28 (D&PC), and Decatur, Ala., Nov. 30 (CAB) where they are not entirely unexpected; but one reported from Hancock County, Miss., Nov. 10 (JT, MH) provided the first coastal Mississippi record. Pine Siskins seemed to be staging a very modest invasion as evidenced by scattered records to the end of the period. Earliest were Oct. 11 at the widely separated localities of Cookeville, Tenn. (RWS) and Cameron, La. (JR, VR). A flock at the St. Joseph Pen., Nov. 1 (HMS, JMS) were the earliest ever for n.w. Florida. A **Lark Bunting** was photographed at a Gulfport, Miss. feeder Aug. 28 (JT, MH). Earliest-ever for their respective areas were Savannah Sparrows in Jackson County, Miss., Sept. 13 (JT, m.ob.) and at New Orleans Sept. 19 (NN). What was apparently the first confirmed breeding of the **Grasshopper Sparrow** in Mississippi occurred in mid-August in Lowndes County (DMcN), and 48 including many immatures at Wheeler N.W.R., Aug. 2 (CMB, CBC, CAB) were encouraging.

An Oct. 12 record at L. Millwood (CM) was the latest-ever for Arkansas. An imm. *Aimophila* sparrow collected on a grassy Cameron Par., La. coastal chenier with scattered *Acacia*, Oct. 11 (SWC), which turned out to be a Bachman's Sparrow (*A. aestivalis*), was hardly less surprising than the alternative (Botteri's). Rather remarkably, there were 2 occurrences of **Gray-headed Junco**s in Louisiana involving at least nine individuals. One was at a Natchitoches feeder Oct. 13–14 (KS, *vide* CV; banded), while a flock of at least eight was seen in a pasture near Logansport Nov. 1 (JWG). Details were entirely convincing. A Dark-eyed Junco which came to a Gulf Shores feeder July 27–Sept. 14 (D&VF) was at least the fourth summering for Alabama. This fall was unquestionably the best on record for Clay-colored Sparrows, until recently regarded as casual over the entire Region. At least 20 were seen, including 12 records of 15 individuals from coastal Louisiana. One at L. Millwood Oct. 12 (CM) was the first-ever there and one at Birmingham Oct. 31 (TAI) was the third inland Alabama record. At New Orleans there were 8 sightings, making 18 since 1977, previous to which there had been but 4 records. Whether this increase is real or has resulted from increased awareness of the presence of the species in the Region and greater confidence in identifying immatures when seen well, remains to be determined. An imm. Harris' Sparrow at New Orleans Oct. 14 (JR)

was the earliest-ever for Louisiana. Early White-crowned Sparrows were noted at Decatur, Ala., Jackson County, Miss., and New Orleans Oct. 4–8. A count of 15 Fox Sparrows at Hattiesburg Nov. 29 (TF, DH) was interesting, but there was no other evidence that this was to be a Fox Sparrow winter.

CORRIGENDA—The following corrections or changes should be noted in the 1979 fall summary (AB 34: 869-872): the Snow Goose of Sept. 29 was later found to have summered; the Rough-legged Hawk of Nov. 3 was the fourth n.w. Florida record; the Golden Eagle at Gulf Breeze, Fla., was observed Nov. 7 (not Nov. 11); an Olive-sided Flycatcher Aug. 15 was not the earliest-ever. The observers of the Goshawk at Gulf Breeze wish to delete this record.

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PRAIRIE PROVINCES REGION

/ Wayne C. Harris

The summer's drought ended in August with heavy rainfalls over much of the Region. The storms and associated cool fronts had little effect on the birds with major movements being rare. September had its usual mix of sunny and cool, cloudy weather which seemed conducive to an orderly southward movement of birds. October and November were mild, November unseasonably so. However, the fact that winter was close at hand was rudely forced upon the Region when temperatures plummeted to -30°C , November 29. The general fear was that if the cold trend continued many lingering species mentioned here would not survive to the Christmas Bird Count period.

LOONS THROUGH HERONS—Arctic Loons, still relatively rare in s. areas, were reported from Waterton N.P., Alta. (hereafter, Waterton) Sept. 12, establishing a first park record, Banff, Alta., Oct. 11 and the s. end of Last Mountain L., Sask., Nov. 11 (TH, BL). The only Red-throated Loon was one Nov. 2 at Calgary (JS). Grebe numbers were normal; the only exceptional observation was of a record-late Pied-billed Nov. 29 at Winnipeg (GH). Saskatchewan hosted a number of late Great Blue Herons with observations of singles observed Nov. 7 near Dilke, Nov. 9 at Regina, Nov. 11 at Moose Jaw and Nov. 29 near Silton (MB, BL, EK, FHB). Heron rarities included a Green Sept. 8 at Val Marie, Sask., and a Cattle Egret Aug. 9 near Dana, Sask. (SK, WH). Manitoba had late Great Egrets at Portage la Prairie Oct. 4 and Delta Oct. 9 and late Am. Bitterns at Oak Hammock Marsh (hereafter, Oak Hammock), Nov. 6 and Big Point Nov. 8 (IW, MS, CC).

WATERFOWL—Waterfowl numbers were generally down, undoubtedly owing to the drought earlier this year which left many water bodies low or completely dry as with Goose L., s.w. of Saskatoon, noted for its concentrations of Whistling Swans. Over 200 Canvasbacks and 400 Ruddy Ducks at Waterton probably staged there because the low water situation forced birds to utilize mountain lakes (TH).

Trumpeter Swans remained to Nov. 14 at Beaverlodge, Alta. (KL) and the last migrants reported were Nov. 14 at the Wildlife Reserve

of Western Canada near Cochrane, Alta., and Nov. 9 at Calgary (SJ, JS). At Churchill, Brant were recorded on several occasions with 50 Sept. 20, 53 Oct. 14 and 35 Oct. 25 (BC). Unusually large concentrations of Snow Geese at Indian Head and Spring Valley with up to 10,000 each and at Quill L., with 20-40,000, were probably also related to the drought (MYS, FB, JP). A group of 20 Ross' Geese on Whitewater L., was a high count for s. Manitoba. An unusual influx of Black Ducks occurred in s. Saskatchewan this year with 33 sightings from Regina (*fide* RK) and a single at Indian Head (RK, LS); one near Calgary Sept. 22 was unusual (PS). Blue-winged Teal remained later than usual with numbers indicating that it involved other than a few sick or wounded birds. There were > 100 near Calgary Sept. 30, still 30 at Lesser Slave L., Alta., Oct. 16 and three at Moose Jaw Nov. 3 (JS, KL, EK). At least 20 Wood Ducks were along the Overflowing R., n.e. of Hudson Bay, Sask., Sept. 16-17 (PB). A Ring-necked Duck at Frontier Nov. 11 represented one of few records for s.w. Saskatchewan (JJW). Near Ft. Qu'Appelle, Sask., an exceptional concentration of 5000 Com. Goldeneye was reported Nov. 22 (GS). Nine Harlequin Ducks were reported from Churchill Aug. 24 (BC) while singles were at Lockport, Man., Oct. 25 and Saskatoon Nov. 8-9 (PH, SS, JBG). Both Surf and Black scoters were more frequent than normal with Surfs being reported from 7 localities and Blacks from Delta, Regina Beach, Sask., Indian Head and Calgary (BL, LS, FL, PS, AW). Hooded Mergansers were more abundant than normal with 12 on Nov. 9 at Portage la Prairie (IW, RFK) 28 on Nov. 11 at Indian Head (LS, FL), 6 sightings from Calgary (JS) and 121 sightings from the s. end of Last Mountain L., Oct. 27 - Nov. 24 including an amazing 51 Nov. 10 (BL).

RAPTORS—An exceptional count of 25 Turkey Vultures Sept. 17 at Round L., Sask. (DF) and a single Nov. 13 at Indian Head 6 weeks later than expected deserve mention (MYS). A Red-shouldered Hawk reported from Wolseley Aug. 17 provided Saskatchewan's first sight record (JH). A Broad-winged Hawk at Calgary Sept. 6 (JS) was a rare find while a late concentration of 22 at Brandon Oct. 18 and a very late single at Regina Nov. 10 were reported (HC, BL). Also unusually late was an Osprey n. of Maidstone during the last week of November (DL). There were nine Gyrfalcon reports from the s. half of the Region, about normal for fall. Merlin populations were apparently above normal in s. Manitoba as indicated by the 15 seen Sept. 1 between Hecla and Oak Hammock (*fide* RFK).

GROUSE THROUGH RAILS—A Turkey Nov. 20 at Moose Mountain P.P., representing the first record from s.e. Sas-

katchewan, was probably a wanderer from recent introductions in s.w. Manitoba On Sept. 12 a Sandhill Crane with a white neck collar was studied near Saskatoon (ML), on Oct. 9 five near Hanley, Sask., had white collars with black letters (JBG); and Oct. 25 a report of three near Wynyard also with white collars (MAG). The birds, marked in Texas in 1979, are from 2000+ that have been marked in Oklahoma, Texas and Nebraska during the past two years (F. Schitowsky, Okla. Coop Wildl. Res. Unit).

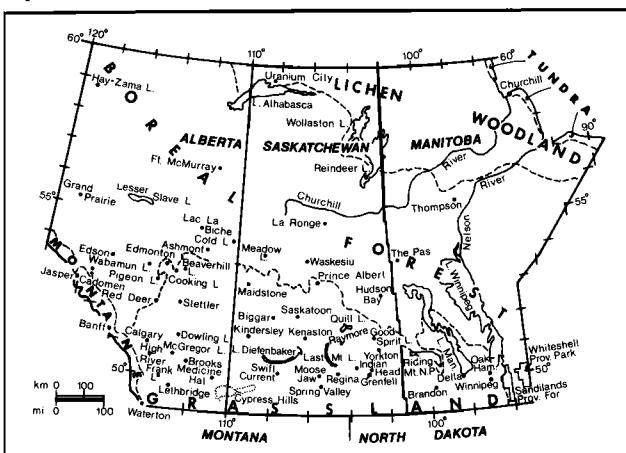
S.A.

The Canadian Wildlife Service reported 18 confirmed sightings of Whooping Cranes in this Region comprising 70 individuals, of which 11 were differently marked (W.J.D. Stephen, C.W.S., Saskatoon). The earliest confirmed sighting was Aug. 31, the latest Oct. 25. Of special interest was the 2-day period Oct. 18-19 when a total of 24 different Whooping Cranes was within a 40-mi radius of Saskatoon.

The second Calgary Virginia Rail record was of one found dead Sept. 8. A late Sora was running on snow-covered ice near Cudworth, Sask., Nov. 8 (WH).

SHOREBIRDS—Considering its rare fall status, Am. Golden Plover was surprisingly common. At Regina 379 were seen Sept. 2 - Oct. 21 including 110 Sept. 25 (BL). There were 50 near Saskatoon Sept. 20 (DPH) and 37 feeding in a pasture w. of Nokomis Oct. 25, the latter a week after local water froze (WH, SL). Black-bellied Plover observations extended to November at Frank L., Alta., Regina, Biggar (RB, BL, GW) and a record late Nov. 22 at Regina Beach (BL). Red Knots are rare during fall; consequently four at Dowling L., Alta., Aug. 24, one Oct. 3 at Biggar and Aug. 9 - Sept. 10 with a maximum count of 17 on Sept. 1 at Oak Hammock (PS, GW, RFK) were noteworthy. **Western Sandpipers** were seen at Oak Hammock Aug. 2, providing Manitoba with its fourth record, and photographed at Calgary Aug. 21 (GH, JS). There were more Buff-breasted Sandpipers than usual with up to 25 on Aug. 2 at Oak Hammock and 10 at Regina Aug. 8 (RFK, BL). Although Sanderling is generally the last "peep" to leave, ten at Lesser Slave L., Alta., Oct. 28 and five at Twin Lakes Beach, Man., Nov. 5 were much later than expected (KL, CC). A group of 200 Am. Avocets at Primate, Sask., was noteworthy as was a late flock of 75 at Whitewater L., Man., Oct. 5 and six at Spring Valley Nov. 1 (JEG, HC, FB). Five Black-necked Stilts Aug. 6 near Willowbunch, Sask., represented only the third sight record for the Province while the Red Phalarope at Winnipeg Beach furnished the fourth record for s. Manitoba and the third this year (WH, MS)!

JAEGERS THROUGH TERNS—Parasitic Jaegers were more common than normal with one at Winnipeg Sept. 6 (only the fourth s. Manitoba recent record), one at Waterton Sept. 12 and two Sept. 15 (the third or fourth park records), two near Calgary Sept. 13, one at L. Newell, Alta., Sept. 21 and one at



Regina Sept 25 (RFK, TH, IH, RK, BL, FHB). An unspecified jaeger was at Cold L., Alta., Oct. 5 (PA).

Gulls were by far the most exciting group this fall with reports of arctic and coastal gulls having increased dramatically each fall over the past 5 years. A first year imm. **Iceland Gull** was at Regina Sept. 25-28 (BL, RK, FL, m.ob.). An imm. Glaucous Gull was at Winnipeg August - October and another at Oak Hammock Aug. 29 (HC). The bird of the season was in imm. **Great Black-backed Gull** at Winnipeg Nov. 16 of which detailed notes were taken and forwarded to the Nat'l Museum in Ottawa; if confirmed this will provide the first inland record for this Region (*vide* HC). To continue on with the seemingly unending list: a Thayer's at Regina Oct. 21-27 (BL, RK), Mew at Calgary, Edmonton and Regina (JS, RE, FL) and Sabine's at Regina, Waterton, Edmonton and Delta (MB, TH, RE, CC). Not to be outdone by inland locations, Churchill had Ivory, Black-headed and up to three Ross' Gulls (BC).

OWLS THROUGH FLYCATCHERS—The widespread abundance of Snowy Owls would indicate an excellent S movement. Conversely Short-eared Owls were very scarce. Calgary reported a late Burrowing Owl Sept. 20 and Moose Jaw reported them regularly to Oct. 15 (AS, EK). In Winnipeg over 200 Chimney Swifts Aug. 28 was one of the largest congregations of recent times (GH). Impressive Com. Nighthawk counts came from s.e. Manitoba with 300 Aug. 18 at Pinawa, 200 in 10 min. Aug. 19 at Winnipeg and 125 Sept. 4 at Pinawa (PT, MS). Woodpecker rarities included a Com. (Red-shafted) Flicker at Edmonton Nov. 11, three Lewis' near Westward Ho, Alta., and two Black-backed Three-toed Woodpeckers at Waterton, for the first park records in 16 years (PA, SJ, TH). An E. Kingbird found at Churchill Sept. 9 was unexpected. A **Scissor-tailed Flycatcher** at Saskatoon present Sept. 20-24 provided only the third provincial record and received considerable attention from birders in the area (JBG, m.ob., ph.).

SWALLOWS THROUGH WRENS—An impressive group of 2000 Tree Swallows gathered near Spring Valley Aug. 21 and a similar-sized Purple Martin flock was in Winnipeg Aug. 13 (FB, HC). A Rough-winged Swallow Sept. 9 at the n. end of Last Mountain L., was later than expected and n. of its normal range in the Region (CH). An influx of Gray Jays was reported from s.e. Manitoba and a single was well s. of the forest at Biggar Oct. 20 (GW). At Good Spirit L., Com. Raven populations were much higher than normal, possibly a result of the extensive forest fires to the n. of this area (WJA). There was an influx of Boreal Chickadees during the third week of September in Edmonton while a single appeared in Saskatoon Oct. 26 (PA, DPH). A ratio of two White-breasted Nuthatches to one Red-breasted was reported from Edmonton where normally the opposite is true (RE). Numbers of White-breasted were also higher than normal in Saskatoon while Red-breasted Nuthatch numbers were well above normal only in s.e. Manitoba (JBG, RFK). Eighteen Rock

Wrens at Stewart Valley, Sask., Oct. 4 was an exceptionally large and late concentration (BK).

MIMICS THROUGH WAXWINGS—Single Mockingbirds were reported from Moose Jaw Oct. 8 and Winnipeg Nov. 26 (LK, A. Shortt). A Gray Catbird Nov. 8 at Delta was the latest ever reported for the Region. Varied Thrushes were much more common than usual with 6 sightings from Saskatchewan including one at Waskesiu Sept. 18-23, the first provincial record well into the forested region (MSy). Three sightings were reported from s. Manitoba (RFK). An imm. Wood Thrush Aug. 12 was a rarity for the Winnipeg area (GH). There were several impressive concentrations of Mountain Bluebirds this fall; Sept. 10 there were 150 at Round L., and 500 Sept. 23 at Indian Head (DF, MYS). A group of 30 on Oct. 21 n. of Edmonton was a large number considering the late date (JL). However a later report was one at Indian Head Nov. 16 (MYS). Also later and in larger numbers were E. Bluebirds with 25 seen Aug. 26-31 at Whitemouth, Man., and five present until Oct. 9 at Emerson, Man. (PT, HC). Good movements of teh Golden-crowned Kinglets were reported from s.e. Manitoba although elsewhere there were generally fewer (RFK). Bohemian Waxwings were early and in good numbers; however, with virtually no berries in existence few were expected to remain.

VIREOS AND WARBLERS—The migration was prolonged but relatively light with few exceptional peaks. Few rarities were reported. Of note were Nashville, Black-throated Blue, Townsend's, and Black-throated Green warblers at Calgary (JS, PS). Black-throated Blues were also seen at Turtle L., Saskatoon and Spring Valley in Saskatchewan (MC, FB). A few record late dates were also reported, such as the Philadelphia Vireo Oct. 19 at St. Ambrose, Man., and a Cape May Warbler to Nov. 8 at Pinawa (RFK, PT).

FRINGILLIDS—A **Black-headed Grosbeak** at Winnipeg Aug. 18 was a rarity while at Saskatoon, where it is more regular in occurrence, there were 7 sightings Aug. 2 - Sept. 9 and 4 at Moose Jaw July 24 - Sept. 3 (GH, PON, EK). A Lazuli Bunting at Wolseley Sept. 22 was very late as was a Chipping Sparrow at Patricia Beach, Man., Nov. 4 (JH, MS). The winter finches moved S in excellent numbers for the first time in several years. Small numbers of Smith's Longspurs were reported regularly at Delta Sept. 9-28 and Quill L., Sept. 17 - Oct. 6 (CC, MG) and a flock of 25 was at Francis, Sask., Oct. 5 (BL).

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KATCHEWAN—W & J Anaka (WJA), M Belcher, F. Bogdan, F.H. Brazier, P Browne, M. Carlson, D. Francis, B. Godwin, J.B. Gollop, J.E. Gollop, M. Gollop, C Harris, W. Harris, J. Hayward, D. & P Hjertaas (DPH), B. Keating, E. Kern, S Keys, L. Knight, R.F. Koes, R. Kreba, F Lahrman, D. Lamont, S. Lamont, M. Lewis, B. Luterbach, K. Meeres, P. O'Neil (PON), J. Perry, L. Scott, G. Seib, S. Shaddick, M. Y. Skinner, M. Syroteuk (MSy), P.S. Taylor, G. Wapple, J. & J. Wilkinson (JJW); photographed (ph.).—WAYNE C. HARRIS, Box 93, Raymore, Sask. SOA 3J0.

NORTHERN GREAT PLAINS

/ Esther M. Serr

This season was ordinary, mild and dry, lacking even a major November snow storm. Birding seemed uneventful yet there were some unusual observations that provided new records. Most migratory species were present as expected but in very small numbers.

GREBES THROUGH CORMORANTS—Grebe species are always present but this fall numbers were greater than usual. A Red-necked Grebe was present Oct. 19-25 at Ft Peck, Mont. (CMC) and one was at Fargo, N.D., Oct. 27 (TCL). A peak of 196 W Grebes was impressive at Waubay N.W.R., S.D., Sept. 14 (LLW).

Chase Lake N.W.R., Stutsman Co., N.D., produced about 3700 White Pelicans in the 1980 nesting season (WJB), which may have accounted for the many sightings of the species on small lakes in s.w. North Dakota. A group of 300 was on L. Ardock, Walsh Co., N.D., Sept. 7 (SOL). Double-crested Cormorant numbers were larger this fall as indicated by 215 at Waubay N.W.R., Sept 4 (LLW); 200 at e. New Town, N.D., Oct 3 (BRP); 400 at Sprague L. (DJB) and 400 at L. Tewaukon N.W.R., Cayuga, N.D. (DGP)

WADERS—A group of 22 Great Blue Herons was found near its nest site in n. Spearfish, S.D., Sept. 12 (DLB). Three Green Herons were found in the Red R. valley, N.D., Aug. 8-30 (PSH, GSL, EMW). Two adults and one immature were at Burke L., S.D., Aug. 11-31 (GLS).

Cattle Egrets established records in the Region. Eight provided the first known sight record at Mirror L., Hettinger, N.D., Sept 4 (JMS) and 41 were counted at Sand Lake N.W.R., Columbia, S.D., Sept. 17 where they are believed to have nested in 1980 (RHE, RLW). Sixteen furnished a second record for that part of Montana within the Region. They were photographed with cattle on a ranch in the sparsely settled area of n e Decker, Mont., Nov. 10 (J. Lix, *vide* DJD). Great Egrets totaled 60 in the Sand Lake N.W.R. area Aug. 3-31 (WJS, T. Kuck). Two Snowy Egrets were seen at Waubay N.W.R., Sept. 16 (LLW).

WATERFOWL—Personnel of the Montana Fish and Game Division made a good count of waterfowl passing over e. Montana (TCH). Waterfowl birding was especially good on waste water lagoons in the Red R

valley, N.D., even to the sighting of Arctic-nesting species, which seemed least wary of all. Densities on Grand Forks lagoons mid-August - mid-November ranged 2000-10,000 birds per mi² (DOL).

Two Greater Scaup were seen on Jamestown Res., and Spiritwood L., Stutsman Co., N.D., Nov. 26 (CAF). It seems odd that only one ♂Barrow's Goldeneye has continued to winter for about 10 years on Canyon L., in Rapid City. It may be the same bird. A Ross' Goose was seen at the Fargo lagoons Sept. 16 (RLN). A total of seven Oldsquaw was sighted in the 3 states Oct. 22 - Nov. 30 (CMC, WH, JFK *et al.*). White-winged Scoters totaled 13 Sept. 23 - Nov. 12 with six of those in Deuel County, S.D. (BKH). Seven each of Surf and Black scoters were found on Red R. lagoons, Broadview Marsh, Mont., and Yankton County, S.D.

Hooded Merganser had a very good year as 15 were seen at Rolla, N.D., Oct. 15 (PCH); the species peaked at 35 at Grand Forks Nov. 11 (DOL); and 12 daily were in Yankton County, S.D., Nov. 4-24 (WH). Wood Ducks peaked at 55 Sept. 30 - Oct. 15 at n. Mandan, N.D. (RNR).

HAWKS—A Goshawk was sighted along Spring Cr., Decker, Mont., Oct. 8 (MWH). An Osprey was perched along the Tongue River Res., Mont., Sept. 9 (JR) and 10 sightings were reported from South Dakota Sept. 9 - Oct. 24 (m.ob.).

Hawks seemed scarce to many observers, yet when reports were assembled every hawk species had increased so much that there was not space to list them all. Sharp-shinned and Cooper's were much more abundant than usual. A **Red-shouldered Hawk** furnished a first sight record in Yankton County, S.D., Oct. 4 and was carefully studied at a distance of 150 ft (WH). Observers enjoyed the sight of 90 Swainson's Hawks kettling over Bismarck Aug. 9 (DNS); 75± were over Great Falls, Mont., Sept. 17 (SJG); and two flocks of 100± each on the ground at Kimball (E. Chace, *vide* NRW) and at White River, S.D., Sept. 28 (RAP). Golden and Bald eagle populations were high in the protected areas. Too many are still being killed with guns and by electric wires. Prairie Falcons were frequently reported. A family of three was feeding on a duck near Ft. Peck Dam, Mont., Aug. 29 (JCC, CMC). Peregrine Falcons were flushed from grassland in the Ft. Peck area Sept. 13; at Chase L., N.D., Oct. 8 (CAF) and near n. Scranton, N.D., Nov. 24 (DGD).

GALLIFORMES THROUGH CRANES—South Dakota reporters continued to find increased numbers of 7 gallinaceous species. The only Sage Grouse reports came from Big Horn County, Mont., where 50 were seen Aug. 10 (MWH) and eight were on top of a soil pile near a mine site Sept. 4 (DSS). Twelve Turkeys were near Bismarck, N.D., Oct. 22 (KJL).

Four Whooping Cranes were sighted in Perkins County, S.D., Oct. 12 (R.L. Hill) and nine were well described flying over Long Lake N.W.R., N.D., Oct. 18 (G.W. O'Neill). Other Whooping Crane sightings came from North Dakota with six in Emmons County

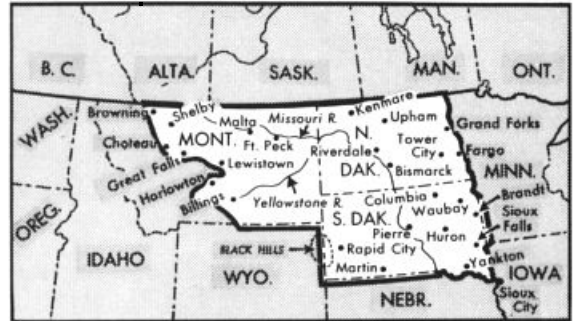
Oct. 18; three from McKenzie County Oct. 29; and eight in Divide County Oct. 29 (*vide* TAG). Sandhill Crane migration was most spectacular over Miles City, Mont., Nov. 16 and continuous all day so that numbers could not be easily estimated (TCH *et al.*). There were 29,000 Sandhills roosting at a chain of lakes in McLean County, N.D. (MJC, MAJ) and 25,500 in Kidder County, N.D., Oct. 6 resulted in large migration flocks along the Missouri R., in South Dakota.

SHOREBIRDS—Black-bellied and Am. Golden plovers were present in larger than usual numbers in all 3 states. A Ruddy Turnstone was sighted at Yankton, S.D., Sept. 16 (KJH). A migration flock 20 Com. Snipe was seen at Hope, N.D., Sept. 7 (DLK) and a flock of 12 was found in Lawrence County, S.D., Oct. 4 (JLB, RGR). Two Red Knot were at Kelly's Slough, N.D., Aug. 31 - Sept. 1 (JFK) and another was at Broadview Marsh, Mont., Sept. 19 (HWC). Two Dunlin were in the Yankton, S.D. area Oct. 28 & Nov. 2 (WH, JEW). A gathering of 1100 Pectoral Sandpipers was at Grand Forks lagoons Oct. 6 (JFK). One imm. Red Phalarope was observed swimming and in flight Oct. 19 (JFK)† and identified again a few minutes later at Grand Forks lagoons (DOL)†. An estimated 3000 N. Phalarope were at Blue L., McLean County, N.D., Sept. 9 (DWT).

JAEGERS THROUGH DOVES—A Parasitic Jaeger was sighted at Benton Lake N.W.R., Mont., Sept. 15 (B. Tearson) and one was at Jamestown, N.D., lagoons where it was watched for 10 min. harassing Herring Gulls Oct. 17 (CAF)†. An ad. **Long-tailed Jaeger** was sighted in McLean County Sept. 18 (TRA) for the third state record, and an unspecified jaeger was in the McClusky Canal area, N.D., Sept. 15 (TAG). Three imm. **Black-legged Kittiwakes** were sighted separately in McLean and Ward cos., N.D., Sept. 7 - Nov. 28 (m.ob.) These represent the second through fourth state records. A very tame **Sabine's Gull** was at the Grand Forks lagoons Sept. 28 Oct. 10 (SOL, DOL)†. Franklin's Gulls peaked at 150,000 on an 800-acre saline lake in McLean County Sept.



Sabine's Gull, Grand Forks lagoons, N.D., Oct. 2, 1980. Photo/ David Lambeth.



15 (TAG, KJW) and 25,500 were in Yankton County Sept. 22 (WH). Two **Caspian Terns** were flying along the Red R., near Grand Forks Sept. 21 (GSL). A flock of 500 Mourning Doves gathered at Reliance, S.D., Sept. 2-10 (WCT).

OWLS—A Barn Owl was viewed for 5 min as it perched in a pine tree close to an open mine cavern in Tin Mt., Custer Co., S.D., Oct. 8 (JAH)†. A previous sighting of this species Aug. 24, 1979, was unreported about 5 mi from Tin Mt., by the same observer. These sightings could be related to a nest and banded young present in Fall River County, S.D., April - June 1969 (D. Adolphson). These primitive areas are not often birded.

A Great Horned Owl got itself hung up in a fence; the wounds were treated, the bird banded and released near Decker, Mont., Sept. 20 (MWH). Snowy Owls arrived in the Region as early as Oct. 11 at Fessenden, N.D. (JGS, WJB). Saw-whet Owls were found dead at Fargo, N.D., Oct. 20 (MBB) and an immature was at Rockerville, S.D., Aug. 31 (NRW). A live Saw-whet was viewed closely on Terry Peak at an altitude of 7000 ft., in the Black Hills, S.D., Oct. 12 (ECM, JLB). A Barred Owl was noted at Enemy Swim L., Day County, S.D., Nov. 21 (WJK).

PICIDAE—At last a Pileated Woodpecker was sighted at Gary, Deuel Co., S.D. Nov. 27-30, for one of a few rare state records (J. Cole). This area is not far from Fargo where the species is quite regular. Lewis' Woodpeckers were scarce in the Black Hills owing to failure of the acorn crop. Red-headed's remained numerous in the Region. Three were still at Burke L., S.D., Sept. 20 (GLS) and one at Fargo Sept. 22 (GIO).

FLYCATCHERS—A Cassin's Kingbird visited a Billings feeder Aug. 13-14 (HWC). Yellow-bellied Flycatchers were seen in Valley City Aug. 11 (DKL), Grand Forks Aug. 25 (DOL) and s. Bismarck, N.D., Sept. 7 (RLQ).

CORVIDS—A Blue Jay was sighted along the Powder R., near Locate, Custer Co., Mont., Sept. 28 (TCH). A flock of 35 Piñon Jays was found roaming the Missouri R. breaks in s. Blaine County, Mont., Oct. 16 & Nov. 4 (SJG). A few Clark's Nutcrackers came into the Region this fall. Eight were in Billings Sept. 12 (HWC *et al.*), two in the T. Roosevelt N.P., North Unit, N.D., Nov. 2 (KJL) and one in the Black Hills, s. Custer Co., S.D., Nov. 11 (MJP).

NUTHATCHES—White-breasted Nuthatch reports experienced an unbelievable increase in the Black Hills but sightings of Red-breasted are still estimated to be roughly double the number of White-breasted in both Dakotas. Pygmy Nuthatches appeared at feeders with as many as three simultaneously by Aug. 15 in the Black Hills (NJE, NRW). Brown Creepers have come into Rapid City feeders not located in pine hills.

MIMIDS THROUGH WAXWINGS—Unusual species in this group were a Mockingbird at Havre, Mont., Aug. 21 (SJJ); a Wood Thrush at Billings Sept. 12 (HWC *et al*); a window-killed Townsend's Solitaire at Jamestown Sept. 7 (CAF); and a **Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher** provided a second North Dakota record at s. Valley City Sept. 7 (CAF)†.

Golden-crowned Kinglets were more numerous in South Dakota with a total of 12 at Mitchell, S.D., Oct. 18 (RGR). Twenty-two Water Pipits were on the Ft. Peck lake shore Sept. 21 (CMC) and nine were seen in Yankton County, S.D., Oct. 28 (WH). Two ♂ Sprague's Pipits were singing in Kidder County, N.D., Aug. 17 (CAF). Bohemian Waxwing numbers were unusually low.

WARBLERS—Nashville Warbler migration showed well from one bird at Billings Aug. 21 (HWC) and down the Red R. valley to Brookings, S.D., where ten were banded Sept. 19–20 (NJH).

Never have there been so many reports of Black-throated Blue and Black-throated Green warblers—species scarce to this Region. Black-throated Blue Warblers were in Hyde County, S.D., Sept. 19 (JHH); Billings Sept. 23 (HWC); a male in excellent plumage at Grand Forks Sept. 22–23 (DOL, SOL) and a female or immature at Hope, N.D., Oct. 22 (DLK). Black-throated Green Warblers were at Havre, Mont., Aug. 21 (SJJ); Fargo Aug. 27 (EMW, MAB); Upper Souris Aug. 31 (GBB); McLean County Sept. 19 (TAG); an immature in Harding County, S.D., Oct. 12 (RGR) and in Morton County, N.D., Nov. 13 (WAB).

Most spectacular was the Wilson's Warbler migration Aug. 8 – Oct. 8 almost to the exact day in each of the 3 states. Many reporters had as many as six daily in mid-September. In the midst of this Wilson's migration was another of the *Oporornis* group—a **Hooded Warbler** Sept. 24 and Oct. 6 at Rapid City—"just like the picture in the book" (CRB). This veteran observer had a close view at her feeder and was familiar with the species. The only Yellow-breasted Chat sighted was at Belle Fourche, S.D., Aug. 19 (IGW).

BLACKBIRDS AND FINCHES—Bobolinks and Dickcissels were absent or unreported. Rusty Blackbird migration was noticeable in North Dakota beginning Sept. 17 with a peak of 120 at Fuller's L., Nov. 9 (DLK) but South Dakota seemed to miss them. A flock of 85 Brown-headed Cowbirds was late Oct. 20 at Fargo (GIO). A few Purple Finches returned to most feeders this fall but an unusually high number of 36 was seen near Mandan, N.D., Nov. 13 (WAB). There was an influx of Pine Grosbeaks in to North Dakota in late October with peaks of 41 in Grand Forks Nov. 20 (DOL) and 25 at Minot, N.D., Nov. 27 (GBB). The first birds at Grand Forks were mainly males and later birds were almost exclusively immatures and females (DOL). White-winged Crossbill sightings were the best at Jamestown since 1977 (CAF) and this species seemed almost more abundant than the usually more common Red Crossbill in e. North Dakota and down into n.e. South Dakota where six White-wingeds were noted Nov. 1 at Waubay N.W.R. (RRJ).

SPARROWS—Migrating flocks of Lark Buntings averaged 350 near Woodworth, N.D., Aug. 1–5 (CAF). Four were late Sept. 1 in n. Meade County, S.D. (JLB, EMS). A Le Conte's was unusual in Billings Sept. 9 (HWC). Lark Sparrows have been scarce for several years and none was reported this season.

Junco races appeared early and 40 White-

winged were banded in Rapid City during the season (NRW). The Oregon race is equal in abundance to the Slate-colored in Montana and has increased as it has spread across South Dakota. Fox Sparrow migration was noted at Grand Forks Sept. 15 (DOL); Miles City, Mont., Sept. 20 (TCH); Oct. 5 at White River and Oct. 13 at Rapid City, S.D. (NRW, RAP) and one was at Fargo Oct. 26 (MBB). A Swamp Sparrow was banded near Brookings, S.D., Sept. 20 (NJH) and ten were seen Sept. 19 – Oct. 24 at Grand Forks (DOL). Ten Smith's Longspurs were in McLean County Oct. 6 (TAG).

CORRIGENDUM—*AB* 34:791. The White-throated Sparrow migration through the Grand Forks area is always far heavier than that of the White-crowned.

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SOUTHERN GREAT PLAINS

/ Frances Williams

The season was highlighted by hurricane *Allen* which came ashore at the southernmost tip of Texas August 10. The subsequent inland influx of vagrants from south Texas and the Gulf Coast was inconceivable.

Irruptive species did irrupt, but not spectacularly. There was the usual number of eastern species west, but few western species east. A profusion of "late" records reflected the long, dry, warm fall.

LOONS THROUGH FRIGATE-BIRDS—Two Arctic Loons were at North Platte N.W.R., Neb., Oct. 19 (FZ). Ten Eared Grebes provided a new record-late date in Nebraska by remaining at North Platte N.W.R., until Nov. 30+. A single Eared

Grebe visited Nacogdoches, Tex., on the unusual date July 25. Western Grebes were discovered at 6 localities e. of the 100th meridian. White Pelicans were numerous in September and October. The largest flock, comprising 2000 birds, was in Lee County, Tex., Sept. 16. Anhingas were found at unaccustomed localities in Texas: Grayson County Aug. 13, Dallas Nov. 6, College Station Oct. 29, Midland Aug. 27. The Grayson County bird flew across the state line to Love County, Okla. How many of these Anhingas started on their travels because of *Allen* is problematical, but the storm surely was responsible for a **Magnificent Frigatebird** at Great Salt Plains S.P., Okla., Aug. 30-31 (DV, JN, m.ob.).

HERONS—During August there were 4 reports of Little Blue Herons in Sarpy County, Neb., where the species is a relative

newcomer (RG). A Cattle Egret in Osage County, Kans., Aug. 16 and another at Crescent Lake N.W.R., Neb., Nov. 11 were noteworthy. A Reddish Egret photographed at L. Livingston, Polk Co., Tex., Aug. 2 provided a first documented record for that e. Texas area (KB). In w. Texas, a Reddish Egret at San Angelo in late August was assumed to have been blown in land by *Allen*. Single Louisiana Herons made news in Texas at Big Bend N.P., Aug. 13 (JL), Midland Aug. 26 (JME), Gray County Sept. 12 (KSe), Hunt County Aug. 24 (RH), Collin County Sept. 1 (AV). Five were at San Angelo in late August (TM). A pre-*Allen* Louisiana Heron was found at Balmorhea L., Reeves County July 30 (DW). Black-crowned Night Herons were reported at 12 localities, usually in good numbers, but none matched the report from Scott Seltman: "On a dark, stormy afternoon one can often see incredible things at

Cheyenne Bottoms W M A , Kahs , since all the birds seem to feed right before rainstorms hit August 14 was one of those days. As a conservative estimate, I saw 1000 Black-crowned Night Herons in a couple of hours. It was wall-to-wall herons." An imm. Yellow-crowned Night Heron visited Box Butte Res., Dawes Co., Neb., July 30-Aug. 5 (D&RR). The only Least Bittern reported was at Cheyenne Bottoms Aug. 14. American Bitterns were seen at only 6 localities. One at Waco, Tex., Nov. 19 was the first there in many years (LB).

STORKS THROUGH SPOONBILLS—Wood Storks were seen at College Station, Tex., in early October. Good details were submitted for a sighting of two Glossy Ibises in Pawnee County, Okla., Sept. 21 (JCH). White Ibises were numerous on L. Conroe, Walker Co., Tex., during August and September. The species was also observed in Hunt County and Dallas Aug. 24. At least 50 White-faced Ibises fed in a playa in Crosby County, Tex., Oct. 1-10 (KH). The appearance of **Roseate Spoonbills** at Balmorhea L., Aug. 30 (JRS *et al.*), Dallas Sept. 20-25 (RD), Kaufman County Sept. 6-7 (MQ) and L. Livingston Sept. 21 (DW) was attributed to *Allen*.

WATERFOWL—Two pairs of Trumpeter Swans adorned Crescent L., Nov. 8-30+. Two unusual goose hybrids were described: a Canada x White-fronted at North Platte, Neb. (MHW) and a Canada x Snow at Cheyenne Bottoms (SS). At Plattsmouth Waterfowl Area, Neb., 100,000 Snow Geese were present Nov. 23-30, 60,000 less than last year's peak. There were four adults to each immature, whereas in normal years immatures make up 35-40% of the flock (*vide* MWi). Seven Black-bellied Whistling Ducks were observed (CSt) and photographed (SR) at Dallas July 29-Aug. 7. Black Ducks found at two lakes near Tulsa Aug. 21-Oct. 29 were the first at that locality since 1967 (EH, m ob.). Wood Ducks visited El Paso Oct. 3-12 and Midland Oct. 19-29. A Blue-winged Teal in Sheridan County, Neb., Nov. 15 was late. Greater Scaup were present at Tulsa Oct. 26-Nov. 22 (JCH). A ♀ Oldsquaw was discovered in Jefferson County, Kans., Oct. 25 (LM). White-winged Scoters appeared at Lincoln Nov. 5 (RW), Douglas County, Kans., Nov. 1-3 (AB *et al.*), Tulsa Nov. 9 (EH) and Caddo County, Okla., Nov. 2 (JB, JDT). Surf Scoters were reported in Johnson County, Kans., Nov. 1 (DH), Lubbock, Tex., Nov. 2-9 (CSt, DS) and Tulsa County Nov. 9 (JCH, m.ob.). Four Black Scoters were shot by a hunter in Linn County, Kans., Nov. 12 (*vide* MS). Two outstanding concentrations of Hooded Mergansers were noted, one of 150 birds at Hagerman N.W.R., Tex., Nov. 29 (CB), and one of 47 birds at Red Bluff Res., Reeves Co., Tex., Nov. 14 (WCH). Males comprised 75% of the latter flock.

VULTURES THROUGH FALCONS—Himmel did not see a single juv. Turkey Vulture among the migrants in Crosby County. This species is becoming increasingly scarce in w. Texas. White-tailed Kites were observed in Texas in Navarro County Sept. 10-Nov. 5, Milam County Aug. 4, and Burleson County Sept. 15-Oct. 24. A Swallow-

VULTURES THROUGH FALCONS—Himmel did not see a single juv. Turkey Vulture among the migrants in Crosby County. This species is becoming increasingly scarce in w. Texas. White-tailed Kites were observed in Texas in Navarro County Sept. 10-Nov. 5, Milam County Aug. 4, and Burleson County Sept. 15-Oct. 24. A Swallow-tailed Kite graced Hill County, Tex., Aug. 31 (KSt). Lone Mississippi Kites were observed in Sarpy County Sept. 7 (AG, RW) and Lyon County, Kans., Sept. 11 (DL&RL). Wolfe counted 24 migrating Sharp-shinned Hawks at Nacogdoches Oct. 2, and a total of 36 during the period. The species was reported only 22 times in the remainder of the Region. Several imm. Cooper's Hawks were seen in late August in the Nacogdoches area, where they nest, and a total of 13 migrants was counted Sept. 23-Oct. 2. There were 21 Cooper's Hawks reported elsewhere. Enthusiastic comments about the abundance of Red-tailed Hawks were received from several contributors, but Red-shouldered Hawks were mentioned as present only at Kerrville, Tex., and Bartlesville, Okla.

In the c. prairie region of Texas, there were 10 reports of flocks of Broad-winged Hawks comprising 300-10,000 birds Sept. 28 - Oct. 2 (*vide* TG). The heaviest flight at Nacogdoches occurred Sept. 30 - Oct. 1, with a peak of 1086 Oct. 1 (DW). A flight of Swainson's Hawks estimated to comprise 1000 birds was observed at San Angelo Oct. 5. At Ingram, Tex., three kettles of Swainson's Hawks, each comprising 100± birds, were observed Oct. 3. East of Dalhart, Tex., 118 Swainson's Hawks rested in a stubble field Sept. 27. Near Hyannis, Neb., 200± fed in a hayfield Sept. 24. Two Zone-tailed Hawks were in Crockett County, Tex., Aug. 28 (GL, ph. to TPRF). There was a good flight of Rough-legged Hawks during the last half of November. In Oklahoma, Ferruginous Hawks were e. of their usual range in Cleveland, Osage, Rogers and Oklahoma counties. A Gray Hawk sojourned in a cottonwood grove near the Rio Grande in Big Bend N.P., Aug. 18 - Sept. 23 (m.ob., GL, ph. to TPRF). A total of 43 Ospreys was reported. A Caracara nest found in Kaufman County, Tex., July 2 held two fledglings (SR). Prairie Falcons were seen 40 times but Peregrines only seven. There were eight observations of Merlins in e. Nebraska, where one is unusual, and the species was equally common elsewhere. Excellent details were provided for an observation of an Aplomado Falcon in Hudspeth County, Tex., Nov. 28 (B&JR, WS).

QUAILS THROUGH RAILS—A population of Montezuma Quail was discovered near Alpine, Tex., (GWh). The attempt to restore these quail to Big Bend N.P., has apparently met with some success, as there were several sightings this fall. Three Whooping Cranes visited Barton County, Kans., Oct. 11 and another was seen Nov. 7. Sandhill Cranes over Alpine Sept. 13 were early, for the major flight in the Region occurred Nov. 2-10. In Boone County, Neb., a thousand Sandhill Cranes were observed on the late date Nov. 21. King Rails were seen at Tulsa and Cheyenne Bottoms. Virginia Rails were reported at 7 localities. A Black Rail was heard at Crescent L., July 11 (FZ). In Crosby County a Black Rail answered a tape recorder

Sept. 21 and allowed a brief view (M&RL)

PLOVERS THROUGH PHALAROPE—The only reports of Piping Plovers came from Tulsa, Bartlesville and Hagerman. On July 30 at Balmorhea L., there were 13 Snowy Plovers including three chicks (DW). Twelve Snowy Plovers in Tarrant County, Tex., Sept. 9 constituted the largest number ever seen there at one time (RDC). American Golden Plovers moved through in larger numbers than usual in the fall. One at L. Conroe Nov. 19 was very late (KB). Black-bellied Plovers lingered at Hagerman and Midland until Nov. 30+. In Muskogee, Okla., two Am. Woodcocks visited lawns where they took advantage of a water sprinkler. Jim Norman stated he had seen only three Am. Woodcocks near Muskogee in 30 years, but this year five were in the vicinity. This species arrived at Oklahoma City Aug. 31 and Dallas Sept. 9. The only Whimbrel reported was in Crosby County Aug. 4 (KH). At least 200 Upland Sandpipers were present in Pawnee County Kans., Sept. 7 (SS). No other contributors mentioned this Blue-listed species. There were congregations of 500-1000 yellowlegs at many water areas in w. Texas from late July - late September. Two Red Knots were in Barton County, Kans., Aug. 30 (LM). Baird's Sandpipers tarried in North Platte N.W.R., Nov. 20, Pawnee County, Okla., Nov. 2 and Tarrant County Nov. 1. Dunlins were discovered at 9 localities. An amazing 24 Sanderlings were at L. Livingston Sept. 21, and six lingered in Pawnee County, Okla., Nov. 2. In Crosby County 300 Long-billed Dowitchers probed in a shallow playa throughout October. A Short-billed Dowitcher was studied carefully in Tulsa County Aug. 20 - Sept. 8 (JCH *et al.*). Buff-breasted Sandpipers were recorded at Omaha July 31, Pawnee County, Kans., Sept. 16, Osage County, Okla., Nov. 22, and at several localities in the Tulsa and Dallas areas during August and September. Red Phalaropes were found in Oklahoma City Sept. 14 & 21 (JG), Hagerman Sept. 20 (KHa), Dallas Sept. 20-25 (RD *et al.*). A N. Phalarope at Tulsa was the first there since 1972 (JCH). Four Wilson's Phalaropes lingered at Midland until Nov. 30+.

JAEGERS THROUGH SKIMMERS—A jaeger with confusing plumage hunted over Keystone L., Pawnee Co., Okla., Sept. 27-28 (JCH, m.ob.). A Glaucous Gull arrived at Oklahoma City Nov. 16. There was a flood of inland Laughing Gull records following *Allen*. They were sighted at Oklahoma City, Crosby County, L. Livingston, L. Texoma and San Angelo. A flock of Bonaparte's Gulls comprising 114 birds was in Osage County, Kans., Nov. 11, 20 were in Pawnee County, Okla., Oct. 26 and 22 were in Midland County Dec. 3. There was numerous records of single birds elsewhere. A Black-legged Kittiwake arrived at Lubbock with the first snow storm Nov. 15 (GF). A Sabine's Gull at North Platte N.W.R., Sept. 23 represented the sixth state record, while one in Osage County, Kans., Sept. 30 provided a first county record (CH). Two Gull-billed Terns visited Waco Oct. 15 (LB, JSc). A Com. Tern at Tulsa was the first since 1964 (JCH *et al.*). The most amazing journey made by victims of *Allen* was executed by three **Sooty Terns**

which were found in the mountains of trans-Pecos Texas Aug. 12. Two were dead when found in Brewster County (*Sul Ross Univ.) and one found barely alive in Jeff Davis County died in spite of efforts to succor it. All three birds were emaciated and probably died of starvation. Two fledgling Least Terns were found on an island in the Arkansas R., at Tulsa Aug. 16. A Caspian Tern was observed in Osage County, Kans., Aug. 16 (JS). **Black Skimmers** were also hurricane waifs. One was at Balmorhea L., Reeves Co., Tex., Aug. 12 (GWA, ph. to TPRF), and two were seen there Aug. 30. Another was discovered at L. Arlington, Tarrant Co., Tex., Aug. 27-30 (WP, RD) and one was reported at Waco but no date was given (DA).

PIGEONS THROUGH GOATSUCKERS

—Several individuals of the dove family went gallivanting: a Band-tailed Pigeon to Buffalo Lake N.W.R., Sept. 28 (PA, KSe), a White-winged Dove to Midland Nov. 2 (BE), a Ground Dove to Ft. Gibson Res., Okla., Nov. 2 (JN), and an Inca Dove to Pawnee County, Kans., Aug. 25 (SS). A Groove-billed Ani at Nacogdoches Sept. 30 provided a first local record (DW, m.ob.). The Barn Owls which nest in the Texas A&M football stadium fledged 15 young in three nestings in 1980. At Kerrville a young Barn Owl visited the living room of a residence evidently having entered by way of the fireplace chimney. Two Flammulated Owls were discovered by Blue Jays and subsequently by birders at Lubbock Oct. 15-16 (RE, m.ob.). A Flammulated Owl found injured at Midland could not be saved (ME). A Burrowing Owl appeared in a yard at Merriam, Kans., Sept. 22 (MDC *et al.*). There were numerous reports of both Long-eared and Short-eared owls. A Whip-poor-will called several times in a yard in Oklahoma City Sept. 14 (JS). A Poor-will provided a first county record in Pawnee County, Kans., Sept. 18 (SS). Flights of 200 Com. Nighthawks were observed in Rush County, Kans., Oct. 1 and Crosby County Aug. 17. A Lesser Nighthawk was studied at close range at Lubbock Sept. 13 (CSt, m.ob.).

HUMMINGBIRDS THROUGH FLY-CATCHERS

—An Anna's Hummingbird visited an El Paso feeder Nov. 26. Rufous Hummingbirds delighted observers at Oxford, Kans., Aug. 24-25 (WC, DV) and Lawton, Okla., Aug. 6-7 and Sept. 6 (JMc *et al.*) This species was recorded in Texas as far east as Dallas. A Calliope Hummingbird was seen at El Paso Aug. 31. The supposedly non-migratory Red-bellied Woodpecker appeared w. of its breeding range in Sheridan County, Neb., Nov. 27 (D&RR), Hutchinson County, Tex., Oct. 19 (KSe), Buffalo Lake N.W.R., Nov. 8 (KSe) and Midland Oct. 20-30 (ME *et al.*) Some 25-40 Lewis' Woodpeckers swarmed into Dawes County, Neb., Aug. 30 - Sept. 24 (D&RR). At least 100 E. Kingbirds invaded a Tulsa park Sept. 2. On Aug. 27, about 45 W. Kingbirds flew over Baldwin, Kans., where even one would have been unusual (RB). On Sept. 1 about 85 W. Kingbirds moved through Buffalo Lake N.W.R., in two hours, headed almost due W. Extralimital records of Scissor-tailed Flycatchers included Norton County, Kans., Aug. 9 and Scotts-

bluff, Neb., in late August. A Wied's Crested Flycatcher was studied carefully at El Paso Aug. 14 (JD). At Hays, Kans., an E. Phoebe remained until the late date of Oct. 27. A Black Phoebe in Randall Count, Tex., Sept. 9 was the first there since 1972.

JAYS THROUGH WRENS—One of the largest influxes ever of Blue Jays occurred in c. and w. Texas in October. A Blue Jay discovered in Ft. Davis Nov. 1 provided a first record (PE). A good wave of Red-breasted Nuthatches was noted during October and early November, but in many localities the birds passed through rapidly. An amazing 15 Red-breasted Nuthatches were counted in the Chisos Mts., Big Bend N.P., Oct. 27 (WCH, WH). A family group of three Pygmy Nuthatches fed in Ponderosa Pines in Sheridan County, Neb., Nov. 15 (D&RR). For the first time in several years Winter Wrens were reported throughout the Region. Most observations were in November but one was seen in Wichita Sept. 6. A Cactus Wren at Buffalo Lake N.W.R., Sept. 7 provided continuing evidence of the N spread of this species. In Atchison County, Kans., an active nest of a Short-billed Marsh Wren was located Aug. 10 (MS *et al.*). Migrant Short-billed Marsh Wrens were found at Oklahoma City Sept. 28 and Tulsa Sept. 28 and Oct. 14.

MIMICS THROUGH THRUSHES

—Gray Catbirds visited Guadalupe Mts. N.P., Oct. 19 and Big Bend N.P., Oct. 25. A Gray Catbird in Sarpy County Nov. 16 was one month late. Brown Thrashers remained until Dec. 1+ at several Kansas localities. A Curve-billed Thrasher was netted, banded and photographed in Cleveland County, Okla., Oct. 1 (JG). A Sage Thrasher was discovered in Trego County, Kans., Oct. 11 (DS). A Varied Thrush visited North Platte N.W.R., Sept. 23. Five contributors noted that E. Bluebirds were much more numerous than in recent years. There was a good flight of Mountain and W. bluebirds to the lowlands. Outstanding concentrations included hundreds of W. Bluebirds along the Platte R., near Benedict, Neb., and 50+ Mountain Bluebirds/mi² along the caprock escarpment in Crosby and Dickens counties, Tex. Townsend's Solitaires were seen at 6 localities in the w. third of the Region.

KINGLETS THROUGH VIREOS—Golden-crowned Kinglets were conspicuous in many areas. Sprague's Pits were found at Oklahoma City Oct. 29, L. Conroe, Tex., Oct. 15 and Nov. 19, and in late November in Reeves, Hudspeth, Coleman and Tom Green cos., Tex. Bohemian Waxwings arrived at Chadron, Neb., in September. An unusually early N. Shrike arrived in Dawes County, Neb., Sept. 15. Phainopeplas were observed in Crosby County Aug. 10 and Oct. 14. There was a good flight of vireos through the w. portion of the Region during September and October. Especially noteworthy were Yellow-throated Vireos at Lubbock Sept. 29 and Amarillo Sept. 23.

WARBLERS—A Prothonotary Warbler was out of range and habitat in Crosby County Aug. 23 (KH). Blue-winged Warblers were common at Nacogdoches Aug. 24 - Sept. 25. Twenty Virginia's Warblers were counted in

El Paso Sept. 6 (KZ). Birders who wish to see Big Bend's Colima Warbler but do not have the physical stamina to make the ascent to Boot Spring have a slight chance of seeing the bird after breeding season in more accessible locales. One foraged in oak trees at the Basin sewage lagoons Aug. 31. A Lucy's Warbler visited El Paso Sept. 5. Two N. Parulas were seen in Bandera County, Tex., on the late date of Nov. 27 (E&KM). A Magnolia Warbler was observed in Crosby County Oct. 12 (M&RL). A Black-throated Blue Warbler wandered to Midland Oct. 5 (ME *et al.*) Townsend's Warblers were sighted in Sheridan County Aug. 19 and Dawes County Sept. 13 (D&RR). Black-throated Green Warblers were late in Sarpy County Nov. 5 and Midland 2-3. Blackburnian Warblers visited Montgomery County, Tex., Sept. 30 and Crosby County Sept. 4. Chestnut-sided Warblers were noted in Cleveland County, Okla., Sept. 26, Oklahoma City Sept. 2 and Montgomery County Oct. 3. Two Yellow-throated Warblers provided one of the few fall records at Tulsa Sept. 14. A Blackpoll Warbler at Lubbock Sept. 21 constituted a first fall record. Pine Warblers were seen at Buffalo Lake N.W.R., Sept. 11 and in Roberts County, Tex., Sept. 25. Early Ovenbirds were at Amarillo Sept. 2 and Bartlesville Sept. 5, while a late one lingered at Tulsa until Nov. 20, when the temperature fell to 38°F. A Prairie Warbler in Crosby County Sept. 2 constituted a first county record. Another tardy individual was a Palm Warbler at Midland Nov. 17. Northern Waterthrushes were seen at 7 localities where they are normally rare. A Louisiana Waterthrush in the Chisos Mts., July 12 provided a new record for Big Bend N.P. (SAH *et al.*). A Midland bird bath attracted a Kentucky Warbler Aug. 8-9. A Mourning Warbler was netted at Oklahoma City Sept. 6. A MacGillivray's Warbler was rather far e. at Bryan, Tex., in late September. A Hooded Warbler at El Paso Nov. 21 was another belated migrant. Wilson's Warblers were extremely abundant throughout, and Am. Restarts were frequently observed. Another Rufous-capped Warbler materialized in Big Bend N.P., this one along the Window Trail in the Chisos Mts., Oct. 26 (WH, WCH).

ICTERIDS THROUGH TANAGERS

—A flock of W. Meadowlarks, comprising 15 birds, sang their mellifluous tunes in Tulsa County Oct. 16. Could the Hooded and Scott's orioles in Crosby County have been started N by Allen's winds? Rusty Blackbirds appeared at many w. localities in late November. Noteworthy among many W. Tanager observations were two at Crescent L., Aug. 16 and one at San Angelo Sept. 7.

FRINGILLIDS—A pair of Cardinals discovered El Paso this fall and appeared to have settled. A Pyrrhuloxia wandered to Kimble County, Tex., Nov. 12. Near Lincoln, three Rose-breasted x Black-headed Grosbeaks were banded and photographed in August and September (MO). A Lazuli Bunting and a Lazuli x Indigo Bunting fed in a sunflower patch at Midland Aug. 17. Evening Grosbeaks were present at Sarpy County, Crescent L., Hays, Olathe, Kans., Muskogee, Okla., and Miami, Tex. A Purple Finch trapped at Baldwin City, Kans., Oct. 14 had been

banded at that location in 1978 (KK). Purple Finches were plentiful in Nebraska, but decreased in abundance s. into Texas. Pine Siskins were observed in 15 localities, but usually in small flocks. Two White-winged Crossbills were discovered in Douglas County, Neb., Nov. 18 and Red Crossbills visited Scottsbluff in August. In Palo Duro Canyon S.P., Tex., a Brown Towhee attended two fledglings on the late date of Aug. 10.

A Baird's Sparrow was carefully identified at Crescent L., Oct. 15. At Midland, an elusive Henslow's Sparrow was seen several times Nov. 21-26 (JMe *et al.*). Le Conte's Sparrows were newsworthy at Oklahoma City Oct. 25 (JS), Tulsa Oct. 21 (ES, AH), Midland Nov. 27 (BE *et al.*), College Station Nov. 1 (MW), Coleman County Nov. 29 (ChS), and Balmorhea L., Nov. 27 (B&JR). A Sharp-tailed Sparrow at Balmorhea L., Reeves Co., Tex., Nov. 27 provided a first documented inland record for Texas (GWA, ph. to TPRF).

ABBREVIATION: TPRF - Texas Photo Record File at Texas A&M University.

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SOUTH TEXAS REGION

/ Fred S. Webster, Jr.

When hurricane *Allen* dropped to 26.93 inches central pressure with 170 m.p.h. maximum winds it was declared the most intense and dangerous hurricane in the Caribbean in this century. At this point the center was about 260 mi SSW of San Juan, P.R.; the time was 11:00 p.m., C.D.T., Aug. 4. *Allen* continued a relentless course WNW, brushed the n. coast of Jamaica—which resulted in some weakening—and headed for the Yucatan channel. At 2:00 p.m., Aug. 7, positioned 85 mi NNE of Cozumel I., *Allen* registered pressure of 26.55 inches and maximum winds of 185 m.p.h.; it was now labelled the second largest Atlantic hurricane in modern records. With part of its circulation passing over Yucatan, *Allen* weakened again, but regained most of its peak strength by early morning on Aug. 9 over the open waters of the Gulf of Mexico. The lower coast of Texas was directly in line with the storm's path. A major disaster seemed imminent.

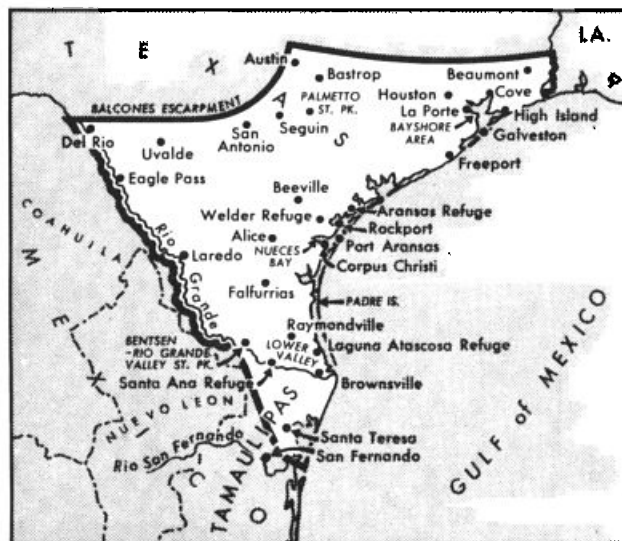
By 7:00 p.m., Aug. 9, *Allen* was stalling about 45 mi ESE of Brownsville. For 2 hours no movement was noted. One would suppose that the storm was about to follow a hurricane tendency to turn NE, but a high pressure ridge blocked the way. Finally *Allen's* center made landfall over a deserted stretch of South Padre I. beach, and at 3:00 a.m., Aug. 10 was 30 mi n. of Brownsville and weakening. *Allen* continued a NW course for several hours, but s.w. of Falfurrias it began a gradual curve to the w. and passed into Mexico a few miles s. of Laredo at 5:00 p.m.—at which time it was officially downgraded to a tropical storm.

Effects on the land will not soon be erased. South Padre I. was drastically altered with a reported 68 new channels cut across its narrow width. Farther n., the Mustang I. beachfront was severely eroded, Pulich reported,

but he doubted that estuarine or barrier island habitat was significantly disturbed. Up to 11 in. of rain fell on the island, filling previously dry ponds and marshes. At Aransas N.W.R., slight damage resulted from tidal surge, while rain refilled dry ponds and revived vegetation. Labuda cited more serious consequences on Matagorda I., where overrunning tides contaminated freshwater ponds. Beach erosion and loss of dunes extended to the upper coast. Inland, much-needed rain soaked the Rio Grande Delta and the coastal prairies (except upper coast) as far inland as Victoria, Beeville and Alice. Greatest rainfall amounts were reported at Alice and Raymondville, both with over 15 in., and in parts of Hidalgo County.

No general exodus of birds was reported from the threatened areas, but observers were denied access to beaches and roadways as tides rose. Birds were observed trying to forage as usual despite high winds. Waders and shorebirds were driven from flooded areas and tended to concentrate in more protected places where prey, similarly disturbed, appeared in good supply. Gulls and terns seemed more likely to drift inland, as following reports show.

That many birds failed to retreat in the face of the storm was evident from the number of carcasses found among the debris. No doubt that many birds and small mammals were concealed by debris piled on dunes and strewn along the sands by the storm surge.



Pulich surmised that beaching of debris peaked Aug. 12 on Mustang I. Victims included residents, migrants and storm-driven pelagics. The following combined list includes birds found by Arvin at Boca Chica beach near the mouth of the Rio Grande, by Whistler and associates on Padre Island Nat'l Seashore (hereafter, P.I.N.S.) and by Pulich on Mustang I., through Aug. 16: Brown Pelican (2), Green Heron (2), Little Blue Heron (3), Cattle Egret, Yellow-crowned Night Heron, several other heron species, Black-bellied Whistling Duck, Purple Gallinule (6), Am. Coot, Laughing Gull (3), Sooty Tern (4+), Least Tern, Black Tern (4), Black Skimmer (2), Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Purple Martin (2), White-necked Raven, Yellow Warbler, Great-tailed Grackle, and several finch and sparrow species. In addition to the above, a **Manx Shearwater** and a Brown Booby were picked up on the Mustang I. beach s. of Port Aransas Aug. 11 (AA), and one each of Cory's and Audubon's shear-

waters were found there Aug. 12 (WPU). An Audubon's Shearwater was found on P.I.N.S., Aug. 15 (*fide* RW). Fatalities were by no means confined to the Gulf beaches. Great Blue Herons were hard hit; 12 were found dead along the Laguna Madre adjacent to P.I.N.S. (RW), 20 in debris along a short stretch of beach at Flour Buff (*fide* EP), and 25 along with 17 Roseate Spoonbills at an undisclosed site out of Aransas Pass (E&NA, *fide* KM). A Great Blue Heron was found staggering about on the edge of Corpus Christi Bay during the storm; it had been blinded, but recovered sight in captivity (EP). Arvin reported the e. lane of the causeway at Port Isabel, S. Padre I., littered with 100 Barn and Cliff swallows and a few Purple Martins; apparently these migrants had been dashed against the bridge by hurricane winds. Arvin found a dead Brown Pelican 2 mi inland from Port Isabel.

While *Allen* was yet well at sea, news media reported many birds flying in the eye. There was little opportunity for birders to follow up on these reports as *Allen* made landfall pre-dawn and crossed wide-open country *en route* to Mexico. White set out to intercept the "eye," and was in the Falfurrias area around noon on Aug. 10 shortly after *Allen's* center passed a few mi to the s., but he saw only a Royal Tern sitting on the wet highway at the Brooks-Duval County line (a "first" for both counties) and two Laughing Gulls in a field. Three Royal Terns in McMullen County were another county first, but White found little else during the afternoon.

Taking into account reports of both dead and live birds of "key" species, it would seem that more pelagics accompanied the NE quadrant of this vast storm system, at least as far as the Coastal Bend. Frigatebird sightings were sprinkled along the c. coast for several days before the storm but sightings were more widespread after *Allen*. Largest single post-*Allen* count was 24 over Rockport beach Aug. 16 (C&HK). Several reports of boobies (most likely Blue-faced) on Mustang I. Aug. 11 were received (WPU). Perhaps most significant were observations of Sooty Terns, a very few of which nest in the Corpus Christi area. They were seen often on Mustang I., Aug. 10-14, as many as eight by one party (WPU), and were scattered about the Corpus Christi area (*fide* KM). A **Bridled Tern** on Mustang I., Aug. 11 (AA) was a major find.

Inland, most birds turned up at L. Casa Blanca just n.e. of Laredo, and at three lakes s. (Mitchell) and s.e. (Braunig and Calaveras) of San Antonio, about 140 mi n. of *Allen's* path. San Antonio records, submitted by Hanselmann and Sekula, are summarized as follows: Two Brown Pelicans Aug. 12-14; two Magnificent Frigatebirds Aug. 12 and one through Aug. 14; unspecified numbers of Herring and Ring-billed gulls; 42+ Laughing Gulls Aug. 12, dropping off through Aug. 16; five Forster's Terns (not necessarily storm-related) and several through Aug. 13; seven Sooty Terns Aug. 11 and one as late as Aug. 17; 12+ Least Terns (not necessarily storm-related) Aug. 11; two Royal Terns Aug. 11-13; and one Black Skimmer Aug. 14 and two Aug. 16. On Aug. 11 the Bohmfalks observed six frigatebirds flying SE over I-10 near Boerne, n.w. of San Antonio, suggesting that these birds were already returning coastward. The Bohmfalks first checked L. Casa

Blanca Aug. 12 and in addition to unusually large numbers of waders and shorebirds, found the following: three Magnificent Frigatebirds, five Laughing Gulls, about 15 Forster's Terns, an apparent Bridled Tern, 100± Least Terns, nine Royal Terns and two Black Skimmers. Three additional frigatebirds appeared the following day. One late frigatebird was seen on Canyon L., about 30 mi n. of San Antonio Aug. 15 (DHU).

As for the season overall, temperatures averaged slightly above normal until the last week of November when a wintry storm dropped snow and sleet on parts of s. Texas. Rainfall amounts were adequate in most sections until October but generally deficient thereafter.



Brown Booby, Port Aransas, Tex., Aug. 24, 1980. Photo/ Greg W. Lasley.

PELICANS THROUGH STORKS—A Brown Pelican, probably displaced by hurricane *Allen*, was seen on L. Travis, w. of Austin Sept. 17 (A&DO'D). The post-season loiterers at Port Isabel dropped from 65± to three as a result of *Allen*, but had rebuilt to 30 by Nov. 1 (JA). A sub-ad. Blue-faced Booby was seen over the surf at S. Padre I., Nov. 15 (JA). A Brown Booby was spotted off the Port Aransas jetty Aug. 24 (JL *et al.*). One observation of 2500 Anhingas w. of Corpus Christi Oct. 1 (TL) highlighted a good season. West of Corpus Christi 1760 Wood Ibises in flocks of 15-600 were reported Sept. 29 (*fide* KM).

WATERFOWL—An imm. Whistling Swan was at Austin Oct. 4 (J&BW). Black-bellied Whistling Ducks were unusually numerous in the Rockport area in late November; one feeding station had attracted 1000+ (WP1, *fide* CK). An aerial survey revealed a raft of 27,000± Pintails with 8500± Redheads on San Antonio Bay Nov. 6 (SL). Ten White-winged Scoters were seen off Mustang I. Oct. 31 (CC). A ♂ **Masked Duck** in partial breeding plumage was present on a pond in Hays County Sept. 20-28 (FSW *et al.*). Photographs by G. Lasley document this first regional record beyond the coastal prairies.

HAWKS—A group of seven Hook-billed Kites was seen frequently at Bentsen-Rio Grande Valley S.P., Nov. 16+ (JA *et al.*). A major flight of *Accipiters*, mostly Sharp-shinned Hawks, moved along the barrier islands in late September and early October.

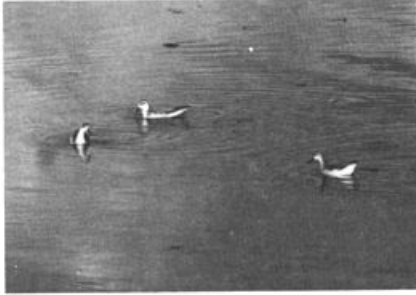


Masked Duck, Hays County, Tex., Sept. 20, 1980. Photo/Greg W. Lasley.

The chronological progression of the larger known Broad-winged Hawk flights follows: Sept. 20, 5000 birds left an overnight roost near Katy, w. Harris County (T&ME); Sept. 23, 23,269 sailed over Quail Valley, Corpus Christi area, in 6 hours; Sept. 24, two kettles of 1000 each seen over Quail Valley (*fide* KM); Sept. 25, 12,000 seen over w. Houston in a band 3 mi wide, most passing in a 10-min period (JGM); Sept. 27, 50 birders counted 10,000+ on the annual Nueces R. hawk watch; Sept. 29, 62,000 coming to roost for the night on the Nueces R., just w. of Corpus Christi (RM); Sept. 30, "thousands" passed over the Corpus Christi area, while "the skies were full of hawks all day" at Falfurrias (*fide* KM); Oct. 1, 40,000 near the Nueces R. (TL); Oct. 2, about 2000 coming in an evening roost s. of McAllen, Hidalgo County (JA); also Oct. 2, 50 Ospreys and 50+ small falcons (mostly Am. Kestrels) migrating over Port Aransas (WPU).

CRANES, JACANAS—The first returning Whooping Cranes, ten adults, were seen at Aransas N.W.R., Oct. 14. By Nov. 29, 73 adults and 6 juveniles were censused (SL). About 2300 Sandhill Cranes were at Laguna Atascosa N.W.R., in early November (HJ). A Jacana was discovered several miles n. of Edinburg Nov. 15 in a roadside rain pool left by hurricane *Allen*; it was present as late as Dec. 1 (JA, DD, HCM *et al.*)

SHOREBIRDS—Single Mountain Plovers were seen at Austin Oct. 5 (CA), and near Edinburg Nov. 22 (HCM *et al.*) where the species is particularly scarce. Two Baird's Sandpipers on Bolivar Flats Oct. 18 (TLE, JGM) were the first-ever in October on the upper coast. Short-billed Dowitchers were common on the Laguna Madre (landward) shore of S. Padre I., in late fall. Long-billed Dowitchers occurred in "all other locations" including the mainland side of Laguna Madre, "illustrating a clear-cut ecological separation in this area" (JA). Approximately 50 Long-billed were at Mitchell L., Aug. 1 (RAC). Noteworthy counts of Buff-breasted Sandpipers were of 68 at Austin Aug. 12 (VE, DHa), and 55 in Karnes County Aug. 15 (WS). A Hudsonian Godwit in w. Harris County Nov. 9-10 (VD, TLE) was quite unusual; there were only three previous fall records for the upper coast, and those in August. A Red Phalarope was found at Austin sewage ponds Sept. 25 (BW); two were present Sept. 28-29 (m.ob.) Wilson's Phalaropes were unusually abundant in August in wet fields around Rockport (C&HK). Single



Northern, Red and Wilson's phalaropes, Austin, Tex., Sept. 28, 1980. Photo/Greg Lasley.

N. Phalaropes (or the same bird) were seen at Austin occasionally Aug. 12- Sept. 29 (VE, DHA *et al.*). This fall, for a change, Austin did not have a monopoly on this species. One was present on N. Padre I., Sept. 27 (*vide* CC, ph. PY), and one was photographed at San Bernard N.W.R., Oct. 30 (JY).

JAEGERS THROUGH TERNS—A Pomarine Jaeger was spotted in the Gulf 45 mi s.e. of Port Aransas Oct. 9 (CC, CM, TP). A first-year Glaucous Gull was reported at the Bolivar ferry landing Nov. 16 (W&JR). A Lesser Black-backed Gull was seen at Brazos I. (across the pass from S. Padre I.) where one wintered last year, on the early date of Oct. 11; the bird remained through the fall (JA). A "dark-backed" gull was found in the Seabrook-Kemah area of Galveston Bay Nov. 22; m.ob. tended toward Great Black-backed Gull as a specific identification. A California Gull was identified on Bolivar Flats Oct. 26 (BBa, PS, BW). A Black-legged Kittiwake was photographed at Seabrook Nov. 27-29 (W&JR). Several thousand Black and Least terns occupied the P.I.N.S. beaches Sept. 13 (WPU). Many flocks of Black Terns, totalling up to 500 birds, were observed from 20+ mi at sea from Port Aransas Oct. 9 (CC).

PIGEONS THROUGH HUMMINGBIRDS—A Band-tailed Pigeon, representing only the second record for the upper coast, was on Bolivar Pen., Oct. 25 (BBa, PS, BW). A Flammulated Owl, apparently in migration, appeared in Port Aransas Oct. 30 (SHo,



Flammulated Owl in palm tree, Port Aransas, Tex., Oct. 30, 1980. Photo/ Julie Kinney.

WHN); it was photographed in a palm tree by Kinney. This w. species had never been reported anywhere near South Texas. At least five ♀ Chuck-will's-widows were spotted at sea on a trip to the fishing banks up to 45-50 mi e. of Port Aransas Aug. 23 (G&BL). One crashed head first into the boat as though unaware of its presence. An Anna's x *Selasphorus* (Rufous or Allen's) hummingbird hybrid was at Austin during much of November (BBa, GL, CS). It was netted, photographed, and recorded. A ♂ Calliope Hummingbird was at a feeder in San Antonio Aug. 7-9 (EU *et al.*), providing a Bexar County first. A ♀-plumaged Broad-billed Hummingbird was in the McAllen area Aug. 8-15 (JA). Except for a 1962 report, also from Hidalgo County, there were no previous sightings for South Texas. Arvin commented that this species is common in the Cerralvo region of Nuevo Leon, Mexico 100+ mi w. of McAllen.



Calliope Hummingbird, San Antonio, Tex., Aug. 9, 1980. Photo/ R.L. Cope.

WOODPECKERS THROUGH JAYS—A coastal movement of Red-bellied Woodpeckers was noted on the upper coast in October, but more numerous were reports of Downy Woodpeckers in coastal migrant traps (*vide* JGM). An influx of Red-headed Woodpeckers was noted at Rockport and nearby areas after a cold front in mid-October (CC, C&HK). An unusually large movement of Scissor-tailed Flycatchers was evident along the coastal prairies from Houston to the Rio Grande Delta in mid-October, with numerous reports of hundreds and thousands along roadways. A Great Crested Flycatcher was among passerines migrating over Gulf waters, up to 50 mi from Port Aransas Aug. 23 (G&BL). Single Ash-throated Flycatchers were seen at Houston Aug. 24-31 (WC), and at Galveston Sept. 21 (BBe, MAC), first August and September records for the upper coast. Additional singles were on Bolivar Pen., Nov. 2 (VE, DW *et al.*), and in w. Harris County Nov. 30 (BE, CJ). *Empidonax* flycatchers moved in large numbers on the upper coast in late August and during September. About 400 E. Wood Pewees were counted on Bolivar Pen., Sept. 26-28 (BF *et al.*). Swallows swarmed over Mitchell L., Aug. 26 with 450 ± Bank and 2000 ± Barn swallows estimated (JAM). Every few years non-resident Blue Jays invade the Region. Such a year was signaled by 3 flocks of 15 birds each migrating through the rice fields of w. Harris County Oct. 12 (TLE). Within a few days jays had overrun the Coastal Bend (*vide* KM); 50+ were observed at one spot on Lamar Pen., Rockport area (RC, *vide* CK). On Oct. 20, a dozen were observed at Port Aransas (WPU).

NUTHATCHES THROUGH THRUSHES—Red-breasted Nuthatches came much earlier and in greater numbers than usual to the upper coast where this species has been uncommon in recent years; a total of 36 birds was reported in October (*vide* TLE). Brown Creepers totalled an amazing 86 in October on the upper coast; they usually arrive in November (*vide* TLE). There was a "veritable invasion" of creepers in far South Texas. Prior to this fall Arvin had only one record in 25 years, but "this fall two or three can be seen any day at Santa Ana N.W.R., or Bentsen Park." His first were three Oct. 25 in weeds and small bushes on S. Padre I.! A heavy migration of Brown Thrashers was noted on the upper coast Oct. 3-5, with 1100 reported Oct. 3 (BF, LR, m.ob.) This movement was apparent even on S. Padre I., where two were seen Oct. 4. (JA). American Robins poured onto the coast in late November, appearing in large numbers in the Corpus Christi area (KM) and on P.I.N.S. (RW) with a cold front Nov. 19-20. Many robins were found in the vicinity of Santa Ana N.W.R., on the Mexican border, Nov. 23 (HCM). A Swainsons Thrush at Austin (JS), and a Veeryon Bolivar Pen. (BF *et al.*), Sept. 27 were unusual for fall.

KINGLETS THROUGH SHRIKES—Golden-crowned Kinglets suddenly recovered from several near-zero seasons. On the upper coast October's combined count was 57, compared with only one in 1979 and none in 1977 and 1978 (*vide* TLE). They could be seen along the Rio Grande by late November. The presence of Cedar Waxwings in South Texas in August is almost unheard of; however, a small flock was seen at Calaveras L., Aug. 13 (T&SJ), others at a park in San Antonio Aug. 17 (SHa, TH). Two Phainopeplas were reported visiting a feeder at Beeville in early August (*vide* GB). Loggerhead Shrike counts were usually high on the coast; e.g., 300 between Corpus Christi and Aransas N.W.R., some in "bunches" Oct. 12 (E&NA), and 175 in w. Harris County Oct. 25 (JGM).

WARBLERS—Birders are beginning to realize that stack-ups in coastal migrant traps in fall can rival those during spring migration. A late September cold front followed by an upper level low pressure system with rain (JGM), provided perfect conditions for stacking of passerines. Feltner and party found 75 Canada Warblers at High I., Sept. 26 in rain. The following morning, in a grove on Bolivar Pen., they counted 170 Black-and-white Warblers and 350 Am. Redstarts in 1.5 hours. Feltner noted the behavior of birds as follows: "Warblers were riding the wind out of the n.e. in small groups of 5-10. As they neared the Gulf, they dropped down and turned into the wind, coming into the grove from the Gulf side. It was obvious that they were reluctant to fly across the open sea even with a 15 m.p.h. tailwind. The fact that it was still raining all around us probably held the birds in check." Rarer warbler sightings included: Chestnut-sided Warbler at Austin Oct. 1 (FSW); Bay-breasted Warbler on S. Padre I., Oct. 4 (JA) and at Austin Oct. 26 (CS, BL); Blackpoll Warbler at High I., Oct. 25 (BBa, PS, BW); and Prairie Warbler at S. Padre I., Oct. 4 (JA).

BOBOLINK THROUGH TANAGERS—Very rare in fall, a Bobolink was seen Nov. 1 in a meadow behind the dunes of S. Padre I. (JA) An imm. bird well-described as a **Black-vented (Wagler's) Oriole** was found in brush about 8 mi n. of San Ygnacio, Zapata County Aug 14 (LDB). This neotropical species occurs in highlands of n.e. Mexico and has occurred in Big Bend N.P. An imm. ♂ **Scott's Oriole** was photographed at San Bernard N W R., Oct. 10 (JY). Unexpected tanagers were a ♂ Western at Port Aransas Nov. 2 (WPu), and a ♀ Hepatic at Palmetto S.P., Sept 28 (JS).

FRINGILLIDS—All seedeaters, including the resident Pyrrhuloxias, were scarce or absent in Starr and Zapata counties because of severe drought (JA). The first report of Pine Siskins came from S. Padre I. Nov. 1 (JA). An early Savannah Sparrow was at Port Aransas Oct. 1 (WPu). A Le Conte's Sparrow was seen 82 mi at sea on a trip out of

Galveston Oct 25 (m ob) Sharp-tailed Sparrows were found at Rockport Oct. 30 (C&HK), and on S. Padre I., Nov. 1 (JA). A Dark-eyed Junco at High I., Oct. 12 was the earliest-ever for the upper coast (BF, LR). A **Brewer's Sparrow** was closely observed on Bolivar Pen., Oct. 10 (BF *et al.*); there is a previous (1950) report for the upper coast. Lincoln's Sparrows came early, first noted in Austin Oct. 1 (FSW), and they had appeared at Port Aransas by Oct. 5 (WPu). Song Sparrows were unusually numerous in w. Harris County in November.

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NORTHWESTERN CANADA REGION

/ Helmut Grünberg

Through low temperatures in the first half of fall and relatively high temperatures in the second half, especially in November, summer ended early and winter was delayed considerably in Whitehorse during the four-month fall season. Precipitation was fairly high, particularly in September and November.

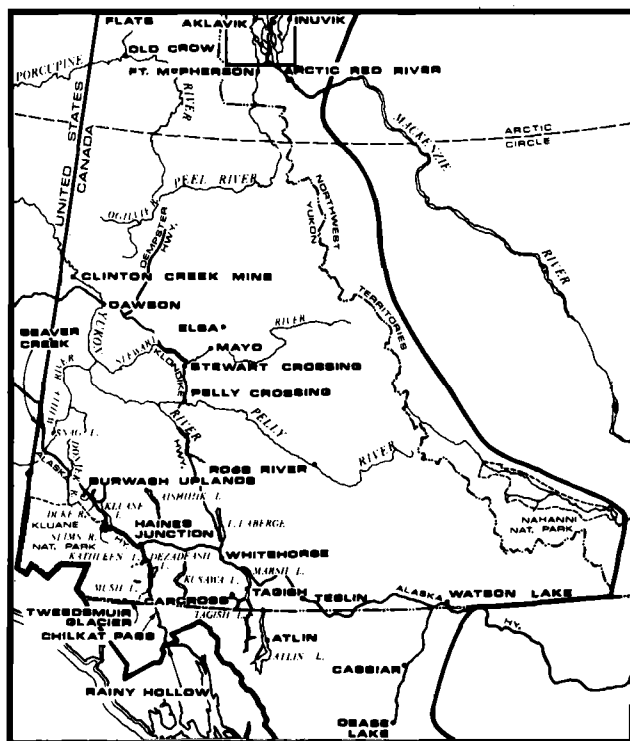
Observers from the Yukon, northern British Columbia and Northwest Territories reported 146 species, fewer than expected. Normally common or uncommon species that were overlooked, whose habitat was not visited by observers or which might have been unusually rare were: Canvasback, Redhead, Common Eider, Blue Grouse, Sora, American Coot, Black-bellied Plover, both turnstones, Whimbrel, Upland Sandpiper, all three jaeger species, Glaucous Gull, Boreal Owl, Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker, Alder and Least flycatchers, Gray-cheeked Thrush, Townsend's and Blackpoll warblers, Brown-headed Cowbird and Smith's Longspur.

LOONS THROUGH WATERFOWL—Two ad. Arctic Loons with a downy young were seen near Ross River and three adults were at km 291, Canol Rd., Y.T., Aug. 1 (RCan). One Arctic Loon was noted at Horseshoe Slough, upper Stewart R., Aug. 20 (HG), and one was observed on the Yukon R. in Whitehorse Nov. 2 (HG, DMu, SO). Two Red-throated Loons were reported from km 119, Dempster Hwy., Aug. 11 (RCan). Red-throated Loons in numbers of one to seven were seen almost daily on the upper Stewart R., from the headwaters to Fraser Falls Aug. 2-21 (HG, LH, TS, MW). One was observed at Bennett L., near Carcross Sept 6 (RCar) and one at Stella L., Haines Rd., Oct. 1 (TM, RW). A rare W. Grebe was

observed at Graham Inlet, n. B.C., Sept. 4 (MB).

The largest number of Whistling Swans observed this fall was seen when 4 flocks totaling 282 birds were flying towards Teslin L., at Johnson's Crossing. Many more flocks were heard in the same area Oct. 13 (HG). In addition to these Whistlers, six Trumpeter Swans and 28 "probable" Trumpeters were observed here Oct. 13 (HG). Two adult and two downy young Trumpeter Swans were seen on Ortell L., upper Stewart R., Aug. 6 (HG, LH, TS, MW). Two adult and five immature swans were seen as late as Nov. 9 on Marsh L. (H&SG).

The unusual sighting of > 5000 (Black) Brant was reported from L. Laberge. The birds were flying over the lake; 500 landed and were identified at close range approximately Aug. 20 (RS). A single Snow Goose associated with Canada Geese and later with Mallards, was observed on the upper Stewart R., Aug. 7 (HG, LH, TS, MW). At least 30 were seen flying over Whitehorse Aug. 15 (RCar). Many flocks of Snow Geese, totaling > 1000 birds, were noted near the MacKenzie R., in the Canol Rd. area Sept. 18-20 (RF). One hundred Snow Geese were seen Sept. 17 and four birds of the blue phase Sept. 18 at L. One, Wood Buffalo Nat'l P. (SO). Three



possible Black Scoters were reported from a marsh along the Haines Rd., s. of Klukshu Sept. 24 (PE, TM). Two Ruddy Ducks, rare in the Yukon, were identified on a lake at the Carcross Rd., Oct. 20 (RCar, NW).

HAWKS THROUGH PTARMIGAN—Two Swainson's Hawks were identified in the Pickhandle L. area Sept. 1 (WH). One dark-phase individual appeared at Kathleen L., Sept. 4 (RCar), and one light-phase bird was sighted 30 km n.w. of Whitehorse in late November (RCar, NW). At least 31 Golden Ea-

gles were counted in 2 hours as they migrated SE over the highest peaks of the Big Salmon Range near the S. Canol Rd., Oct. 19 (HG, TT). Two Ospreys were noted near Pickhandle L., Sept. 1 (WH). Gyrfalcons were reported as follows: a pair showing territorial behavior in the Hart R. area Aug. 4, a few at Blackstone R., three along the Canol Rd., between the Yukon/N.W.T. border and MacKenzie R., a family of three or four at Carcajou L., N.W.T., Sept. 10-12 (RF), one at "Swan L.," 20 km n. of Whitehorse Aug. 31 (HG). Two families of Peregrine Falcons (four and four or five birds, respectively) were observed in the c. Yukon Aug. 5-7, and one imm. bird was seen along the Canol Rd., N.W.T., Aug. 23 (RF). One probable observation was reported from Wood Buffalo Nat'l P., Aug. 18 (SO). One Peregrine was seen along the Stewart R., w. of Mayo Aug. 24 (HG).

Common grouse and ptarmigan species seemed to have been fairly low in numbers this fall in many areas (m.ob.). Sharp-tailed Grouse were reported locally quite numerous along the n.e. section of the Canol Rd., N.W.T. (near Little Keele R., and near MacKenzie R.), in September (RF). This species was also seen at Klewi R., Wood Buffalo Nat'l P., Oct. 10 (SO). None was reported for the Yukon this season. There were only a few observations of Rock Ptarmigan in the Wernecke Mts., e. Ogilvie Mts., and MacKenzie Mts., to Carcajou Range (RF). In the Big Salmon Range 35 White-tailed Ptarmigan were noted at 1500 m elevation near the S. Canol Rd., Oct. 19 (HG, TT). Five were observed at Sheep Mt., Kluane Nat'l P., Oct. 31 (EB, JS).

SHOREBIRDS THROUGH WOODPECKERS—A Wandering Tattler was seen near km 320, Canol Rd., N.W.T., Aug. 23 and several Baird's Sandpipers at km 339-347 Aug. 20-21 (RF). Two Sanderlings were spotted at Bennett L., near Carcross Sept. 6 (RCar). The rare Red Phalarope was reported from the Haines Rd. A flock of ten birds was observed here Aug. 3-4 (DS).

A Caspian Tern was seen near Yellowknife in August (DMu). The only Short-eared Owl reported was observed near Kluane L., at Kluane R., Oct. 13 (WH). A Great Gray Owl was noted at Duke R., Sept. 1 (WH), and a probable Great Gray Owl was heard briefly 10 km n. of Whitehorse Oct. 30 (HG). There were 11 ± Hawk Owl sightings in the s. and c. Yukon as well as seven observations between km 192 and 296, Canol Rd., N.W.T., by 11 observers.

The last ♀ Rufous Hummingbird of the season at Graham Inlet was observed Aug. 9 (MB). However, two ♀ Rufous Hummingbirds were seen as late as Sept. 12 & 16 in Atlin, B.C. (MR & NS, *vide* MB). A Pileated Woodpecker was observed at L. One, Wood Buffalo Nat'l P., Sept. 17 (SO). Two to four Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers were noted at Woodpecker Pt., upper Stewart R., Aug. 14-15 (M & PBe, HG). One ♂ Yellow-bellied Sapsucker was seen at Wilson Slough, upper Stewart R., Aug. 16 (HG, TS). One or two Hairy Woodpeckers were seen regularly throughout the season at a feeder in n.w. Whitehorse (DS). One was observed near km

6, Dempster Hwy, in late October (RF). A ♀ Downy Woodpecker was seen 15 times at a feeder in n.w. Whitehorse (DS). One ♀ Downy appeared at a feeder in Haines Jct., Nov. 20 (EB).

PERCHING BIRDS—An E. Kingbird visited Johnson's Crossing, Alaska Hwy., Aug. 17 (RCan). A pair of E. Phoebes nested in Yellowknife (DMu). This species, not known to occur in the Yukon, was also reported by GG from Yellowknife in August. A possible Yellow-bellied Flycatcher (unverified, not calling) was seen 20 km n. of Whitehorse Aug. 31 (HG). A Dusky Flycatcher was heard calling in Mayo Aug. 13 (RCan). Tree Swallows, not reported for the Yukon this season, were seen 15 km outside of Yellowknife (DMu).

One or two **Mountain Chickadees**, a rare species in the Yukon and unreported for many years, were seen 6 times Nov. 11-30 in n.w. Whitehorse at a feeder (DS). A Wheat-ear was observed on Gray Mt., near Whitehorse Sept. 9 (CO). Ten Starlings were reported from Yellowknife during the fall season (DMu), and two were seen at Johnson's Crossing Oct. 13 (HG). The last Starling observation near Dawson was that of two birds Oct. 16 (RF), and one was noted at the Destruction Bay dump until Nov. 26 (WH).

During the migration of warblers, a few Palm Warblers were seen at timberline near km 184, Canol Rd., N.W.T., Sept. 6 and three, with Yellow-rumps, near km 117 Sept. 10 (RF). House Sparrows were reported from Yellowknife during August to mid-September (GG). This species occurs only accidentally in the Yukon. Pine Grosbeaks, common in the Yukon, were also seen in the Northwest Territories. Unspecified numbers were at the Canol Rd., near km 96 Sept. 14 and at the MacKenzie R., Sept. 19 (RF) as well as four birds in the Yellowknife area (DMu). Four were noted at the edge of the Salt Plains in Wood Buffalo Nat'l P., Oct. 18 (SO). A Gray-crowned Rosy Finch was observed in the Big Salmon Range near the S. Canol Rd. at 1500 m elevation Oct. 19 (HG, TT). Redpolls and crossbills were scarce in the Yukon this season. About 15 Hoary Redpolls appeared regularly at a feeder in Yellowknife together with 15 ± Com. Redpolls (DMu). A Harris' Sparrow was sighted at km 216, Canol Rd., N.W.T., Sept. 2 (RF). Six Harris' Sparrows and one White-throated Sparrow were observed at a feeder in Yellowknife in late August (DMu).

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NORTHERN ROCKY MOUNTAIN-INTERMOUNTAIN REGION

/Thomas H. Rogers

The fall season in the Region, insofar as one can generalize over this vast area, was mild, sunny and dry, although many subregions deviated markedly from this pattern. Lack of any major storms allowed the late lingering of many summer residents. Some northern birds seemed in no hurry to move down yet others arrived early and/or in unusual numbers. As the result of a cool, moist growing season, food supplies appeared good and water levels quite high. Many unusual sightings occurred, probably at least partly owing to more people spending more time afield.

LOONS AND GREBES—Three Arctic Loons were on L. Lenore, Grant Co., Wash., Nov. 8-9 (JA & BW) and a Red-throated Loon was observed at length on Alice L., 8 mi s.w. of Obsidian in Sawtooth N.R.A., Ida., Aug. 12 (DJ *et al.*). Ten Red-necked Grebes, including immatures, were on Spectacle L., near Loomis, Wash., Aug. 19 (EH) and one was on Conconully Res., Conconully, Wash., Sept. 7 (GB & DH). At Kootenai N.W.R., Bonners Ferry, Ida., the species tarried until Sept. 20, a late date there (LN). A Horned Grebe, seldom seen in s.w. Idaho, appeared Oct. 18 at Boise (MC). The largest gathering of W. Grebes was of 47 on Winchester Wasteway w. of Moses L., Wash., Oct. 11 (RF).

PELICANS THROUGH IBISES—The highest count for the year for White Pelicans at N. Potholes-Potholes Res., s.w. of Moses L., was 150 Aug. 22 (RF). Hadley Roberts had his second sighting ever of the species at Salmon, Ida., Oct. 31-Nov. 3. About 100 dropped into Umatilla N.W.R., Umatilla Co., Ore., in late September and stayed through mid-October (CC *et al.*). Nesting pairs of Double-crested Cormorants at Malheur N.W.R., Burns, Ore., numbered 180 vs 80 in 1979. Cattle Egrets continued to spread into the Region. One was sighted near Pater-son, Wash., Oct. 28 (FM) and one was in W. Richland, Wash., Nov. 13-Dec. 4 (RW *et al.*). At Wapato, Wash., two stayed for several weeks in November (W.D.G., Y.A.S.). Nampa, Ida., had five, the largest group so far for that area, Nov. 10-15 (A&HL, NS). One was near Helena, Mont., Sept. 20-22 for that area's first (AH & PDS) and one at Townsend, Mont., Oct. 4 was the second there (PN *et al.*). Malheur N.W.R., had two Aug. 14. In British Columbia four were at Nakusp on Upper Arrow L., s. of Revelstoke Nov. 9 (GD), two appeared at Genelle near Trail Nov. 10 (ME), one at Golden Nov. 9 (FK) and one at Oliver in mid-November (SC). Great Egret sightings were becoming more common in s.w. Idaho. One was at Ft. Boise Aug. 9 (AL) and Deer Flat N.W.R., Nampa, hosted five Aug. 27 with one until Nov. 30 (EB). That refuge also had a Snowy Egret Aug. 17 (EB) and three were at C.J. Strike Res., near Bruneau, Ida., Sept. 13 (AL,

G.E.A.S.). One was at McNary N.W.R., Burbank, Wash., Sept. 13 for Woodley's second local record and another was along the Columbia R., a few mi below the Vernita Bridge Oct. 7 (AM). One at Red Rock Lakes N.W.R., Lima, Mont., in late August was a rarity there (RS). White-faced Ibis did extremely well at Malheur with 600 nesting pairs, up from 150 in 1979. An Am. Bittern at Wallowa L., Wallowa Co., Ore., provided only the second county record in the last 5 years (FC).

WATERFOWL—Whistling Swan numbers at Malheur peaked at 5000 in late November. Trumpeter Swans there had an average nesting year with 15 young produced. Trumpeters' success at Red Rock Lakes N.W.R., was the lowest on record, with only six cygnets fledged, compared to 52 last year. Cold, wet weather, with many nests flooded, was blamed. The tri-state aerial survey in that area Sept. 2-5 found 462 adults and 23 cygnets, compared to last year's 403 and 86. An orange-collared bird from Alberta remained on the refuge during the summer and a green-collared bird from Red Rock Lakes was reported paired with an unmarked swan on Albino L., in Gallatin N.F., n.w. of Yellowstone N.P. (RS). Three Trumpeters stopped at sewage ponds at St. Joseph, Ore., Nov. 1 (FC).

Canada Goose numbers peaked at 9110 in October at Columbia N.W.R., Othello, Wash., and at 9350 at Deer Flat N.W.R., Nov. 30. White-fronted Goose numbers at Malheur reached 3000 in late September. Several Tule White-fronted Geese, some with blue collars, from the recently-discovered Alaska colony, appeared at Turnbull N.W.R., Cheney, Wash. (JR). Three White-fronteds were at Tranquille, B.C., Sept. 21 (RH) and Deer Flat had up to eight (EB). Snow Goose numbers were down at Malheur, the highest number was 850 Nov. 6.

Mallard numbers at Deer Flat were slightly lower than last year, with 205,000 at November's end, probably owing to warm weather in Alberta. Lake Helena, Mont., had 10,000 ducks, mostly Mallards, in late November (SM). On the n. Idaho aerial count Nov. 15 Mallards peaked at > 10,000 on the Coeur d' Alene, Pend Oreille and St. Joe Rivers (I.F.G.). Total duck numbers at Columbia N.W.R., reached > 72,000 in November. At Minidoka N.W.R., Rupert, Ida., ducks totalled 81,000, close to normal, but Pintails were down, with only 11,000 (JHi). Duck production at Turnbull was down about 33%, probably due to the ashfall from Mt. St. Helens (JR). Three Eur. Wigeon were on Carty Res., at the Boardman, Ore., power plant, the only ones reported (RK). A Ring-necked Duck at Bruneau Sand Dunes S.P., Bruneau, Ida., Nov. 1 was the first for s.w. Idaho (A&HL). Canvasbacks at Minidoka showed a good 4200 and 200 at Bruneau Sand Dunes S.P. made good news (CH). A Greater Scaup was on the Chewelah, Wash., sewage ponds for the first positive record there (EH & JN). McNary N.W.R., had an ad. ♂ White-winged Scoter Oct. 11 (WS & GV) and one was at Kootenai N.W.R., Oct. 29 (LN). Two of this species at Minidoka Oct. 16 were noteworthy (WHS). Up to 12 were on L. Lenore, Grant Co., Wash., Nov. 6-9 along with 1-6 Surf Scoters (JA, RF, BW) and one

of the latter was on the Methow R., n. of Pateros, Wash. (GB). A ♀ Harlequin Duck and six young were on Sullivan Cr., e. of Metaline Falls, Wash., Aug. 3 (BW) and one stopped at a pond near Ellensburg, Wash., Nov. 28 (Y.A.S.). In s. Idaho three Hooded Mergansers were on L. Walcott on the Snake R., Nov. 22 (CT) and five were on the Weiser R., near Weiser Nov. 15 (CHO *et al.*). Saddle Mountain N.W.R., w. of Othello, Wash., hosted 2000 Com. Mergansers Oct. 26 (EH).

VULTURES AND HAWKS

A Turkey Vulture flew over downtown Kamloops, B.C., on the late date of Oct. 28 (AF) and a concentration of at least 15 was between Valley and Springdale, Wash., in mid-August (JN). A minutely described **Broad-winged Hawk** was observed n.e. of Sullivan L., in Pend Oreille Co., Wash., Aug. 31 (JA & RWi) for apparently the first state record. The Bridger Mt. hawk watch 10 mi n.e. of Bozeman, Mont., counted two of these birds Sept. 17 (FT) and three Sept. 26 (FT, DS, PDS). Most of the Ferruginous Hawk sightings were at Henry's L., n.e. Fremont Co., Ida., with 56, mostly immatures there Sept. 1. They apparently gathered there rather than at Kilgore, another staging area to the w., where only five were found (CT). A very few of the birds appeared in c. Washington and e. Oregon and two were seen over Boulder, Mont., Nov. 10 & 12 (G&NN). By mid-November up to 17 Bald Eagles were feeding on whitefish along the Kootenai and Fisher Rivers in Lincoln Co., Mont., and by late November 200-300 had migrated through the area (CW). Bald Eagle numbers on lower McDonald Cr., Glacier N.P., Mont., reached a peak of 377 Nov. 5 (JD).

The Bridger Mt. hawk watch Sept. 16-Nov. 4 recorded a total of 563 raptors of 14 species. Golden Eagle came up with the top number of 211 and Sharp-shinned Hawk was second with 152. The biggest day, Sept. 17, had 45 Sharp-shinned and 17 Cooper's hawks and the runnerup was Sept. 26 with 30 Golden Eagles and 25 Sharp-shinned (FT, DS, PDS, JS). The Region produced only one Gyrfalcon and three Peregrine reports.

GROUSE THROUGH TURKEYS—Blue, Spruce and Ruffed grouse evidently had a poor hatch in Kootenai N.F., and the last species showed poor success at Kootenai N.W.R., and in n. Pend Oreille County, Wash. Cool, wet weather and possibly volcanic ash were involved. However, the Ketchum, Ida. area was reported as having an increase in Ruffed and Blue grouse (WHS). Blue Grouse showed high numbers in the mountains of n. Pend Oreille County (JN) but the hatch of this species in the Salmon, Ida. area was down (HR). Sage and Sharp-



tailed grouse were considered quite plentiful in the Rupert, Ida. vicinity (WHS) but Sage Grouse numbers s. of Twin Falls, Ida., seemed to have decreased markedly (EBa). There were three reports of Turkeys 5 mi s. of Kimberly, B.C. (MW).

CRANES THROUGH COOT—The earliest Sandhill Crane movement noted was at Salmon, Ida., with 17 birds Aug. 7 (HR) but the migration was mostly in September and October. At Penticton, B.C., 1200± flew past in about 1.5 hrs Sept. 21 (JG). Their numbers reached 2157 at Malheur N.W.R., Oct. 19. Only 34 young were produced there this summer. At least two Sandhills summered in a swampy meadow w. of Rogerson, Ida. (EBa) and two were seen near Seneca, Ore., July 15 (RP).

S.A.

Of the 15 Whooping Cranes known to have migrated N from their New Mexico wintering grounds, eight were found summering in s. Idaho, three were in the Upper Green R. drainage w. of Pinedale, Wyo., one was in the Bear R. Valley near Cokeville, Wyo., and one summered at Antero Res., Park Co., Colo. Five young reared by Sandhill Crane foster parents at Grays Lake N.W.R., Caribou Co., Ida., departed with their foster parents Oct. 1-9. Four had reached wintering grounds at or near Bosque del Apache N.W.R., N. Mex., by Nov. 30. Sub-adult Whoopers migrated almost a month later than the young of the year and 12 had reached the wintering area by Nov. 30 (RD).

Top "rarity" honors went to the **Common Gallinule**. One was picked up dead on the road near Castleford, Ida., Aug. 15 (NO & JRu) and another was sighted at a pond on Skookumchuck Prairie near Kimberly, B.C., Aug. 14 (MW). American Coot numbers on aerial surveys of the Coeur d' Alene, Pend Oreille and St. Joe Rivers in n. Idaho showed a big decline, with only 5000

recorded, the lowest in at least the last 6 years (I.F.G.).

SHOREBIRDS—A Semipalmated Plover at Wasa Sloughs near Kimberley, B.C., apparently a new locality for the species, appeared Aug. 13 and stayed about a week (MW). One was seen near Cataldo Sept. 21 for the first fall record for n. Idaho since 1953 and one of very few for that part of the state (SGS). The only Washington report was of one at Reardan Aug. 31 (BJ). The only Am. Golden Plovers reported were three at Penticton, B.C., Sept. 23 (SC) and at least six at Cold Springs N.W.R., Umatilla Co., Ore., Sept. 21 (JE, MCo *et al.*). A few Black-bellied Plovers were seen moving down from the s. Okanagan at Penticton, through e. Washington to n.c. Oregon (Cold Springs). A notable concentration of at least 20 was at N. Potholes Res., Sept. 21-22 (GSB, SR). Trail, B.C., had a Ruddy Turnstone Sept. 1 (ME). An impressive flock of 200 Com. Snipe was at Rocky Pt., Upper Klamath L., Ore., Oct. 26 (SS). Up to 600 Long-billed Curlews were gathering for migration at the Boardman, Ore., power plant July 8; 200 were still there July 29 (RK). The last fall birds at Malheur were seen Aug. 25 but the Yakima R. delta near Richland, Wash., had one Sept. 14, about 6 weeks later than any previous date there (RW, Y.A.S.). Whimbrel, very rare in the Region, appeared at 2 localities. Five were at McKay Creek N.W.R., Umatilla, Co., Ore., Aug. 13 (SG) and one stopped at L. Helena Sept. 24 for the second record there (SM). The only Upland Sandpiper report was of one in Logan Valley, Grant Co., Ore., Aug. 11, apparently a late date (SG). Willets were reported only at Malheur N.W.R., eight including four young Aug. 2 (RP). The N. Potholes had at least 20 Pectoral Sandpipers Sept. 21-22 (GSB & SR). A few other sightings were mostly in e. Washington. A few Baird's Sandpipers were noted moving through e. Washington and Oregon. The largest concentration was of 15 at the mouth of Ladd Cr., near La Grande, Ore., Aug. 11 (JE & GS). Malheur had ten Aug. 6 and the N. Potholes had six Sept. 21-22 (GSB & SR). Seven were at Wenas Res., n.w. of Yakima Aug. 27 (EH) and the Yakima delta had one Sept. 14 (Y.A.S.).

Three sightings of Stilt Sandpipers were apparently the first ever for e. Oregon. One was at Cold Springs N.W.R., Sept. 6 (CC, MCo, NB); one was photographed at Miller I., near Klamath Falls Sept. 13-18 (SS), and one was sighted at Summer Lake N.W.R., Lake County Sept. 28 (DI). One was at Harrison, Mont., Aug. 27 and 2-3 were at Belgrade, Mont., Sept. 10-24 (PDS & SC) for the only other records. A winter-plumaged Semipalmated Sandpiper at the mouth of Ladd Cr., La Grande Aug. 11 (JE & GS) and one at Cold Springs N.W.R., Aug. 26 (CC, MCo, NB) were supposedly the first for e. Oregon. A **Buff-breasted Sandpiper** at Knutsford, B.C., Sept. 14 was apparently the first ever for that area (RH). Single Marbled Godwits, rare in the Region, were sighted at Malheur Aug. 1 (RP), at Cold Springs Sept. 6 (CC, MCo, JE, RW), at McKay Creek N.W.R. Aug. 13 and in the Nampa area (G.E.A.S.). Impressive numbers of Sanderlings showed up, N. Potholes Res. recording 80 Sept. 21-22

(GSB & SR). The Yakima delta had a "large flock" Sept. 14 (Y.A.S.) and nine Sept. 20 (RW). Cold Springs counted eight birds Sept. 14-21 (CC, MCo, JE) and two at Wallowa L. furnished the county's first record (FC). Harrison L., Harrison, Mont., had six Sept. 24 (FT, PDS, JS). At least 2000 Am. Avocets were at Malheur N.W.R., Aug. 6. Thirty lingered at N. Potholes Res., until the late date of Sept. 22 (GSB & SR). Black-necked Stilts were reported only for Malheur (RP) and the Rupert, Ida. area (WHS). A **Red Phalarope** was identified at the mouth of the Walla Walla R., Wallula, Wash., Oct. 11 (WS & GV) and one was collected at the N. Potholes Sept. 21 or 22 (*W.S.U., GSB & SR).

JAEGERS THROUGH TERNS—A **Parasitic Jaeger** at Wallowa L., Sept. 10 was the first for n.e. Oregon (CCa). Three were at Malheur Aug. 31 (JB) and one was sighted Oct. 8 there. A "huge, dark" imm. jaeger on the n. edge of Am. Falls Res., near Springfield, Ida., Sept. 20 was suspected of being a Pomarine (CT *et al.*). It would be the state's



Long-tailed Jaeger, Wilsall, Mont., Sept. 21, 1980. Photo/P.D. Skaar.

third. An ad. **Long-tailed Jaeger** photographed at Wilsall, Mont., Sept. 21 furnished the state's fifth record and the first for s.c. Montana (PDS, JS, ETH, SCo). A Glaucous-winged Gull, rare inland, was at Kamloops, B.C., Nov. 30 (RH). Herring Gulls were reported for the Nampa area, two Aug. 5 and eight Oct. 25 (G.E.A.S.). Libby Dam n.e. of Libby, Mont., had up to 17 Ring-billed Gulls during late summer-early fall (CW). Twenty-five were along lower McDonald Cr., below L. McDonald, Glacier N.P., until about Nov. 12 (JD). A Mew Gull was sighted at Kamloops Nov. 9 (RH) and an adult appeared at Klamath Falls Nov. 7-22 (SS). A Franklin's Gull was at the mouth of the Walla Walla R., Oct. 11 (WS & GV) and an imm. bird was sighted s. of Klamath Falls Sept. 29 (SS). Bonaparte's Gulls appeared briefly at Kootenai N.W.R., with five there Oct. 10 and 30 arriving in early November stayed 2 weeks (LN). A single bird was sighted at Rocky Reach Dam on the Columbia R., n. of Wenatchee Oct. 22 (PC) and one was seen 7 mi w. of Davenport, Wash., Nov. 6 (JH). Ennis, Mont., had ten Nov. 2 (PDS & DS). A Sabine's Gull was photographed at the Boardman power plant Sept. 12 (RK) and one was collected at the N. Potholes Sept. 21 or 22 (*W.S.U., GSB & SR). Summer Lake N.W.R., had one Sept. 28 (DI). A Com. Tern at Cold Springs N.W.R., Sept. 13 was the first for n.e. Oregon (CC, NB).

PIGEONS THROUGH HUMMINGBIRDS—The only Band-tailed Pigeon report was of one along the Link R., at Klamath Falls Oct. 24 (SS). Oregon had three sightings of Yellow-billed Cuckoos. One was at Adrian Aug. 3 (*vide* RP) and two that appeared Aug. 6 in La Grande remained through the month for the second county record (SCr, m.ob.). One 5 mi n. of Imnaha Aug. 31 was the first for Wallowa County (JE).

Two observations of Flammulated Owls were made in Wallowa County (SG & MM) and one in Union County, Ore. (RR). One was photographed at the Davenport, Wash. cemetery, an unlikely spot Sept. 21 (JA). Upper McDonald Cr., Glacier N.P., had an imm. Snowy Owl Nov. 18-21 (JD) and another was found dead on a road between Reardan and Davenport, Wash., Dec. 1 (JA) for the only reports. Kootenai N.W.R., had a rare observation of a Barred Owl Nov. 16 (LN). The first Great Gray Owl record for the Klamath Falls area was of one at Lake of the Woods Sept. 23 (SS). Sightings were also obtained near Henry's L., Ida. (CT), at Spanish Cr., s.w. of Bozeman (MEm), in the Blue Mts., n. of Enterprise, Ore. (MCo) and at Otter L., near Vernon, B.C. (KG). Single Saw-whet Owls showed up at Cheney, Ellensburg, Ephrata and Quincy, Wash., and at Bozeman.

A few Poor-wills were sighted in e. Washington in a strip extending from Yakima n. to Pateros, and Oregon had one at Irrigon (LG). An estimated 1500-2000 Vaux's Swifts were again using the chimney at the old ice plant near Klickitat, Wash., Aug. 24 (Y.A.S.) and at least 270 Black Swifts were feeding low along Hwy 97 near Brewster, Wash., Aug. 30 (NM). White-throated Swifts were observed at Alkali L., Grant Co., Wash., on the astonishingly late date of Nov. 30 (RF).

At least three Black-chinned Hummingbirds were sighted at Meadow Brook Pass s. of Dale, Ore., in mid-September (SG). Anna's Hummingbirds continued to move into the Region. One visited a feeder at Spokane Sept. 28 (JA), Yakima had one Nov. 3 (EC) and Leavenworth, Wash., had one Aug. 7 (LG). One **Anna's Hummingbird** photographed at a Boise feeder Nov. 6 was apparently Idaho's first (AL, MC, EY, BH).

WOODPECKERS THROUGH BUSH-TITS—Noteworthy were the appearances of a White-headed Woodpecker in Kootenai N.F., Mont. (CW) and of three at Daggett Cr., n.e. of Boise (A&HL). The northernmost record ever of a **Gray Flycatcher** was of three at Leader L., near Omak Aug. 20 (EH). Blue Jays kept pushing into the Region. Libby, Mont., had one and a second bird believed to be a Blue x Steller's appeared there at midsummer and remained through the fall (CW & WW). One Blue Jay was sighted at Golden, B.C., Nov. 2 (FK), at least two stayed all Fall at Turnbull N.W.R. (JR) and one turned up at Chewelah, Wash., Nov. 27 for the second county record (JN). The Helena area had a positive record of Chestnut-backed Chickadees. One visited a feeder in late November (and also last winter November-March) (AS). A new locality for Bushtits was Dierkes L., near Twin Falls, Ida., where 60 were found Nov. 14 (JRu).

MIMIC THRUSHES THROUGH SHRIKES—Late-nesting Sage Thrashers had three nestlings Aug. 1 at White L., near Pentiction (SC). The bluebird nest box project at Spokane showed poor success for W. Bluebirds, apparently largely because of the Mt. St. Helens ashfall. Of 336 eggs only 32% resulted in fledglings, compared to 1979's 292 eggs, 57% of which produced fledged young (DP). A Blue-gray Gnatcatcher was spotted Aug. 3 on Stukel Mt., just s.e. of Klamath Falls (SS). About ten Bohemian Waxwings were seen at Rainy Pass, a possible nesting locality, in the Cascade Mts., w. of Winthrop, Wash., Aug. 21 (BW). Bozeman had high numbers of these birds with up to 1000 in a flock by Nov. 9 but they put in sparse appearances or were absent elsewhere. A Loggerhead Shrike was sighted at Thompson L., in November and another was found on Little Wolf Mt., e. of Libby, both in Lincoln County, Mont. (CW).

WARBLERS THROUGH BLACK-BIRDS—Two **Black-and-white Warblers** appeared near the mouth of the Weiser R., Weiser, Ida., Nov. 22 for apparently the first state record (CHO *et al.*). One each ad. and imm. Tennessee Warblers in La Grande, Ore., Aug. 20-22 provided the second county record (JE & JSc) and an adult at Wallowa Lake S.P., near Enterprise, Ore., Aug. 31 was the first for the county (JE). Oregon had "tremendous" concentrations, often of 75-100 birds in a flock, of Yellow-rumped Warblers moving through Umatilla, Union and Wallowa cos., in September but a storm Oct. 12 drove them all out (JE). The Bitterroot Valley around Hamilton, Mont., had unusual numbers also, apparently held by an outbreak of skeletonizer moths (CP). An Ovenbird was heard singing Aug. 27 at the Hardy Canyon site in Yakima County where the July bird was found (EH). The only Com. Yellowthroats reported were one a mile e. of Creston, Wash., Sept. 18 (JH) and one at Silver Cr., near Carey, Ida., Oct. 16 (WHS). A mystery orphan from near Boise had many birders guessing. Its nest, supported on marsh grass stems, had been destroyed and the nestling was reported as being defended by a ♀ Brewer's Blackbird. Hand-reared and regularly photographed, the bird eventually came to look much more like a W. Tanager or an oriole than a blackbird (RM, *fide* MC).

FINCHES AND SPARROWS—Malheur N.W.R. was favored with a visit from a Rose-breasted Grosbeak Aug. 30 (Ref. Pers.). A "northern finch" winter seemed in the offing. From a few individuals to sizable flocks of Com. Redpolls had appeared in British Columbia's s. Okanagan Valley, e. Washington, s. Idaho and at Bozeman. Pine Siskins were surging in s.e. British Columbia and in coniferous forest in n.e. Washington and w. of Yakima. They lingered at Fortine, Mont., where they are rare in winter. The Kimberley area, n. Washington, n.w. Montana and the Salmon, Ida. area reported many Red Crossbills. White-winged Crossbills were reported in the mountains of n. Washington and n.w. Montana and around Kimberley to the n. They also visited the Blue Mts. n. of Enterprise, Ore., and in the Wallowa Mts., between that city and Union. Prairie, in the



"Mystery" bird, near Boise, Ida., autumn, 1980. Photo/Ruth Melichas.

s.w. corner of Idaho, apparently was a new area for the species. By contrast, the s. Okanagan of British Columbia found both crossbill species very scarce. A well-described Gray-headed Junco at Boise Nov. 2 was the first for that area (MC). The only Harris' Sparrow to be recorded was at a Hermiston, Ore. feeder Nov. 11 (CC). Golden-crowned Sapsrows were moving through the Yakima and Wenatchee areas, apparently in rather good numbers, Sept. 4 - Nov. 4. Previous reports have indicated the species as scarce or at best uncommon along the e. base of the Cascades. Single White-throated Sparrows were noted at Tranquille, B.C., Sept. 21 (RRI), at Boise Nov. 3 (MC) and at Rupert Oct. 26 (WHS). A few Lapland Longspurs had appeared. Pentiction had 30+ Sept. 16 (SC), Saddle Mountain N.W.R. hosted 12 Oct. 26 (EH) and Reardan and Davenport, Wash., provided single birds Sept. 20 and Oct. 31 respectively (JA). Snow Buntings were already appearing, as far s. as s. Idaho. An appearance of the species at Chewelah apparently made the first county record there (JN).

CORRIGENDA—In AB 34:183 "Sharp-tailed numbers...w. of Rogerson..." should read "Sage Grouse...", and on p. 799 the Black-and-white Warbler in La Grande May 17, 1980 was *not* the first for n.e. Oregon. See AB 34:184.

OBSERVERS CITED—James Acton, Ethlyn Barneby (EBa), Eugene Barneby (EB), Nancy Bock, George Brady (GB), Gregory S. Butcher (GSB), John Bulger, Steve Cannings (SC), Chris Carey (CCa), Phil Cheney, Mark Collie (MC), Frank Conley, Craig Corder (CC), Marion Corder (MCo), Sharon Cotterell (Sco), Emily Cragg, Stuart Croghan (SCr), Gary Davidson, Joe Decker, Rod Dre-wien, Maurice Ellison (ME), Margaret Emerson (MEem), Joe Evanich, Ron Friesz, Al Frisby, Golden Eagle Audubon Society (G.E.A.S.), Larry Goodhew, Steven Gordon, James Grant, Kurt Gruener, Brad Hammond, Colleen Harden (CH), Eve T. Hays (ETH), Jerry Hickman (JH), John Hill (JHi), Del Holland, Curtis Holmen (CHO), Abe Horpestad, Rick Howie, Eugene Hunn (EH), Idaho Fish & Game Dept. (I.F.G.), David Irons, Bert Jahn, Dean Jones, Frances King, Ronald Klein, Al & Hilda Larson, Ann Mahnke, Mike Mahoney, N. Marr, Sid Martin, Mr. & Mrs. Fred Milliman (FM), Ruth Melichas, Larry Napier, Pat Nichols, Jack

Nisbet, Gene & Norma Nixon, Norma Owens, Richard Palmer, Dave Plemons, Colleen Powell, James Rees (JR), Ralph Ritcey (RRI), Hadley Roberts, Ron Rohweder (RR), Sievert Rohwer, Jeff Ruprecht (JRu), Georgia Sanderson, Ann Scofield, John Scott (JSc), W.H. Shillington (WHS), Richard Sjoström, Don Skaar, P.D. Skaar, Nettie Smoot, Jim Sparks (JS), Shirley G. Sturts (SGS), Steve Summers (SS), Wally Sumner (WS), Fred Tilly, Charles Trost, Glen Volyn, Washington Dept. of Game (W.D.G.), Winton Weydemeyer, Bart Whelton, Mildred White, Robert Wilson (RWi), Carl Wolf, Robert Woodley (RW), Eric Yensen, Yakima Audubon Society (Y.A.S.).—**THOMAS H. ROGERS, E. 10820 Maxwell Ave., Spokane, WA 99206.**



MOUNTAIN WEST /Hugh E. Kingery

The nesting season stretched into August. A Cassin's Sparrow nest at Pueblo, Colorado had eggs August 6 (VT). Adult House Wrens at Jefferson, Colorado and Cliff Swallows at Sheridan, Wyoming still fed young in the nest August 23 (CH, KH, MR). House Wrens and Rock Wrens fed recently fledged, begging young at Hot Sulphur Springs and Radium, Colorado August 22 and 26 (DJ).

The extended nesting blended into a bland fall migration, with mild weather, subpar counts of migrants such as shorebirds and warblers, and only a few headliner records. Some of the coastal birds to which we are becoming accustomed did appear, but the season offered no theme.

Despite the season's apparent blandness, regional observers chalked up 348 species: 312 in Colorado, 254 in Wyoming, 225 in Nevada, and 204 in Utah. For the year we had 404-366 in Colorado, 296 in Wyoming, 295 in Nevada, and 287 in Utah. The annual totals are the lowest in three years for the Region and Colorado, the highest for the other three states.

LOONS THROUGH IBISES—The 85-90 Com. Loons reported from Colorado exceeded by 50% the number reported in any of the previous 8 fall seasons. Wyoming also reported more, with the high regional count of 20 on Nov. 23 at Sheridan. A Red-throated Loon Nov. 29 at Julesburg, Colo., was well-described (†RCR); two others in Colorado and one in Nevada were reported with too few or no details. Wyoming had two Red-necked Grebes, one in the mountains near Dubois Aug. 21 (†MB) and one at Jackson L., Oct. 4 or 5 (JT, *fide* BR), the first fall record there. On Oct. 1 the Great Salt L. held at least 11,000 Eared Grebes in the Antelope

I. section, including an albino with a pink eye (JB). Sheridan's observations increased, mainly because of 1409 there Sept. 22 (HD). Western Grebes seemed well distributed in Colorado, but the other 3 states reported fewer than usual. The lack of reports from Great Salt L. may reflect the timing of field trips, however. Utah had its usual number of White Pelicans as did n.e. Colorado with counts of 1000-2000 along with 800-1600 Double-crested Cormorants in September and October, both totals probably including migrants (JR, GM, RAR). The last White Pelican reported was at Ouray N.W.R., Utah Nov. 13 (LM). Great Blue Heron observations increased to 301, compared with 112 last year in the Longmont/Lyons/Berthoud/Loveland area of Colorado (hereafter, L.L.B.L.). At Fish Springs N.W.R., Utah, 22 remained to Nov. 30+ using a warm water spring area to sustain themselves while much of the marsh remained frozen (GE). Ouray N.W.R. reported 121 Aug. 19, including 60 young (TT). A late Green Heron was found at Chatfield Park near Denver Nov. 22 (D.F.O.). The 45 Cattle Egrets near Greeley, Colo., Aug. 23 (DK) was the largest flock yet reported from Colorado. Great Egrets observed at Laramie Aug. 12 (†RCR) and Sept. 4 (†JMa, DM, R&SF) gave Wyoming its third and fourth records. Jackson, Wyo., reported unusual groups of Snowy Egrets Aug. 25-Sept. 20. Late Snowies occurred at Delta, Colo., Oct. 23-25 (MJ) and Logan, Utah Nov. 1 (KA). The largest flocks of White-faced Ibises occurred at Riverton, Utah with 200 Aug. 19 (JB) and at Ordway, Colo., with 175 Aug. 24 (JR).

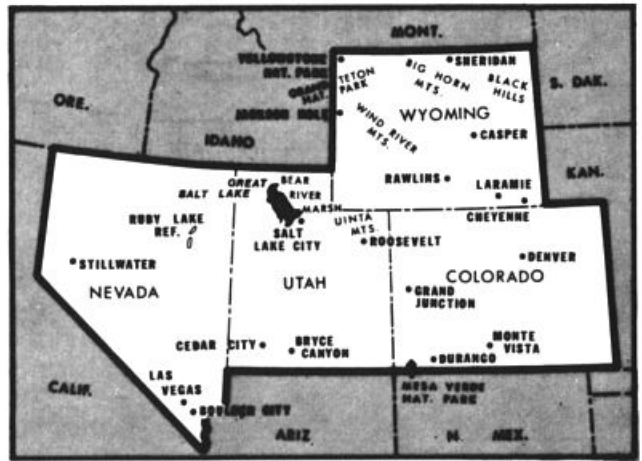
WATERFOWL—By Nov. 30, 35,000 Whistling Swans arrived at Bear River N.W.R. (RV). Trumpeter Swans had their best year ever at Ruby Lakes N.W.R., Nev., with 15 cygnets included in the Dec. 1 count of 50. In n.w. Wyoming however, they fared poorly. The 74 adults produced only six young: three pairs in Bridger/Teton N.F. and Nat'l Elk Ref. raised four young, but 34 pairs in Yellowstone and Grand Teton N.P. raised only two. Yellowstone swans have consistently poor success; they lay few eggs and few young survive (DKW, JW). In Utah, ducks peaked in mid-September with a high count of 578,701 topping 1979's 529,361. As usual, Pintail prevailed at 197,038, with 139,062 Green-winged Teal, 8361 Canada Goose (and 206,270 Am. Coot not included in the duck totals—U.D.W.R.). Alamosa N.W.R., Colo., hosted 15,000 ducks, mostly Mallards, and 1000 Canada Geese, its highest total ever (JK). Ruby L., reported 7800 ducks at the peak, including 3000 Mallards. November 16 saw unusual counts of 200 Snow Geese at Denver and 25 at Alamosa (D.F.O., JK). Colorado has two **Black-bellied Whistling Duck** records now, of indefinite, but probable, wildness: one May 27, 1978 near Silt (†RPa) and one Sept. 21 near Denver (††BA). Wood Ducks have increased in e. Colorado, seen this fall in flocks of > 50 at Windsor, 30 along the Arkansas R., at Pueblo, and in various family groups elsewhere (RAR, VT *et al.*). A family group stayed at Sheridan Aug. 1-Sept. 30 (MF). A late report substantiates a mid-summer ♂ Harlequin Duck, in

somewhat worn breeding plumage, which sat on the shore of Walker L., Mineral Co., Nev., July 9 (†LS). Scoters made a good showing with all 3 species seen in Colorado. The most surprising was four Surf Scoters Oct. 25 in the foothills at Red Feather L., Colo. (KL *et al.*). Casper had one White-winged Scoter Nov. 1 and two Nov. 16 (JH).

HAWKS, EAGLES

—The Great Basin had 2 hawk watches reported: one at Brighton, Utah 30 mi e. of Salt Lake City (ML, JB), and one in Goshute Mts., s.w. of Wendover, Nev., also reported last year (SH, SW). The Wellsville, Utah watch, n. of Brighton, near Logan (reported in this column 1976-78) was not conducted this year, although a U.A.S. trip there Sept. 27 counted 111 hawks in 4 hrs (JRc). Table 1 compares the 3 watches. The differing ratios of *Accipiters*, *Buteos*, and falcons among the 3 watches raises many questions.

Late Turkey Vultures included single birds at Reno Oct. 2, Durango Oct. 13, and Brighton Oct. 21. Even excluding the hawk watches, regional *Accipiter* observations have increased substantially since 1974. However, the reported 196 Sharp-shinned and 157 Cooper's, compared with 75 and 34 in 1974, fail to accurately reflect their actual abundance. New and inexperienced observers and inconsistent reporting add too many variables. At the Brighton hawk watch, observers identified four Harlan's Red-taileds, one each Sept. 13 & 14, and two Oct. 30 (ML). The Kingsley Mts., near Wendover, in Nevada, produced one Broad-winged Hawk Sept. 14 (†SW). Several observers reported late Swainson's Hawks and early (August) Rough-legged Hawks, but with one exception did not provide details enough to evaluate the out-of-season reports. Colorado had three nesting pairs of Bald Eagles, one more than 2



years ago (PGo). Besides the six nesting Ospreys at Flaming Gorge (AB 34:915), Utah had 2 aeries near Richfield and one near Cedar City (ML). Two falconers working gyrs at Sheridan Oct. 21 attracted a wild, imm. ♀ Gyrfalcon (*vide* HD). In w. Wyoming 11 Peregrines hatched at 3 nest sites; 9-10 may have survived (BR). Another Peregrine hounded Rock Doves in downtown Grand Junction, Colo., at times during the fall (BT).

GROUSE, CRANES—Blue Grouse reports included a flock of about ten on Mt. Evans, Colo., 1000 feet above timberline, Aug. 10 (BRz). In n.e. Nevada all gallinaceous birds increased except Sage Grouse and except Chukars around Jarbidge (SB, LB). Turkeys seem to have increased, especially along the Colorado Front Range. One flock of 60 was seen at Tinytown 10 mi from Denver (TM). Fourteen of the 15 ad. Idaho-reared Whooping Cranes and one of five 1980 chicks stopped in the San Luis Valley, Colo. Single adults also stopped at Fruita and Hartsel, Colo. (JK, JP, BT). Reporters saw few flocks of Sandhills; outside the San Luis Valley, the only large flock reported was 250 at Delta, Colo., Oct. 12 (MJ). However, 2-3 summered near Sheridan, where a forester saw a deer chasing them (MR)! A Sora invaded a garden in Sheridan and fed, working its way up and down the vegetable rows (HE).

Table 1. Great Basin Hawk Watches

Species	Goshute Mts.		Brighton		Wellsville Mts. 1976-1978	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Accipiters	1456	62	96	19	1148	40
Buteos	365	15	279	55	302	10
Falcons	259	11	31	6	892	31
Golden Eagle	72	3	42	8	255	9
Other	190	9	61	12	283	10
Total	2342		509		2880	

Dates	Sept. 10-Oct. 19	Aug. 10-Nov. 20	Aug. 27-Oct. 25
Days	27	23	—
Hours	179.6	74.6	—
Hawks/hour	13.0	6.8	12.2
Sept.—Hawks/hr.	20.8	11.6	—
Oct.—Hawks/hr.	7.1	3.9	—

Composition: Accipiters largely Sharp-shinned and Cooper's; Buteos almost entirely Red-taileds; Falcons almost entirely Am. Kestrels.

Saratoga, Wyo, seems a strange place for a **Yellow Rail**, but we have a description of one for Wyoming's second sight record Aug. 10 (†J&VH).

SHOREBIRDS—At Ft. Collins the fall count dropped with only 247 shorebirds of 15 species Sept. 13; last year's Killdeers equalled the total shorebirds this year (F.C.A.S.). At Denver the Fall Count Sept. 13-14 increased by 63% to 1441 individuals of 21 species, including 541 Baird's, 258 Stilt Sandpipers and 227 Killdeer. On Aug. 16 mudflats at Jackson attracted 9 species of shorebirds, 4 of them rated rare on the local checklist (Semipalmated Plover, Western, Baird's, and Least sandpipers). Various shorebirds appeared or lingered there through August, including a Pectoral Aug. 28 (BR). Their rare status, and that of the Snow Egrets also recorded this fall, probably stems from a lack of habitat. American Golden Plovers dropped in at Las Vegas Aug. 10, the first fall record in 7 years (VM), and at Casper Sept. 21 & Oct. 4 (JH). Late records of Black-bellied Plovers included one at Casper Oct. 26 and six in n.e. Colorado Oct. 31 (JH, JR).

Ruddy Turnstones visited Casper Aug. 24 (JH), Longmont, Colo., Sept. 9 (PM), Denver Sept. 13-14 (D.F.O., PM), and Great Salt L., Sept. 13 (R&ES). The fourth Utah record of Upland Sandpiper came with three Sept. 13 and five Sept. 18 at Antelope I. (†R&ES). Extremely late Greater Yellowlegs visited in the mountains at Estes Park, Colo., Nov. 16, staying only an hour (T&LM), and Rocky Ford, Colo., Nov. 25 (VT). The largest flocks of Lesser Yellowlegs were of 55 at Fountain, Colo., Aug. 31 (J&RW) and 68 at Ouray N.W.R., Aug. 19 along with 39 Greater (TT). The usual handful of Red Knots appeared—Sept. 8 & 12 at Longmont, Sept. 13 at Berthoud, and Oct. 13 at Las Vegas (PM, CCu, AM, VM). August 4 found two White-rumped Sandpipers at Sheridan and one at Pawnee Nat'l Grassland, Colo. (HD, MC, RP); a late one was at Pueblo Oct. 18-19 (D.F.O.). Sheridan had its fourth Dunlin Aug. 14 (HD, †MC). Bear R. had thousands of Long-billed Dowitchers, Ruby L. had 300-500 in late October, and Ouray N.W.R. had 154 Aug. 19 (SB, TT); otherwise their numbers were low. L.L.B.L. reported only 19 compared with 74 last year, although the Region's latest was there Nov. 6 (JC). Colorado now has 15 documented records of Red Phalarope, with one Sept. 20 at Denver (††BA *et al.*), plus about five other possible records including two this fall.

JAEGERS, GULLS AND TERNS—The Region reported only one jaeger this fall—a **Long-tailed Jaeger** picked up near Ogden for Utah's third record and second specimen (TP, *to U.D.W.R.). Nevada's second **Western Gull** stayed briefly at L. Mead Oct. 31 "In view of the presence of the yellow-legged race on the lower Colorado R., and Salton Sea, I would have anticipated that race to show up here, but this bird was very clearly a pink-legged bird with no hint of yellowish or orange." (†VM). Sheridan had more Bonaparte's Gulls than Franklin's, with Bonaparte's present Aug. 4-Nov. 3, peaking at seven Oct. 31 (HD, MC). Colorado noted fewer-than-usual Bonaparte's with a peak

Nov. 30 of 40 at Loveland and 32 at Timnath (RAR). A Little Gull at Denver Sept. 13-14 provided Colorado's fourth occurrence (BA, ††PM). Each year the Region sees a couple of Sabine's Gulls, but every third year the number goes up. This up year Casper had one Sept. 21 (JH), the state's third recent record, and n.e. Colorado had six Sept. 26-Oct. 31 (m.ob.). Colorado hosted an invasion of Black-legged Kittiwakes with 17 reported Aug. 21-Nov. 30 (JR, MLo, TD) and one specimen picked up dead near Florissant in the foothills w. of Pikes Peak (JD). Las Vegas noted 58 Com. and 43 Forster's terns waiting out a heavy rainstorm Sept. 9 (VM). Jackson observers found Com. Terns Aug. 16-Sept. 12, including 15 on Aug. 31 (BR), and e. Colorado had its usual scattering, the last at Longmont Oct. 17 (PM). Colorado had two Caspian Terns this fall, one Aug. 11 at Denver and another Sept. 14 near Denver (J&JC, F&JJ, HEK *et al.*). Their virtual absence from Colorado while nesting over the rest of the Region (including at Laramie, not far from the Colorado border) seems strange.

CUCKOOS TO SWIFTS—The summer numbers of Yellow-billed Cuckoos continued into August. Reports came from Sheridan and Laramie (PK, †JMa), 36 from e. Colorado (the last Sept. 13), and four from Durango (the last Aug. 23). The Flammulated Owl at Colorado Springs Sept. 20 was a very late migrant (DP, *fide* RW). A Snowy Owl flew across the road at Berthoud, Colo. (CCu) for the only regional report besides an undated one at Jackson (GR). South of Ouray, Colo., a Burrowing Owl landed on the Red Mt. Pass hwy at 10,800 ft Oct. 20 (RO). The colony at Hanna Ranch near Fountain still had one Nov. 9 (J&RW). A Boreal Owl was found dead Nov. 10 at Lander, Wyo. (JNi). An injured Poor-will was brought into a bird rehabilitation center in Casper Oct. 25 (LL). Denver had the Region's last Com. Nighthawk Oct. 3 (BA). Black Swifts appeared at 2 locations on the e. Colorado plains—1-3 were at Colorado Springs Aug. 7-8 (CLC, EW) and one near Lyons Aug. 26 (VD).

HUMMINGBIRDS, WOODPECKERS—A very late Black-chinned Hummingbird stopped at Reno Nov. 12 (JA). An Anna's Hummingbird used a Las Vegas feeder from mid- to late November (CT). Broad-taileds stayed at feeders through Sept. 21-22 at Jarbidge, Nev., Sheridan, Jackson, and Fort Morgan, Colo. Throughout the Region, feeders attracted fewer Rufous Hummingbirds this year except at Ogden where Nelson had the largest hummingbird show ever Aug. 19-Sept. 4, featuring 16 Rufous Aug. 23. The last Rufous were at Cody Sept. 14, Ridgway Sept. 19, and Durango Sept. 29. A Rivoli's was reported from Gould, Colo., Aug. 19 (†MLo) and Blue-throateds from Ridgway Aug. 22 and again from Durango Aug. 8-18 (JRG, EF). The regularity of their appearances in family groups at Durango suggests a small nesting colony there. Red-headed Woodpeckers strayed W to Cody for 2 weeks (undated—UK) and Jefferson, Colo., Sept. 1 (CH, KH). The Fall Count at Ridgway produced Colorado's first reported **Acorn Woodpecker** Sept. 4 (†JRG), but it

could not be found the next day (MJ). C.F.O. is reviewing the record. We received about twice as many reports of Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers as usual, mainly from Colorado throughout the fall. Two locations which specified numbers—Grand L., and L.L.B.L.—showed a doubling of Downy Woodpecker observations. (In Grand L., 10-15/day visited feeders, twice last year's total, and numbers have been up for the past 3 years; in L.L.B.L. 46 observations compared with 27 last year—DJ, JC).

JAYS TO WRENS—Blue Jay numbers remained steady within its normal range in the Front Range, but it pushed into the foothills and mountains at Denver, Evergreen, Silverthorne (first latilong record), Eldora, Colo., and Laramie. In reverse, some Mountain Chickadees and Red-breasted Nuthatches moved out to the plains at Cheyenne, Denver, and Ft. Collins, a pattern which begins to indicate a normal dispersal from the mountains. A Pygmy Nuthatch moved quickly through an urban Denver yard Aug. 20 (HEK) and two visited urban Cheyenne Nov. 1 (PW). Durango had a late House Wren Nov. 20 (FW). Early Winter Wrens moved into the Great Basin, the first almost to Arizona, at Pine Valley, Washington Co., Utah Sept. 27 (SPH); in mid-October two others were seen at Eureka, Nev., and Ruby L. (JE, †SB).

THRUSHES TO VIREOS—At least 9 cities from Cheyenne to Denver reported flocks of 100-200 Am. Robins during the fall, especially in late November. For the season L.L.B.L. reported 1378 robins, compared with 164 last year (JC). Eagle and Durango, Colo., also had good numbers. The large flocks were missing, though, from Evergreen, Jarbidge, and Ogden. A ♂ Varied Thrush stopped at Las Vegas Nov. 15-18 (VM) and one visited Jackson Nov. 26 (EB). Wood Thrushes visited Casper Sept. 16-17 (JH) and Boulder Oct. 5 (††HS). For the second year, Fountain had an E. Bluebird Oct. 19 (J&RW). Brightening the Brighton hawk watch were small flocks of migrating Mountain Bluebirds—88 on Aug. 25, 25 on Oct. 2 (ML). Bohemian Waxwings dipped S only as far as Sheridan and Jackson. A Philadelphia Vireo sought shelter from the rain in a Durango yard Sept. 9 (†EF). A tame White-eyed Vireo permitted an arms-length approach at Ft. Morgan Nov. 13, providing Colorado's fifth record (††JCR). At Ridgway a Bell's Vireo Aug. 24 provided a new latilong record (†JRG).

WARBLERS—The warbler migration seemed normal or below average, judging by Fall Count totals and by general reports. Las Vegas had a N. Parula Sept. 29, its first fall record since 1977 (VM). Colorado has reported one N. Parula every fall but one since 1975; this year's was a male near Denver Sept. 26 (BA). Rare Magnolias visited Radium, Colo., Aug. 23 (†DJ) and Sheridan Sept. 22 (HD, †MC). Sheridan also had Nov. 26 a probable Cape May, but the identification is not firm because of inexperienced observers dealing with a confusing plumage (PO, †CLE). Black-throated Blues had their heyday in 1974, with 16 Colorado, one Wy-

oming and 15-20 Las Vegas observations This year we report only six: three at Longmont Aug. 29 (BH), and single birds at Denver Sept. 13 (D.F.O.), Hygiene, Colo., Sept. 24 (VD), and Las Vegas Oct. 18 (VM). Black-throated Greens were at Bonny Res., Colo., Oct. 4 (PG) and Lakewood, Colo., Oct. 18 (†DS to D.F.O.). A Grace's Warbler at Boulder Oct. 18 established a new latilong record (†PC). The only Chestnut-sided report came from Casper Sept. 21 (JH). A N. Waterthrush in Nye County, Nev., Sept. 19 reminded the observer of Grinnell's description of them as "pearls on a string" (†TC).

BLACKBIRDS TO SPARROWS—Early Rusty Blackbirds appeared at Jackson Aug. 14, Las Vegas Oct. 18, and Denver Oct. 31 (BR, VM, MOS). A Scarlet Tanager was s.w. of Denver Oct. 1 (CM). At Cheyenne a far-out-of-range state first **Hepatic Tanager** was briefly described from an hour's stay in a backyard (†DKe). Small numbers of Purple Finches arrived in Ft. Collins with five reported Nov. 24+ (RAR). Pine Siskins apparently stayed in the high country beyond the usual time, perhaps into October. They appeared on the plains and valleys only sparingly, and later than usual. Four separate observers reported White-winged Crossbills from Jackson in August (BR). Late Savannah Sparrow records included birds Nov. 7 at Eureka (JE) and at Berthoud Nov. 17 (CCu). A Le Conte's Sparrow turned up on the Ft.

Collins Fall Count Sept 13, providing Colorado's fifth record (RAR). A Rufous-crowned Sparrow described from Boulder Sept. 14 had strayed 200 mi NW from its breeding range (†PWh). The **Black-chinned Sparrow** well described from a Berthoud feeder Nov. 26, stayed only briefly for a new Colorado sight record (†CCu).

CORRIGENDUM—Malone reports seeing three Short-eared Owls at Bear R., May 30, but not the four at Bonanza, Utah the same day (AB 34:801). A trip to the spring reports shows that MW observed the Bonanza birds.

ABBREVIATIONS—L.L.B.L., Longmount/Lyons/Berthoud/Loveland area of Colorado; †, written description to Reg. Ed.; ††, same to C.F.O.

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SOUTHWEST REGION

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

Weather this autumn was hot and essentially uneventful across much of Arizona, except for a brief but severe storm in mid-October. New Mexico saw a series of such storms, but most of the fronts skirted to the north of the Region. It seems that a majority of the really out of place birds of this fall may have reached our Region as the result of factors that we did not experience directly.

Each time a portion of the Region receives special coverage, a flurry of records adds much to our ornithological knowledge. This is the second year the lower Pecos River valley has been so covered and as a result it yielded many interesting records. With continued coverage of the lower Colorado River valley and additional work in northeastern Arizona (see AB 33:202) and central-western New Mexico the migration season was well-documented Region-wide.

Two dominant trends are becoming increasingly well known here: the overland migration of typically oceanic species and the westward straying of typically eastern migrants. Significant contributions to both these trends were made this fall. The most amazing bird of the season, however, represented a phenomenon rarely detected here, the occurrence of a southern pelagic or maritime species. As we held Arizona's first

White-tailed Tropicbird in our hands, we could not help feeling that *anything* is possible.

LOONS THROUGH HERONS—An almost certain Red-throated Loon at Bitter Lake N.W.R., Nov. 2 (WCH *et al.*, ph. J. French) will represent the first confirmed record for New Mexico if accepted. Notable Arctic Loons were at L. McMillan, N. Mex., Nov. 23 (WCH) and at L. Patagonia, Ariz., Oct. 4 (†WD). Seven Arctics on L. Havasu beginning Oct. 14 was a good count for the Lower Colorado Valley (hereafter, L.C.V.—RM *et al.*).

S.A.

On Aug. 22 a white bird found dying in a Scottsdale, Ariz., yard was correctly identified by veterinarian Kathy Ingram as a **White-tailed Tropicbird**. As incredible as this occurrence seems, there is little doubt tht the bird was wild and had ventured to Arizona on its own. A possible explanation is that it was swept across the Gulf of Mexico and into Texas 12 days earlier as a result of hurricane *Catherine*. Once inland it could have flown north-westward until too exhausted and starved to continue. This represents the first non-coastal record of this species for the w. United States.

A local-first record was of an imm. Dou-

ble-crested Cormorant at Zuni, N. Mex., Nov. 8 (JT). Two Magnificent Frigatebirds at Cibola N.W.R., Aug. 4 (RM) and one at Painted Rock Dam (hereafter, P.R.D.) Aug 23 (RB) were the only reports of this now-regular visitor to Arizona.

Nine Louisiana Herons was a high count in the Lower Pecos Valley (hereafter, L.Pec.V.) Aug. 1 - Sept. 13 (K. Doyle *et al.*) where now nearly regular, but an imm. Louisiana at P.R.D., Aug. 21 - Sept. 1 (ST *et al.*, ph KR) provided the first record in Maricopa County since 1956. Different Yellow-crowned Night Herons were at L. McMillan Sept. 5 & 24 (WCH, WHO).

WATERFOWL THROUGH RAP-TORS—A **Brant**, most likely the Pacific form, reported s. of Cochiti L., in late November (M. Earney) provided only the third record for New Mexico and the first since 1967. Phoenix's ♂ Eur. Wigeon returned for at least the third consecutive winter Nov. 3 (L. Burge). Wood Ducks seemed unusually numerous in Arizona with 18 at Prescott Nov. 5-8 (CT) an exceptional count.

A White-winged Scoter on L. Havasu Nov 28 was noteworthy (RM *et al.*), and two were reported shot near Tucson in November (*vide GM*). A ♂ **Black Scoter** on L. Mary near Flagstaff on the same day furnished only a third record for Arizona (GHR, †DP *et al.*), and another at Bluewater L., near Grant Nov. 19-24 was the second reliable report for New Mexico (†AM). First local breeding

records of Ruddy Ducks were indicated by broods at Vermejo Park Sept. 21 (S. Williams), and Apache Cr., N. Mex., Sept. 3 (JE).

Yet another White-tailed Kite was in the L.C.V., this time near Poston Nov. 13 (†MK) for Arizona's eighth record. Truly amazing was an apparent ad. Swallow-tailed Kite reported near Winkelman, Ariz., Aug. 2 (†E. Bedows) and independently Aug. 3 (†RF). Unfortunately, no photographs were obtained to document this as a first state record.

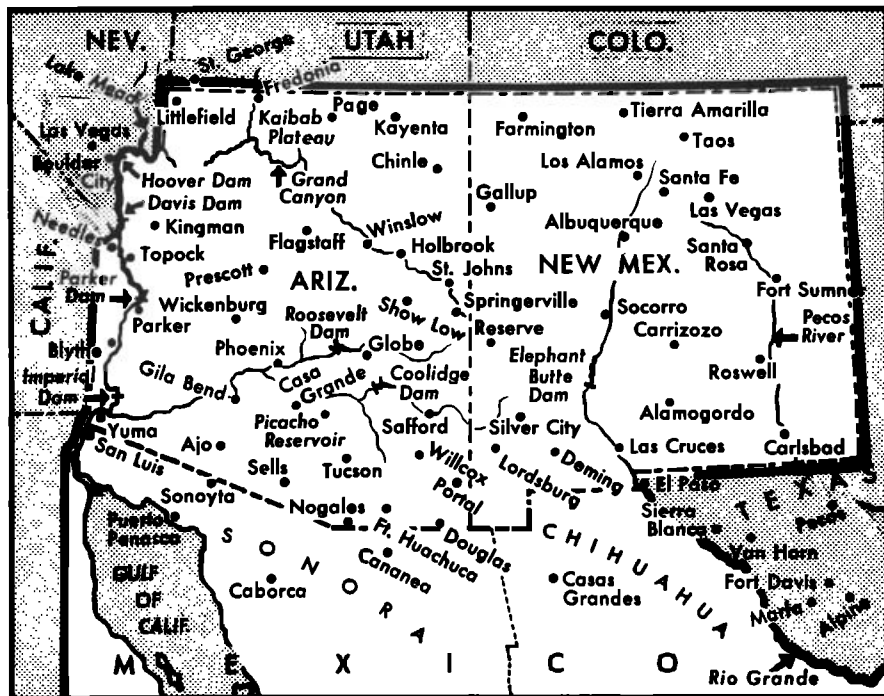
Two well-described "Harlan's" Hawks in the L.Pec.V., Nov. 14-21 (†WCH *et al.*) represented the best documented report yet obtained for that area. A possible Red-shouldered Hawk was reported from Cook's L., Ariz., Sept. 1 (†RB) and will constitute Arizona's fifth recent record if accepted. An imm. **Gray Hawk** present one mi e. of Artesia Sept. 24 - Oct. 1 was captured, banded and photographed in hand (MA *et al.*); this representing only the second unquestionably verified New Mexico record and the first from the s.e. Five Harris' Hawks at San Simon Cienaga, N.Mex., Oct. 25 - Nov. 26 (R.A. Fisher *et al.*) were most unusual, especially since the group included at least three adults and a juvenile—possibly indicating local breeding.

CRANES THROUGH SHOREBIRDS—

At least 17 of the expected 20-22 Whooping Cranes were in the middle Rio Grande valley by Nov. 30 (*fide* G. Nunn). Twenty-five Semipalmated Plovers at Ganado L. Aug. 23 (ST, LT) and 20 at P.R.D., Sept. 1 (GHR, LT) were extremely high counts for Arizona. Three Mountain Plovers at L. McMillan Nov. 16 were late (WWho, WCH). An Am. Golden Plover discovered at Tucson Sept. 21 (SG) remained until at least Nov. 14 (m.ob.).

Two Ruddy Turnstones Aug. 23 at P.R.D. (RB *et al.*) and Aug. 30 at Picacho Res. (P&W Beall), were the ninth and tenth for Arizona. At least 15 Red Knots were found in the L.Pec.V., Sept. 5-30 (WCH *et al.*, ph. D&NJ); one s. of Phoenix Sept. 4-9 (ph. KR *et al.*) was more unusual. Short-billed Dowitchers were widely reported. New Mexico got its first *confirmed* record at L. McMillan Aug. 28 (WCH *et al.*, *to A.S.U.), where up to three were present Aug. 21-28, and two others Oct. 2-6 (MA *et al.*). In Arizona one was at Ganado L., in the n.e., Aug. 17 (KK, KR *et al.*), two were there Aug. 24 (ST, LT), one was at Phoenix Aug. 19 (KR *et al.*), four at Chinle Sept. 14 (KK *et al.*), plus an additional 15 sightings in the L.C.V.

In this Region juvenile Semipalmated Sandpipers can now be identified with confidence in the fall. Three were well seen in the L.Pec.V., Aug. 18 - Sept. 2 (†MA *et al.*), and Arizona had six well documented records: three at Ganado L., Aug. 17 (KK *et al.*, ph. KR), one at Phoenix Aug. 19-21 (ST *et al.*, *to U.A.), one at L. Havasu Aug. 31 (GHR, ph. KR), and one at P.R.D., Sept. 1 (GHR, ph. LT). Sanderlings are regular migrants here in very small numbers; a flock of 60 s. of Ehrenberg in the L.C.V., Sept. 22 (†RM, LA) was incredible and unprecedented. Two others were at Chinle Sept. 14 (KK *et al.*); there are very few records of this species for n.e. Arizona. One Stilt Sandpiper at Ganado



L., Sept. 23 (GHR *et al.*) and four at Chinle Sept. 14 (KK *et al.*) were only the second reports from n.e. Arizona. Red Phalaropes were again widely reported with one at L. McMillan Oct. 2 (WCH, ph. MA), two at Sumner L., N. Mex., Oct. 20 (WCH), and singles at L. Havasu Sept. 27 & Oct. 23 (RM *et al.*). Very late was an Am. Avocet at Zuni, N. Mex., Nov. 18-20 (JT).

JAEGERS THROUGH TERNS—One of two imm. **Pomarine Jaegers** at L. McMillan Oct. 4-12 was collected (*to N. Mex. Game & Fish Dept.), and the other lingered until Oct. 23 (WCH, WWho *et al.*). This was the first confirmed occurrence of this species for New Mexico. Three jaegers there Aug. 31 (ph. D&SH) and two there Sept. 2 (RT) may have been Parasitics—also an unconfirmed species in the state. A Parasitic was at P.R.D., Aug. 23 (†RB) and our annual jaeger hunt on L. Havasu paid off this year with another imm. Parasitic (GHR *et al.*, ph. KR). An imm. **Long-tailed Jaeger** at the Tucson sewage plant Sept. 7 (KK) provided the third Arizona record of this species.

A first-year **Thayer's Gull** found at L. Mary Nov. 30 was collected the following day (DP, KR *et al.*, *to A.S.U.). A previously unpublished specimen from nearby Marshall L., Oct. 22 1965 (Museum of N. Ariz.) brings Arizona's total to about eight records. Records of California Gulls continue to mount in New Mexico with a bird at Cochiti L. Nov. 14 (JH), five at Zuni Nov. 20-25 (JT), and three at L. McMillan Aug. 8 - Oct. 31 (MA *et al.*). Laughing Gulls were reported again, as in autumn 1979, in the L.Pec.V., with at least seven immatures between Bitter Lake N.W.R. and L. McMillan Aug. 8 - Sept. 27 (WCH *et al.*, ph. MA). Two different Heermann's Gulls were in the L.C.V., Nov. 12 (RM, LA); this species is now regular at that place and time.

Totally unprecedented were multiple **Black-legged Kittiwakes** in the Region begin-

ning mid-November. One immature was at L. McMillan Nov. 10-11 and probably a different individual was there Nov. 30 (WCH,



Juvenile Semipalmated Sandpiper, Lake Havasu, Ariz., Aug. 31, 1980. Photo/Kenneth V. Rosenberg.

WWho), for the first L.Pec.V. records of a species still unconfirmed in New Mexico. In Arizona, one was found dead near Benson Nov. 16 (G. Brailey, *to U.A.) and another was found the same day at P.R.D. (GHR, JW, ph. RF). One the following trip to P.R.D., an incredible five immatures were found together (GHR *et al.*, ph. KR, MA), and one was found there Nov. 30 (RN). Another traditional gull-trap, L. Havasu, produced two more immatures Nov. 28 (RM *et al.*). These more than doubled the previous records of this species in the state, and sightings continued into the winter season.

Sabine's Gull reports are now routine in Arizona, but it is always a surprise to see this striking species in the arid interior. This fall, there were one to two immatures at L. McMillan Oct. 4-9 (WCH *et al.*) and an additional 6 sightings in s. and w. Arizona. Two ad. Caspian Terns at Ganado L., Aug. 17 (ph. KR *et al.*) were the first records for n.e. Arizona.



Immature Sabine's Gull, Lake Havasu, Ariz., Sept. 27, 1980, Photo/Lawrence Abbott.

DOVES THROUGH HUMMINGBIRDS
—Two White-winged Doves at Truth or Consequences, N. Mex., Nov. 28 (DM) were late. A **Black-billed Cuckoo** near Anthony Nov. 5—11 (TKZ) furnished the fifth New Mexico record. A Roadrunner at Farmington, N. Mex., Nov. 18 (A. James, *vide* AN) was only the second one reported for that area; another killed a Brown Thrasher e. of Albuquerque Nov. 3 (*vide* RT). Two Groove-billed Anis near Artesia Aug. 6–28 (MA, TH) and one at Mangas Springs, Grant Co., Oct. 3 (MM *et al.*) represented more than the usual number of reports from New Mexico.

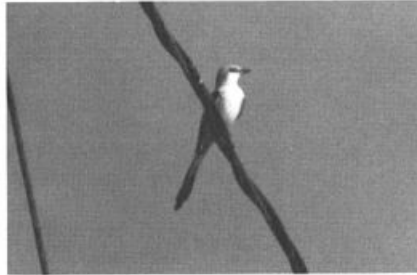
A Short-eared Owl at Cottonwood Gulch Oct. 31 (AM) was the first record from the Zuni Mts. in New Mexico. A Ferruginous Owl on the Rio Magdalena, Sonora, Oct. 25–26 and two Nov. 16 (ST *et al.*) were only 50 mi s. of the border of Arizona, where this species is now exceedingly rare.

At least one of last summer's **Buff-collared Nighthawks** remained in Aravaipa Canyon until Aug. 12 (JL). A rare lowland report of a Com. Nighthawk came from P.R.D., Sept. 1 (LT, GHR). Another Common at Flagstaff on the incredibly late date of Nov. 7 (JC) may have been indicative of the mild fall weather. A Lesser Nighthawk at Ft. Sumner Aug. 6 (†WHO) was well n. of its normal range in New Mexico. A Chimney Swift was well seen s. of Phoenix Oct. 10 (†KR, GHR)—the diagnostic dark rump area was noted.

Two ♀ Lucifer Hummingbirds were reported from Portal, Ariz., throughout the period (SS). Another female was at Scholes Ranch, near Rodeo, N. Mex., Sept. 5–11; one was also present June 10 – July 17 and two were there July 4 – 17 (R. Scholes); there is only one previous New Mexico record. Two westerly lowland reports of Broad-tailed Hummingbirds were noteworthy; Aug. 21 at Theba, Ariz. (KR, ST) and Sept. 7 at Phoenix (ph. KR). Two males and a ♀ Calliope were the most unusual hummers reported from the L.Pec.V. Northerly hummingbird reports included a Blue-throated at Cliff, N. Mex., Aug. 27–29 (ph. JE) and a Rivoli's at Prescott, Ariz., Oct. 25 – Nov. 1 (CT).

WOODPECKERS THROUGH FLYCATCHERS—Two **Red-bellied Woodpeckers** appeared again at Ft. Sumner Oct. 19–20 (TH, WCH); this species is still undocumented in New Mexico. About 50 Red-headed Woodpeckers, about one-third of them immatures, were in the Ft. Sumner area Aug. 4–7, with one lingering until Nov. 1 (WCH *et al.*).

Lowland records of Williamson's Sapsucker in New Mexico included singles at Truth or Consequences Oct. 18 (DM), Mangas Springs Oct. 4 (MM) and Artesia Sept. 26–27 (TH, WCH). Downy Woodpeckers staged a minor movement S in New Mexico, with 1–2 at Zuni Nov. 4–5 (JT), one at Cliff Sept. 11 (JE), one at Roswell Oct. 22–Nov. 30 (WCH,WHO), and one near Artesia Oct. 2 (ph. MA).



Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, Poston, Ariz., Oct. 11, 1980. Photo/Kenneth V. Rosenberg.

Arizona's three Scissor-tailed Flycatchers included one near Sonoita Sept. 21 (D. West) and two in the L.C.V., Oct. 3 and Sept. 30 – Oct. 11 (RM *et al.*, ph. KR). Northeast Arizona's prize this fall was a **Great Crested Flycatcher** studied in detail at Kayenta Oct. 9 (†DS, †SP) for only the second state record; the first was in June 1901.

Eastern Phoebe's staged a W influx, including nine in the L.Pec.V., about six others in New Mexico, and an additional four reports in Arizona. Careful study of *Empidonax* flycatchers in the L.Pec.V. provided tentative findings, including indications that Willow (*to A.S.U.) and Dusky are common migrants, whereas the others are relatively rare: Gray (9 observations), Least (9 obs.), and Western (2* to A.S.U.). Western Flycatchers normally linger late in the fall in s. Arizona, but one at Sunrise at 9000 ft in the White Mts., Oct. 12 (DS) was possibly indicative of the mild season. One of the few desert lowland reports of Coues' Flycatcher was a bird e. of Phoenix Oct. 16 (ph. KR).

MARTINS THROUGH THRASHERS—Unusual reports of Purple Martins were of five at Bosque del Apache N.W.R., Aug. 17 (JD *et al.*), a male at Artesia Sept. 1 (TH), one at Lake Havasu City, Ariz., Aug. 31 (ph. KR *et al.*), and one s. of Phoenix Sept. 9 (KR). Blue Jays continued their occupancy of the L.Pec.V. during the period, with reports totalling 21 birds from Ft. Sumner (mainly) to L. McMillan (WCH *et al.*). A Steller's Jay at Sierra Grande Sept. 26 (JH) was a first there, and several were at n.e. Arizona oases in October. Five Com. Crows at Sumner L., Oct. 31 (WHO) were a local first.

A first for the L.C.V. was a Dipper s. of Parker Oct. 22 (†LA, RM). Of six regional Winter Wren reports, one at Artesia Oct. 31 (WCH) and one near Nogales Nov. 16–30 (KR, ST) were believed to be of the e. race, which is known from only one specimen in New Mexico and is undocumented in Arizona. Two were near Zuni in November (JT). Brown Thrashers were much more numerous than last year in the L.Pec.V., and seven reports from Arizona were also exceptional.

Single Gray Catbirds at Mangas Springs Oct. 4–5 (JE) and at Socorro Oct. 14 (JS) were notable.

THRUSHES THROUGH VIREOS—Single sightings of Varied Thrushes near Prescott Nov. 15 (CT) and Pima Canyon in the Catalina Mts., Nov. 14 (J. Saba) were noteworthy. Even more unusual were two Wood Thrushes in Arizona; one near Superior Oct. 18–19 (GHR, ph. RD) and one at Garden Canyon in the Huachuca Mts., Oct. 13 (†J. Epler, R. Smith) constituting Arizona's ninth and tenth records. The status of Swainson's Thrush in n.e. Arizona is poorly known, and five birds seen at Kayenta, Teec Nos Pos and Canyon de Chelly Oct. 9–11 (DS, SP) appear to be the first recorded there in fall. Up to 32 E. Bluebirds, including immatures, were at Ft. Sumner Aug. 5 – Nov. 8 (WHO *et al.*).

Golden-crowned Kinglets invaded the L.Pec.V., with at least seven from n.e. of Roswell to Rattlesnake Springs Oct. 22 – Nov. 8 (WHO). Sprague's Pipits were unusually numerous in the L.Pec.V., with 72 reports Oct. 2–Nov. 30 (WHO *et al.*). Northern Arizona got its first records of this species with one at Teec Nos Post Oct. 5 (KR *et al.*) and one at Tuzigoot Oct. 19 (ST). A brood of Starlings near Santa Fe Oct. 18 (J. Vaught) was the latest ever breeding record for New Mexico.

Another outstanding find in n.e. Arizona was a **White-eyed Vireo** at Round Rock, Apache Co., Oct. 11 (†DS, †SP) for a third sight record for the state. Solitary Vireos, though to include *V.s. solitarius* (*to A.S.U.), were found to migrate through the L.Pec.V. in small numbers Sept. 5 – Oct. 20 (WCH *et al.*).

Two Red-eyed Vireos were near Artesia Sept. 27 (WCH) and of the four reported from Arizona this fall, an adult s. of Phoenix Nov. 5 (†KR) was extremely late. Three Philadelphia Vireos were found in Arizona; one at Bisbee Sept. 8 (†DD), one at Tucson Sept. 27–28 (WD *et al.*, ph. ST) and one at Sonoita Cr., Oct. 23 (GRO). Another was near Anthony, N. Mex., Sept. 28 along with an out-of-range Hutton's Vireo Sept. 2 & 28 (†KZ).

WOOD WARBLERS—This group always adds spice to the season and is often the barometer by which birders measure the excitement of the migration. This fall was certainly no disappointment in spite of the absence of favorable weather. In the rare but regular category, species were reported as follows: Black-and-white—two in New Mexico, four in Arizona; Tennessee—six each in New Mexico and Arizona; N. Parula—two at Tempe, Ariz., Sept. 26 and Oct. 13; Black-throated Blue—one in the L.Pec.V., Sept. 27 and seven in Arizona Oct. 4 – Nov. 12; Chestnut-sided—four in New Mexico, two in Arizona; plus the usual number of N. Waterthrushes and Am. Redstarts.

More unusual were single Prothonotary Warblers at Ganado L., Ariz., Aug. 17 (KK *et al.*, ph. ST), near Roswell Sept. 24 (†WCH), Alameda, N. Mex., Sept. 4–7 (HS *et al.*) and Mesa, Ariz., Oct. 12 (Mrs. Gritz-

ner., *vide* JW). Single Magnolia Warblers were at L. McMillan Oct. 1 (WHO) and at Round Rock, Ariz., Oct. 11 (DS, SP). Single Black-throated Green Warblers at Tucson Sept. 21 (WHpf) and at Canyon de Chelly Oct. 11 (DS, SP) were the only reports. Eastern Hermit Warblers were at Ganado Aug. 17-24 (ST, KK), near Alto, N. Mex., Sept. 21 (MA *et al.*) and at Petrified Forest N.P., Ariz., Oct. 4 (GHR *et al.*).



Bay-breasted Warbler, Paloma, Ariz., Nov. 22, 1980. Photo/Kenneth V. Rosenberg.

Two species occurred in unprecedented numbers in Arizona. Three Blackburnian Warblers were seen in quick succession; one near Eager Oct. 3 (ST *et al.*), in the same tree as one in 1978; an ad. male at Ganado Oct. 4 (ST, LT), and one at Teec Nos Pos Oct. 5 (ph, ST *et al.*). Another was s. of Prescott Oct. 16 (CT), and an additional ad. female was at Magdalena, Sonora, Oct. 26 (ST, AG). An incredible seven Blackpoll Warblers were reported as follows: Ganado Sept. 14 (†GHR, JW, KK), Tucson Sept. 26-29 (SG *et al.*, ph ST), Parker Oct. 11 (ph. KR *et al.*), Phoenix Oct. 12 (ph. ST, LT), Tuzigoot Oct. 19 (ST, *to A.S.U.), and a different individual at Phoenix Nov. 7-12 (ph. KR *et al.*). There were only eight previous records of this species in Arizona, of which most are in spring. The tiny oasis of Theba (now called Paloma) attracted Arizona's ninth Bay-breasted Warbler Nov. 16-22 (†GHR, JW *et al.*, ph. KR). Another was at Bitter Lake, N.W.R., N. Mex. Nov. 2 (WHO). A very yellow Palm Warbler near Artesia, N. Mex., Nov. 8 (WCH) was possibly the race *D.p. hypochrysea*. Two other extremely rare warblers were found; on July 31, Phil Walters banded and photographed a Louisiana Waterthrush at Tucson, and a Canada Warbler was seen near Prescott Oct. 3 (CT). Each provided a fifth Arizona record.

ICTERIDS AND TANAGERS—The only regional Bobolink report was of one at Bitter Lake N.W.R. Sept. 23 (WHO). Single N. "Baltimore" Orioles were identified e. of the Sandia Mts., N. Mex., Sept. 14 (HS *et al.*), at Ft. Sumner Sept. 8 (†WCH), and near Superior, Ariz., Sept. 20 (GHR). An ad. ♂ Streak-backed Oriole was at Magdalena, Sonora Oct. 25-26 and Nov. 15-16 (ph. KR, ST), and two individuals were again at feeders in Tucson during the period (*vide* GM). A Rusty Blackbird was at Tucson Nov. 19+ (KK *et al.*, ph. ST, KR), and two were seen there together Nov. 20 (DS, SP). Five Great-tailed Grackles near Marble Canyon Nov. 30 (ST *et al.*) represented the northernmost record in Arizona. The last Com. Grackle at Farmington was on Oct. 10 (APN).

FRINGILLIDS—A pair of Painted Buntings with two fledglings s. of Ft. Sumner Aug. 6 (WCH, WHO) suggested local breeding, which would be at a new n. point for New Mexico. In Arizona, this species made a superb showing with six occurrences as follows: one at Tucson (KJ) and one at Ganado Aug. 17 (†KR *et al.*), a male at Portal Aug. 24 (*vide* SS), and singles near Superior Sept. 6 (ph. KR, GHR), Patagonia Sept. 20 (DS, SP), a second bird at Tucson Sept. 28 (ST). In Arizona the only Dickcissel of the fall was a bird seen and heard calling with a flock of House Sparrows at Phoenix Sept. 7 (ST *et al.*). A ♂ Cardinal was seen near Anthony, N. Mex., Sept. 5 (KZ), where the species is quite rare. Exceptional as to place and date were three Evening Grosbeaks near Cliff, N. Mex., Aug. Aug. 7-8 (JE, JH), and a Red Crossbill at Corrales, N. Mex., Aug. 17 (JD *et al.*).

Two Grasshopper Sparrows were banded at Albuquerque Oct. 11 (C. Hundertmark), where rarely reported. After a heavy snow in the L.Pec.V., Nov. 26, a possible Baird's Sparrow was studied at close range on a roadside n. of Artesia (†WCH, WHO). A Dark-eyed "White-winged" Junco was reported from Cienaga Canyon in the Sandia Mts., Nov. 22 (HS); there is only one previous report from that area. Southerly Tree Sparrows in New Mexico were singles at Zuni Nov. 4 (JT)—a local first—and near Loving Nov. 28 (WHO). A Field Sparrow at Bitter Lake N.W.R., Nov. 4 (WHO) was n. of previously reported localities, and a Clay-colored Sparrow at El Oasis near Puerto Peñasco, Sonora Oct. 19 (KR) was the only one reported from the w. part of the Region. Among the reports of uncommon *Zonotrichia* sparrows, three Harris' in Arizona and two Golden-crowns in New Mexico were noteworthy and a Golden-crown near the Utah border at Moccasin Nov. 30 (GHR *et al.*) represented one of the very few reports from n. Arizona. Very large numbers of longspurs moved through the L.Pec.V. this fall and careful study showed that nearly all were Chestnut-collared, as expected. Of the roughly 5400 that were identified, 12 were definitely McCown's and four were Laplands. Large numbers of Chestnut-collared also occurred near Cliff, N. Mex., Nov. 23 (JE) in an area where previously unreported. The only unusual longspur report from Arizona this fall was of a Lapland at Round Rock Oct. 10 (DS, SP).

CORRIGENDA—The reference (AB 34:805) to magpies at Espanola, N. Mex., in 1977 should be 50, not 200. The possible two Roseate Terns reported and photographed e. of Roswell, N. Mex., May 1, 1978 (AB 32:1041) have been determined to be Forster's Terns, based on the photo.

ADDENDUM—A breeding-plumaged Hudsonian Godwit at Bitter Lake N.W.R., N. Mex., in June 1980 (Lee Marlatt, ph.) represents only the second confirmed state record.

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ALASKA REGION / D.D. Gibson

Autumn 1980 was generally mild from beginning to end. A number of interesting records were gathered during a week's field work at Middleton I., isolated in the Gulf of Alaska, about 105 km south of Cordova. Future field work there would determine the extent of trans-Gulf of Alaska movement of many forms, some of which, based on very little available information, appear to be simply out of place.

CORMORANTS, WATERFOWL—An ad. Brandt's Cormorant was reported from Revillagigedo Channel, near Annette I., Nov. 16 (MEI). The Alaska status of this bird is perplexing ... any detailed records from Southeastern are solicited. A late Blue-winged Teal present at Anchorage through Oct. 18 (TGT) was of interest, as was one found dead Oct. 11 at Middleton (TGT). A Ring-necked Duck at Middleton Oct. 11 (TGT) was most interesting, since this species is rare on the adjacent mainland coast.

OSPREYS, FALCONS—Ospreys on the Kobuk R.—a pair feeding grown young in the nest Sept. 7 and one bird seen Sept. 12 (CH)—were at the n.w. limit of the breeding range and late. An Osprey reported near Hollis, Prince of Wales I., s.e. Alaska, Oct. 23 (*vide* TK) was also late. An ♂ Am. Kestrel Oct. 8 at Middleton (TGT) was a most interesting at-sea record.

RAILS, SANDPIPERS—Not related to the first Regional breeding records, established in c. Alaska in summer 1980 (*q.v.*), up to 12 Am. Coots were present all fall at Blind Slough near Petersburg (SK), where coots occur regularly at this season. Probably the individual that summered at Potter Marsh, Anchorage, was the one reported there Aug.

31 - Sept 1 (PDA) Surprising were at least three Am. Coots observed Oct. 8-15 at Middleton (TGT). White-rumped Sandpipers were numerous at the Canning R. Delta, n. Alaska, July 31 - Aug. 10, maximum 11 on Aug. 9 (PDM). Sharp-tailed Sandpipers arrived on the Yukon-Kuskokwim R. Delta in late August, and several flocks of 100+ birds were seen there in subsequent weeks (REG). Easternmost records this fall included up to six at Middleton Oct. 9-12 (TGT) and three at the Mendenhall R. estuary, Juneau, Oct. 17 (RBW). Latest reported in 1980 was one at Womens Bay, Kodiak Oct. 25 (RAM). An imm. ♂ Ruff at Lake Rose Tead Sept. 3 (†RAM) provided a first record for Kodiak and only the second substantiated record for the Alaska Pacific coast e. of the Aleutians.

GULLS ALCLIDS—An ad. **California Gull** at the Anchorage dump Aug. 20 (†TGT) provided the first Regional record w. of Southeastern. At least 300 Ross' Gulls at Pt. Barrow Sept. were earliest arrivals there this year (GEH). There were two records of Red-legged Kittiwake in the Gulf of Alaska this period: single adults at E. Amatuli I., Barren Is., Aug. 9 (ph. DBM & AGP) and at Womens Bay, Kodiak Oct. 17 (†RAM). A **Least Auklet** at E. Amatuli Aug. 7 (†DBM & AGP) provided only the second substantiated record e. of Kodiak, where the species is casual at any season.

DOVES, SWIFTS, HUMMINGBIRDS—A Mourning Dove at Craig, s.e. Alaska, Oct. 26 - Nov. 16+ (TK) provided the latest-ever date in the Region of this rare fall migrant. Five Black Swifts were observed at Petersburg Sept. 3 (SK). Most of the few autumn records of this bird in Alaska have been made during the first 10 days of September, none later. An Anna's Hummingbird seen at Totem Park, Juneau Sept. 11 - Nov. 4+ (RBW) was the only one reported this fall.

WOODPECKERS, LARKS—Once again Red-breasted Sapsuckers reached Kodiak (see AB 33:205); separate single adults observed Oct. 19 and about Nov. 17 (†RAM, CR). This bird is not known to breed anywhere in southcoastal Alaska. A ♂ Downy Woodpecker at Middleton Oct. 10 (TGT) was a most interesting, at-sea, record, as were individual Com. "Red-shafted" and "Yellow-shafted" flickers seen there Oct. 8 & 10, respectively (TGT). A lone flicker seen at Petersburg Dec. 11 (SK) provided the latest fall record in the state, unless, as a few have done, it remained to winter. A Black-backed and two N. three-toed woodpeckers were seen in dead spruce along a new road cut at Homer Aug. 31 (DWS & GJT), and eight Northerns were seen in that area Nov. 8 (DWS). A lone Horned Lark observed Nov. 11 at Kodiak (†RAM & DWS), for a first record for that island, sounded from its description like *E. a. flava*, not Alaska-breeding *E. a. arctica*. There have been only three Alaska records of this n. Palearctic subspecies, two of them specimens (see AB 33:205).

JAYS—A Gray Jay observed at the observer's camp on the Tutakoke R., coastal Yukon-Kuskokwim R. Delta, Aug. 23 (REG) and one reported aboard a fishing vessel an-

chored off the Semidi Is., s.w. of Kodiak Oct. 7 (DWS, *fide* RAM) were unusual observations. Except in irruptions, there is rarely evidence that this species is other than sedentary.

NUTHATCHES THROUGH WAXWINGS—More numerous than usual, Red-breasted Nuthatches were seen as scattered singles in the Cordova area toward the end of November (MEI, REF). The species was present in small numbers in Anchorage from early August (TGT) - Nov. 18 (DT, *fide* RLA), and a total of "at least 50" was seen this season at Craig (TK). Two Bluethroats at Pt. Barrow as late as Sept. 6 (GEH) provided the first September records in Alaska. Both Golden- and Ruby-crowned kinglets were seen daily Oct. 8-15 at Middleton, maximum eight Golden-crowns Oct. 10, five Ruby-crowns Oct. 10 & 13 (TGT). Wintering Bohemian Waxwings arrived at Anchorage Oct. 134 (PK, *fide* RLA), and the first 15 arrived at Juneau Oct. 17 (RBW). Single Bohemian Waxwings were seen on isolated Middleton Oct. 10, 12 & 13 (TGT).

WOOD WARBLERS, BLACKBIRDS—A **MacGillivray's Warbler** netted and released at Anchorage Aug. 17 (†LLH, *fide* JCP) provided the first southcoastal Alaska record. The only other Regional records n. or w. of s.e. Alaska, where the species breeds, are from the Barrow area, one in summer and one in fall. Two Orange-crowned Warblers on remote Middleton Oct. 10 (TGT) provided one of the latest records for the state. A juv. Brown-headed Cowbird on the e. Copper R. Delta Sept. 1 (DRH) was the only one reported this fall.

FINCHES, BUNTINGS—Pine Siskins, Red and White-winged crossbills, and Pine Grosbeaks were widely commented on this season. Large flocks of siskins were recorded in the Prince William Sound area (MEI), the species was present in some numbers at least through October on the Kenai Pen., in the Kasilof area (MAM), and it was common the whole period at Kodiak I., where young-of-the-year were seen Aug. 14 (RAM). Migrant siskins were seen daily Oct. 8-15 at Middleton I., where maximum was nine birds Oct. 10 (TGT). Redpolls were widespread throughout the season, but nowhere in prominent numbers. Red Crossbills were present in small numbers at Kodiak (RAM); this species was observed in many flocks this fall at Craig (TK). White-winged Crossbills were very common August - November in the Prince William Sound area (MEI), they were present throughout the period on the Kenai Pen. (MAM), and they were common to abundant all fall at Kodiak, where begging young were seen Sept. 27 (RAM). This species was widespread but not ubiquitous in c. Alaska (m.ob.). Wintering Pine Grosbeaks arrived at Juneau Nov. 17 (RBW), and small flocks of 5-15 were seen regularly Nov. 20+ at Petersburg (SK). After their 1979 absence in the Kasilof area, grosbeaks appeared there in small numbers this season (MAM). The species was more numerous than usual in c. Alaska, where birds patronized seed feeders at Fairbanks, for the first time in numbers,

on into the winter season (m.ob.)

A Lincoln's Sparrow was found Nov. 29 near the Buskin R. mouth, Kodiak (RAM), where single birds have been recorded wintering since 1974-75, missing only 1977-78. After a 2-year absence, Harris' Sparrow returned to Juneau this autumn—one bird that arrived Oct. 29 was banded Nov. 6, and remained Nov. 30+ (RBW). Although represented by only a very small population, this sparrow occurred annually in fall and winter in s.e. Alaska from at least 1964 - 1977. Scores of White-crowned Sparrows lingered through November at Cordova (REF), and one remained as late as Nov. 22 at Anchorage (RC, *fide* RLA); an adult attempted to overwinter at Fairbanks, but it failed to survive -40°F temperatures in mid-December (DDG). The first of Kodiak's usual few wintering birds (there is no through migration of White-crowned Sparrow there—RAM) arrived Aug. 28 (JBA, *fide* RAM). Single **White-throated Sparrows** were observed at Brownlow Pt., n. Alaska Aug. 17-28 (PDM) and at Craig Nov. 16 (TK), the 12th and 13th Alaska records of this bird, which has occurred at all seasons. Two extralimital Dark-eyed Juncos, singles at Savoonga, St. Lawrence I., in late September and in mid-October (DKW), were of interest. The first fall arrival of Tree Sparrow at Juneau Oct. 12, was a band return (RBW); three at Kodiak Nov. 11 were first wintering birds to arrive there (RAM).

CORRIGENDA—Longitude 180° W (AB 34:191) does not exist, and R.A. MacDonald (AB 34:807) is apparently a combination of the names that flank it on the observer list

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NORTHERN PACIFIC COAST REGION

/ Eugene S. Hunn and Philip W. Mattocks, Jr.

August through October was uniformly warmer and much drier than usual, based on the Medford, Portland, and Seattle weather stations. Then November rainfall was double the total precipitation during the previous three months. Most fell during scattered storms, however, and the overall temperature remained above average.

The usual vagrant concentration in late August-early September included Hudsonian Godwit, Say's Phoebe, Ash-throated Flycatcher, N. Parula, Brewer's Sparrow, and Smith's Longspur. Then in mid-October most of the vagrant warblers occurred, with Black-and-white, Blackpoll, and Cape May noted. Despite these birds, and eleven Ruffs, the season seemed quiet, generally matching the weather.

LOONS THROUGH HERONS—The first Yellow-billed Loon reported this season was in the Westport, Wash., harbor Oct. 5 (TW *et al.*). The 318 Red-necked Grebes off s. Vancouver I. (hereafter, V.I.) Sept. 7 (MS, J&RS, *vide* VG) was a relatively high count. So too were the 30+ Eared Grebes on the Everett, Wash., sewage ponds Oct. 19-26 (MIM *et al.*), and the seven Eareds at Ocean Park, B.C., Oct. 26 (JWi, *vide* WW). Flocks of 3000+ W. Grebes were found in early October at Iona I., near Vancouver, B.C. (WW), and off Crofton, V.I. (JC *et al.*). In Oregon the species was considered to be in lower numbers than in recent years (HN). As usual all individuals examined were of the dark phase.

With one exception observed numbers of N. Fulmars remained low. Three were seen off Westport Aug. 17 & Oct. 5 (TW, DP *et al.*), and four were blown in by a storm to Netarts Bay, Oreg., Nov. 1 (TC, RP). One trip off Newport, Oreg., however, found 200± N. Fulmar Oct. 18 (TC *et al.*). Observed numbers of Pink-footed, Flesh-footed, and New Zealand shearwaters were very low, continuing the pattern of the previous two autumns. High counts of Pink-footeds were 64 off Westport Sept. 8 (TW *et al.*), 75± off Newport Sept. 27 (TC, SG *et al.*), and 85 off Westport Oct. 5. The high count of New Zealands was 24 off Westport Oct. 5 (TW, DP *et al.*). The only Flesh-footeds noted were singles Aug. 17 off Westport (TW *et al.*) and Sept. 20 off Brookings, Oreg. (†SS *et al.*). No Short-tailed Shearwaters were reported.

The N influx of Brown Pelicans peaked at 200 in Tillamook Bay, Oreg., during September (DF *et al.*) and 250 at nearby Netarts Bay Nov. 1 (TC, RP). Twenty were n. to the n. jetty of the Columbia R., Wash., Sept. 10 (RW). One at Netarts Bay Nov. 21 was the last reported (TC, RP).

Green Herons were widely reported and were in above-normal numbers in at least the Bellingham area (TW). One Great Egret was found in s.w. British Columbia Sept. 3 & Oct. 6 (†JWi, †MP), and two were seen in w. Washington in November (RRy, DGa, JD,

G&WH). In contrast, 130± Great Egrets were widespread in w. Oregon throughout the period.

S.A.

There was a record invasion of Cattle Egrets n. of the Columbia R. This influx provided several times as many records for British Columbia as had ever been found there. Strangely, the first one was reported Oct. 8 from Tlell, on the Queen Charlotte Is., at the n. edge of the Region (*vide* WMr, MMc). Nine were near Nanaimo, V.I., Oct. 25-26 (*vide* WMr, MMc), and by Nov. 7-8 ten were on Reifel I., near Vancouver, B.C. (B&DDa, ST, *vide* WW), one was near Hoquiam, Wash. (G&WH), and 14 were in Newport, Oreg. (FS, BO, RB-ph., *vide* E&EE, HN). On Nov. 16 six were near Bellingham, Wash. (TW) and Nov. 21 + three were near Sumner, Wash. (†EH, †AR). There were many reports of one-two birds, and organized censuses Nov. 30 tallied 20 in s.w. British Columbia (DK *et al.*) and three in n.w. Washington (TW *et al.*).

About five Snowy Egrets were found in s.w. Oregon, as usual. A group of 14 Black-crowned Night Herons, including both adults and juveniles, was found Oct. 4 at a sand and gravel pit just w. of Roseburg, Oreg. (MJ, MSa, *vide* FP). An imm. Black-crowned Night Heron was noted at Reifel I., B.C., Nov. 16 (ST, DK, MF, *vide* WW).

WATERFOWL

Trumpeter Swans arrived s. V.I., s.w. British Columbia, and w. Washington on schedule in late October and early November. The 111 Mute Swans in the Duncan, V.I., area Nov. 22 was a high count (JC). One Mute Swan was at Iona I., near Vancouver, B.C., Nov. 1 (KBe, *vide* WW). The

only Emperor Goose reported was on the beach at Cape Arago, Oreg., Nov. 11 (MGr, JH, *vide* AM). Thirty White-fronted Geese over the John's R., near Grays Harbor, Wash., Aug. 18 (TB, IK) were the earliest ever for w. Washington by about 3 weeks. Other early White-fronteds were on Sauvie I., near Portland, Oreg., Aug. 25 & 31 (RSm, *vide* HN), and on the beach at Tatoosh, I., Wash., Sept. 7 (DB *et al.*). From Sept. 14-Nov. 24 a White-fronted Goose with a rich dark brown head and neck and wearing a blue collar was present in Sooke, V.I. (BMu, M&VG *et al.*). The bird was considered to be of the "Tule" race (see AB 32:164, 1978).

About 20 Black Ducks, presumably from the introduced populations, were on the Everett sewage ponds during September and October (m.ob.). A downy young Gadwall was with a few adults Aug. 21 in Everett (EH). The 76 Blue-winged Teal Aug. 30 at the Duncan, V.I., sewage ponds (JC) and 40 at the Nehalem, Oreg., sewage ponds Sept. 20 (DF, KA) were exceptionally high counts. Some of those at Duncan stayed through Oct. 11, and some at Nehalem until Oct. 19 (JG). A ♂ "Eur." Green-winged Teal was found in Vancouver, B.C., Nov. 6 (FH, *vide* WW). Several Am. Wigeon were early at Oak Bay, V.I., Aug. 5 (*vide* VG), at Tukwila, Wash., Aug. 8 (BHT), in Seattle Aug. 18-19 (ES, ER), and at the S.J.C.R., Aug. 23 (HN). A ♀ Wood Duck with four young was seen in Saanich, V.I., Aug. 8 (GC, *vide* VG), and 53 were present on the Duncan, V.I., sewage ponds Oct. 25 (JC).

Greater Scaup were considered rather uncommon along the Oregon coast this season (HN), and both Greater and Lesser scaup were unusually scarce on s. V.I. (VG). A ♂ Tufted Duck was at Crescent Beach, s.e. of Vancouver, B.C., Nov. 16-26 (JSv, *vide*



WW). The local gathering of Barrow's Goldeneyes on Capitol L., Olympia, Wash., had reached 1000+ by early November (G&WH). A dead King Eider was found on the beach at Cape Arago, Oreg., Nov. 18 (†MGr, *vide* AM, CWa). A brood of 7-10 day old Ruddy Duck ducklings was on the Everett, Wash., sewage ponds Sept. 26 (PM).

RAPTORS THROUGH COOT—From Sept. 20 through Oct. 13 flocks of several dozen Turkey Vultures were tracked across s. V.I. (*vide* VG). Many of these were ultimately seen heading out over the Straits. The high daily counts were 191 Sept. 21 and 155 Oct. 3. Farther s. a flock of 43 was seen over Suther-

lin, Oreg. (MaM), and 300 passed S over Silverdale, w. of Seattle (HNo), both on Oct. 5. About ten White-tailed Kites at 5 Oregon locations were a few more than last fall. One was n. to Willapa Bay, Wash., Sept. 21-Oct. 15 (D&ME, *vide* E&EE; JWe, *vide* RW). Despite last year's promising beginning, there were no reports this year of ridgetop hawk watching in the Region. A few more Goshawks than usual were reported. The observed lowland ratio of Sharp-shinned Hawks to Cooper's was about 1:1. A "Harlan's Red-tailed Hawk was seen Oct. 26 at the Everett sewage ponds (†MiM, MEg *et al.*). Three Red-shouldered Hawks were noted in s. Oregon. Two were near Port Orford in early September (JG, DI) and one was near Eugene Oct. 1 (LM *et al.*, *vide* CWa) and Nov. 22 (FR, *vide* E&EE). The latest Ospreys were one Oct. 20 on the Queen Charlotte Is. (TS, MEs, *vide* VG), and one Nov. 8 in Corvallis (JK, *vide* E&EE). A gray-phase Gyrfalcon was reported Nov. 2 over the surf off Bayocean spit, Oreg. (HN). Four Prairie Falcons were found w. of the Cascades in Oregon this season. One stayed Aug. 28+ at Agate L., near Medford (OSW, MaM, SG). There were reports of 55± Peregrines and 85 Merlins from throughout the Region. Even allowing for some possible duplication of migrant birds these totals are distinctly higher than those for the last several years.

A Ruffed Grouse Sept. 14 at Iona I., B.C., was only the second record there (KH, *vide* WW). Another was drumming Oct. 18 near Fall C., Lincoln Co., Oreg. (R&JK, EE). Two Soras and eight Virginia Rails were near the Anacortes, Was., ferry landing Sept. 13 (EH *et al.*), and another Sora was on the Nisqually N.W.R., Wash., Oct. 19 (*vide* TB). Two imm. Am. Coots were in Saanich, V.I., Sept. 6 (RS, *vide* VG), and four downy young coots were in Seattle Sept. 14 (EH *et al.*).

SHOREBIRDS—A Snowy Plover nest with three eggs was found Aug. 2 at Tillamook, Oreg. (JG, TC, OSc, *vide* HN), and two adults with eight immatures were seen there Sept. 11 (HN). One adult and two imm. Snowies were seen Aug. 24 on dredge spoil on the n. spit at Coos Bay, Oreg. (AM). Groups of 50-150 Am. Golden Plover were at Ocean Shores and Leadbetter Pt., Wash., Sept. 2-Oct. 4 (MC, DP, EH *et al.*). About 20 of those seen Sept. 27 were believed to be of the race *fulva* (BHT). Elsewhere the largest flock was of 12 at Coos Bay Sept. 8-13 (AM, JG, HN, RP). Many others were scattered throughout the Region. The high counts of Ruddy Turnstones were Sept. 2, with 27 at Dungeness Spit, Wash. (KG) and 24 at Ocean Shores (MC). Single Ruddies were late at Beach Grove, B.C., Nov. 10 (BK), Bandon, Oreg., Nov. 23 (SG), and Port Angeles, Wash., Nov. 30 (WS, KK). A large flock of 27± Long-billed Curlews was in the Tokeland-Leadbetter Pt., area Sept. 7-11 (MC, CWe). Two Upland Sandpipers were found Sept. 14 in a gravel pit pond just s. of Cowichan Bay, V.I. (B&WMe, *vide* VG). About 17 Solitary Sandpipers were scattered through the Region.

A Spotted Redshank briefly appeared Nov. 29 at the Reifel Ref., near Vancouver, B.C. (†BK), for only the second record for the Region. The first was also at Reifel Ref. (AB

25:97, 1971). The 190 Greater Yellowlegs at Ocean City S.P., Wash., Sept. 13 was a high count (DP *et al.*). The 96 Lesser Yellowlegs at Nehalem, Oreg., Aug. 23 (TC) and the 75 at Iona I., Aug. 26 (DK, GA, *vide* WW) were extraordinary concentrations. Thirty were still in the Dungeness, Wash., area in early Oct. (KK), and one Nov. 4 at Siletz Bay, Oreg., was late (JG *et al.*, *vide* HN). About a dozen Willets stayed at both Yaquina Bay, Oreg., (m.ob.), and the mouth of the North R., Willapa Bay, Wash. (EH, GB), through the season. One strayed N to Tatoosh I., Wash., Sept. 6 (DB, PS, TFr).

Semipalmated Sandpipers were recorded at only four localities: Point Gray and Iona I., B.C., the Montlake fill in Seattle, and Tillamook Bay, Oreg. Nine at Iona I., Aug. 14 (TW), ten at Seattle July 30 (DP) and seven there Aug. 9 (ER, †EH, †BHT), and seven at Tillamook in mid-August (DI) were the high counts. One Sept. 18 at Tillamook was the latest (JG). All for which age was reported were considered to be juveniles. Three Baird's Sandpipers at Leadbetter Pt., Sept. 28 (MC) and one Oct. 4 at Tillamook (HN), and two Pectoral Sandpipers Nov. 9 at Kent, Wash. (AR), were somewhat late. About 18 Sharp-tailed Sandpipers in six localities Sept. 7-Oct. 13 were normal. The only reports away from the coast were of one at the Corvallis, Oreg., sewage ponds Sept. 30-Oct. 8 (RK *et al.* *vide* E&EE), and three on Sauvie I., Oct. 8-17 (HN, OSc). Groups of 1-6 Dunlin were widely scattered after mid-August, and groups of 15-50 were found after Sept. 14. Flocks of 1200+ at Ocean Shores (DP *et al.*) and of 100+ elsewhere Oct. 4 apparently marked the major arrival of the species. Five Stilt Sandpipers Aug. 25 at Iona I., (BK, *vide* WW) and three at Tillamook Bay Aug. 23-31 (JG, HN *et al.*) were the high counts for the species. Singles Sept. 23 at Iona I., (*vide* WW) and Oct. 8 at Serpentine Fen, near Vancouver, B.C. (JWi) were both later than usual.



Buff-breasted Sandpiper, Tillamook, Ore., Aug. 23, 1980. Photo/Owen Schmidt.

In contrast to the last two exceptional fall seasons the Buff-breasted Sandpiper total for the Region was a more normal 14 individuals. The first was one Aug. 18-21 at Sauvie I. (DI, HN and the last, one, at Ocean Shores Sept. 26-27 (DP *et al.*), a late date. One of the three Buff-breasteds present at Tillamook Aug. 21-Sept. 11 (JG *et al.*) was banded there Aug. 28 (AC). Six at Leadbetter Pt., Sept. 8-11 was the high count (MC, CWe *et al.*). As last year most of the Marbled Godwits reported were in one flock on Willapa Bay. This year the count was 137 Sept. 9 (MC). The next largest group was of 19 at Bandon, Oreg., Aug. 24 (JCa). Bar-tailed Godwits in the Region con-

tinue to require careful verification. Most West Coast individuals have been of the race *baueri*, which lacks the white rump typical of the species. This season singles were reported from Coos Bay and Bandon, Oreg., and Dungeness, Wash.



Hudsonian Godwits, Tillamook Bay, Ore., Aug. 17, 1980. Photo/Owen Schmidt.

At Tillamook Bay Aug. 17, during a morning of light rain, a flock of 16 Hudsonian Godwits flew in with a Whimbrel, stayed a half-hour, then flew off. At least eight observers got good views and several photographs (†JG *et al.*) for the second record for w. Oregon. A single Hudsonian Godwit was seen Sept. 9 on Leadbetter Pt., (†CWe) for the fourth record for w. Washington. Eleven Ruffs were noted, which continues the trend of annual increases since 1976. One on the n. Spit of Coos Bay Aug. 25-Sept. 13 (TFi, RP *et al.*) and two at the mouth of the Coquille R., near Bandon Sept. 12+ (†JG, DI, SG *et al.*) provided Oregon's third and fourth records. Single Ruffs were at Iona I., Aug. 4 (†DK *et al.*), Sept. 21-23 (†BK *et al.*), and Oct. 12-14 (†DM, DK *et al.*). The descriptions indicated that separate individuals were involved. Three were at Leadbetter Pt., Sept. 8-20 (MC, CWe, RE *et al.*) and others were at Ocean Shores Sept. 2-8 (MC, EH *et al.*) and at Dungeness Sept. 10 (†EH *et al.*). Pelagic trips offshore Westport Sept. 7 and Brookings, Oreg., Sept. 20 found 317 and 500 Red Phalaropes, respectively. These are high counts. A storm Nov. 1 blew 150 into Netarts Bay (TC, RP). Individuals were found along the c. Oregon coast for the next 2 weeks. The count of 1957 N. Phalaropes off Westport Sept. 7 (TW, DP *et al.*) was the highest ever for this species in many years of offshore trips from Westport.

JAEGERS THROUGH ALCIDS—The pelagic crew 20 mi off Brookings, Oreg., Sept. 20, encountered an extraordinary concentration of jaegers around the Russian fishing fleet. There were at least 40 Pomarine, 40 Parasitic, and five Long-tailed jaegers, and one skua (DR *et al.*). The 43 Pominines off Westport Oct. 5 was a very high count there (TW, DP *et al.*). One at Pt. Roberts, Wash., Nov. 8 was both late and unusually far inshore (†DK). Eight of nine pelagic excursions failed to find Long-tailed Jaeger. Two sightings were reported from shore; one Aug. 31 near Victoria (BH, KT, *vide* VG), and one Sept. 13 at Ocean Shores (G&WH). A third was found dead Sept. 7 at the S.J.C.R. (HN). Five skuas were reported on 3 of 9 pelagic trips. All were apparently dark juv. South Polar Skuas.

A massive migratory movement of gulls was reported on the n. Oregon coast Oct. 28-Nov. 10. Along the 18 mi of Sunset Beach Oct. 28 HN estimated 6500 combined Glaucous-winged and Western gulls, 1500 Herring, 800 Thayer's, 8000 California, 7000 Mew, and 1200 Heermann's. Bonaparte's were not numerous, and Ring-billed Gulls were notable by their absence. No comparable movement was noticed n. of the Columbia R., although coastal locations were checked regularly during that time.

Four Glaucous Gulls were reported. Singles at Ambleside P., Sept. 6 (MD) and at Delta Sept. 28 (RPh), both near Vancouver, B.C. (*vide* WW), were almost 2 months ahead of schedule. Single Herring Gulls Aug. 20 at Iona I. (BK, *vide* WW), Aug. 27 at Victoria (an immature) (RS, *vide* VG), and at Ocean Shores Sept. 6 (DP, AR) were very early, as most arrive here after late October. An imm. Thayer's Gull Aug. 23 at Vancouver, B.C. (BK, *vide* BK) was also early, although a dozen adults had arrived at Victoria by Sept. 17 (RS, *vide* VG). At least 27 Franklin's Gulls were reported Aug. 9-Nov. 15, all but three from the shore of the "inland sea," Puget Sound and the Straits of Juan de Fuca and Georgia. An ad. **Black-headed Gull** in winter plumage was closely studied at Oak Bay, Victoria, V.I., Oct. 17-21 (†RS, †JT, DC, *vide* VG). This rarity has been seen in the Victoria area 5 of the last 7 years, accounting for two-thirds of the Region's recorded sightings. The only Little Gull found this season was an adult Sept. 25-26 & Oct. 19 at the Everett sewage ponds (†AR, †SA, B&PE). The species has been of annual occurrence in the Region since 1972.

TW found fewer than usual Arctic Terns on pelagic trips off Westport. Five were seen Sept. 7, one Oct. 5, and none Aug. 17, Sept. 6 & 8. A single Cassin's Auklet Nov. 6 off Pt. Roberts (BK, *vide* WW) was the first for the Vancouver, B.C., area, and was a rare in-shore sighting of this highly pelagic feeder. One-three were also noted Nov. 9-10 at Victoria (RS, *vide* VG). All were on late dates.

OWLS TO WRENTIT—On Oct. 2 DD had a close encounter of the owl kind with a tiny, dark-eyed short-tailed, grayish owl roosting near his backyard feeder on Mercer I., Wash. Judging by the description this is the first Flammulated Owl ever recorded in the Region. The species is not uncommon as a breeder on the Cascade e. slope and is highly migratory. Snowy Owls were few and tardy, as has been the case since the fall of 1975. The first appeared Nov. 15 at Victoria (GHu, RS, *vide* VG), and Nov. 16 at Delta, s. of Vancouver, B.C. (DK, MF, *vide* WW). One reached the S.J.C.R., Nov. 22 (DA, RSm, HN *et al.*) for the only report from Oregon this season. The **Hawk Owl** family found this summer in Manning P.P., B.C., remained to at least Aug. 10. Thereafter one was seen Oct. 5 in Garibaldi P.P., in the Coast Range n. of Vancouver (D&MGo, *vide* WW), and another took up residence Nov. 29 in Pitt Meadows, e. of Vancouver (A&JGr, m.ob.) and was still present there in early February. Burrowing

Owls strayed to Roberts Bank, s. of Vancouver, B.C., Nov. 22 (†DJ), and to American Camp, San Juan I., Wash., Nov. 24 (BHT). A pair of Spotted Owls was seen and heard Aug. 30 7± mi e. of Marblemount, Wash. (C&PB), near the n. extremity of that species' range.

Two White-throated Swifts Aug. 8 at Stevenson, Wash., in the Columbia gorge (DF) furnished only the second record for w. Washington. Seven Lewis' Woodpeckers were noted Sept. 10-Nov. 28 from Reifel I., and at Victoria, to the Willamette Valley of Oregon, where small numbers regularly winter. Vagrant kingbirds included one Eastern Aug. 9 at Saanich, V.I. (HH, *vide* VG), and single Westerns Aug. 31 at Kent, Wash. (TB, RC) and Sept. 10 at Euchre Cr., on the s. Oregon coast (JG, DI). An Ash-throated Flycatcher showed up in Vancouver, B.C., Sept. 13 (†BK) and at nearby Iona I., Oct. 31 (†DHu, †WW *et al.*) for the ninth and tenth Vancouver area records. A Say's Phoebe Sept. 8 at Ocean Shores (CS, CN) provided only the second fall record for w. Washington. Late *Empidonax* departures were: Hammond's Sept. 20, Victoria (MS, *vide* VG), and Western Oct. 2, Saanich, V.I. (A&ED, *vide* VG). A W. Wood Pewee at Eugene, Oreg., Oct. 2 (SG), was late.

Two-three Bank Swallows fed over the Iona I. sewage ponds Aug. 10-Sept. 2 (*vide* WW). Elsewhere there were singles Aug. 3 at Leadbetter Pt., (RW), and Aug. 21 at Everett (EH). The high count of Purple Martins at Seattle was 32 Sept. 6 (DHu). This may be compared with fall concentrations there estimated at 12,500 in 1945 (E. Larrison, *Murrelet* 26:45-46)! Scrub Jays spent the fall at Stevenson and Carson, Wash., in the Columbia gorge at the n.e. edge of the species' range (DF). Single Black-billed Magpies ranged W of the Cascades to Port Coquitlam, e. of Vancouver, B.C., Aug. 29 (JCh, *vide* WW), to Morton, Wash., Nov. 3 (RRy), and to Saanich, V.I., Nov. 29 (BHu, *vide* MG). This latter sighting was the first for s. Vancouver I. Two Wrentits Aug. 30 at Dallas, Oreg., suggest this species may be expanding its Willamette Valley range toward Portland (RP).

THRUSHES TO BLACKBIRDS—A Veery Aug. 24 at Leadbetter Pt. (†RW) provided w. Washington's second fall report. Western Bluebirds were noted only in the Corvallis area and about Victoria, V.I., with 12 the high count. Ruby-crowned Kinglets first appeared Sept. 9 at L. Quinault on the Olympic Pen. There were widespread after mid-September. Water Pipit migration began Aug. 31 with 17 near Victoria (RS, *vide* VG), and peaked in mid-September with 500 at Ocean Shores Sept. 21 (KBr), with the usual few lingering flocks after late October. Several flocks of Bohemian Waxwings of 15-200 were conspicuous in the mountains of n. Washington and s. British Columbia including four Oct. 10 on Granite Cr., V.I. (KT, BHu, *vide* VG). A single Nov. 23 at Reifel I., B.C., (BK, *vide* WW), was the only lowland report. One Loggerhead Shrike was identified Nov. 2-5 at Beach Grove, B.C. (†BK *et al.*). Vireos departed in order: the last Red-eyed Aug. 27, Olympia, Wash. (JD), the last Warbling Sept. 27 at Ocean Shores (BHT),

and the last Solitary, a late straggler at Salem, Oreg., Oct. 18 (RP).

A fair variety of vagrant warblers added spice to the season in Oregon. A Black-and-white Warbler was in Roseburg Oct. 20-23 (†FP). A **Northern Parula** Sept. 4 at Cascade Head, Tillamook Co. (†JE) represented the fourth Oregon record. A **Cape May Warbler** Oct. 19 was at Bayocean Spit (†JG, †Osc, ph.) for the second state and first w. Oregon record. A **Blackpoll Warbler** Oct. 10 at Cape Blanco (JR, †DR) was the third for w. Oregon. A N. Waterthrush was at Pamela L., on Mt. Jefferson Sept. 12 (MZ, *vide* HN), and an Am. Redstart was at Tillamook Sept. 13 (TFi, *vide* HN). The total of six Palm Warblers was down considerably in comparison to last fall. Five appeared on the Oregon coast Sept. 13-Nov. 25, from Tillamook Bay to the Sixes R. mouth. One was at Blackie Spit, s.e. of Vancouver, B.C., Oct. 18 (†BK). Two Yellow-breasted Chats at Pt. Roberts, Wash., Sept. 13 (†MD) were uncommonly far n. and w., as the species is scarcely known n. of the Columbia R., in the Region.

Three vagrant Bobolinks appeared, one Sept. 1 at Fern Ridge Res., near Eugene (SG), and one-two Sept. 26 to late October at Yaquina Bay (JEV *et al.*). These were on the heels of last fall's surprising total of 13. Two Yellow-headed Blackbirds Nov. 12 at Sea I., s. of Vancouver, B.C. (BK, *vide* WW), were quite late. A single Rusty Blackbird appeared at Duncan, V.I., Nov. 22 & 30 (JC).

FINCHES AND SPARROWS—A ♂ Rose-breasted Grosbeak Aug. 2-12 at a Gold Beach feeder furnished the sixth record for w. Oregon (LB, *vide* DR). A flock of 14 Gray-crowned Rosy Finches Nov. 3 at 4400 ft in the Yacolt Burn on Silver Star Mt., n. of Washougal, Wash. (DF), were in an unusual location. All were Hepburn's, the breeding race of the Cascades. The Red Crossbill nested successfully near Corvallis, Oreg., an unusual lowland site, as a nestling was found there Aug. 30 (E&EE). The species was otherwise scarcely noted away from the Cascades. A few White-winged Crossbills were noted in the Cascades of s. British Columbia and n. Washington. Five at Mt. Rainier N.P., Aug. 3 (RT) were the only ones reported farther s. An imm. **Lark Bunting** at North Bend, Oreg., Sept. 12 (†DI, †JG, ph.) represented the fifth record for Oregon, and the second fall appearance in a row at this locality.



Lark Bunting, Oak Bay, V.I., June 7, 1980.
Photo/Bertha Goss.

Three Lark Sparrows in w. Washington were one short of last fall's total. Singles were noted Sept. 8 (EH *et al.*) and Oct. 4 (DP, JER) at Ocean Shores, and Nov. 29 at Ft. Canby S.P., Pacific County (†BS). A Brewer's Sparrow at Sea I., Sept. 14 (†BK) was the second for the Vancouver, B.C., area. This fall ten White-throated Sparrows were reported Sept. 21 +. The early bird was at Metchosis, V.I. (M&VG). A single Harris' Sparrow was found Nov. 26 at a Douglas County, Oreg., feeder which has hosted this species for 5 consecutive years (KGe, *fide* FP). Reports of White-throated Sparrows have averaged about 5.7/fall, and Harris' 3.2 over the last 10 years, with the former decidedly more variable from year to year. Lincoln's Sparrows moved through in larger than normal numbers. High counts were 25 on Aug. 30 about Victoria, V.I. (RS, *fide* VG), 36 Aug. 31 at Somenos L., V.I. (JC), and an estimated 50+ Sept. 21 at Sea I., near Vancouver, B.C. (BK, *fide* WW).

Outstanding were two **Smith's Longspurs**, both males in breeding plumage on Vancouver I. The first was seen Aug. 26 at Sooke (†R&VR, *fide* VG), the second Oct. 18 near Bamfield on the s.w. coast (KT, *fide* VG). WC reports that the species has been discovered breeding this past summer in n. British Columbia which may represent a range expansion in our direction. The only previous

regional report was of one on Cortez I., B.C. (AB 31:216, 1977).

CITED OBSERVERS and **ABBREVIATIONS**, with sub-regional editors in bold-face. Dave Anderson, Keith Anderson, Gerry Ansell, Scott Atkinson, Range Bayer, Kevin Bell (KBe), Chuck & Pam Bergman, Thais Bock, Dee Boersma, Lois Brooks, Ken Brown (KBr), Greg Butcher, Giff Calvert, Wayne Campbell, Jim Carlson (JCa), Mike Carcody, Donald Carruthers, Ruth Carson, James Christensen (JCh), John Comer (JC), Alan Contreras, Tom Crabtree, Mark Daley, Albert & Eleanore Davidson, Brian & Dorothy Davies (B&DDa), Jack Davis, Dudley Doe (DD), Mark Egger (MEg), Marj Elston (MEs), Elsie & Elzy Eltzroth, Don & Marcie Emenhiser (D&MEM), Jim Erckmann (JER), Joe Evanich (JEv), Bob & Pat Evans, Tad Finnell (TFi), **David Fix**, Mike Force, Terry Friedman (TFr), Dave Galvin (DGa), Jeff Gilligan (JG), Dudley & Monica Godfrey (D&MGo), Margaret & Vic Goodwill (M&VG), Steve Gordon, Al & Jude Grass (A&JGr), Mike Gruball (MGr), Ken Green (KGe), Karl Gruebel (KGu), Douglas Haddow (DHa), **Bill Harrington-Tweit** (BHT), Bob Hay (BHa), Keith Hobson, Jan Hodder, Glen & Wanda Hoge (G&WH), Harold Hosford, G. Houston (GHu), Rich Howard, Barbara Hughes (BHU), David Hutchison

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MIDDLE PACIFIC COAST REGION

/ Jules Evens and Ron LeValley

This fall was one of the proverbial Indian Summers as temperatures remained mild through the period. The first major storm did not occur until December 1. Ocean surface temperatures averaged 2°F lower than the 20-year mean in September and October but owing to the lack of storms and the associated cooling of surface waters, November found ocean temperatures almost 3°F above the 20-year mean. As a consequence most wintering waterbirds arrived later and in lower numbers than usual, but there was little abnormal lingering of birds that typically depart our Region for the south. The cool sea surface temperatures may have contributed to the paucity of shearwaters and jaegers in offshore waters.

Landbird migration began early, especially in the case of Tyrannids. Early movement was noted in the following species: Say's Phoebe, Willow Flycatcher (coastally) Western Flycatcher, Western Wood Pewee, Winter Wren, Yellow-rumped, Black-throated Gray and Townsend's warblers, Savannah, Fox and Lincoln's sparrows. Interestingly, many of the same species occur in the following list of those whose numbers were considered generally high: Say's Phoebe, Willow Flycatcher, Loggerhead Shrike, Hermit and Townsend's warblers, Savannah, Fox and Lincoln's sparrows. Low numbers were noted for "Red-breasted" Sapsucker, Varied Thrush, Evening

ing Grosbeak, Purple Finch, Pine Siskin, American and Lesser goldfinches.

The influence of local weather conditions on attracting and holding vagrants is made apparent by comparison of wave dates at various coastal stations. The Farallon Islands report that "the fall started off with a relatively high percentage of vagrants in early August but failed to carry through the season. The most notable waves were September 27 and October 6. October 18 and 28 were also good days, although less impressive"

(PH). Point Reyes dates correspond closely to those from the Farallones. The Carmel River, Monterey County was most productive in mid-October (when things were slow at Point Reyes), and Fairhaven, Humboldt County was most active from mid- to late September.

Overshadowing every other trend or rarity this season was the arrival of a Dusky Warbler (*Phylloscopus fuscatus*) on Southeast Farallon Island (see below). A Mongolian Plover at Moss Landing and a Short-billed Marsh Wren at Bolinas provided first California records.

A thorough report of sightings made continuously through the season at Los Vaqueros



Reservoir Site (hereafter, L.V.R.S.) in Southeastern Contra Costa County (RAE) provides the quality of local documentation that is the main value of files kept by the regional editors. Although most of this information is not published, it is available to interested researchers.

All sightings at Southeast Farallon Island (hereafter, F.I.) and Palomarin should be credited to Point Reyes Bird Observatory (P.R.B.O.). A (†) indicates that documentation is on file with the regional editors.

LOONS THROUGH STORM-PETRELS
—The main migration of Com. Loons along the coast took place in mid-October while mi-

gration of both Arctic and Red-throated loons peaked in mid-November (m.ob.). An Arctic Loon at L. Shastina Oct. 26 (RE) was the only one reported inland. Red-necked Grebes were reported in the normal localities and numbers, but a census Sept. 23 between Stinson Beach and Pt. Reyes Lighthouse revealed an unprecedented 86 (DS, JE). Subsequent censuses in that area revealed lower numbers, indicating the presence Sept. 23 of migrant individuals. Two Horned Grebes at Abbot's Lagoon Sept. 4 (JE) were early. Western Grebes exhibited a slight increase in numbers along the Marin County coast Sept. 25 when the first light-phase individuals were seen. Their first major increase in that area occurred in early November. Over 500 at L. Almanor, Plumas Co., Nov. 23 (DAA) and 1500-2000 on L. Berryessa Nov. 16 (*vide* BK) were impressive counts for those inland localities. At Limantour Estero, Pt. Reyes Nat'l Seashore (hereafter, P.R.N.S.) Pied-billed Grebes moved onto salt water areas in early October (DS).

The only Black-footed Albatross reported was one near Cordelle Banks Oct. 19 (DS, BDP). Only two reports of live N. Fulmars were received, one off Moss Landing Sept. 27 (SFB) and two near the Cordelle Banks Oct. 19 (DS, BDP). Pink-footed Shearwaters displayed the lowest fall numbers ever, eight in Monterey Bay Oct. 5 (RAE, RLeV), twenty there Oct. 12 (JD) and ten at Cordelle Banks Oct. 19 (DS, BDP) were the only ones reported. Similarly, this was a poor fall for New Zealand Shearwater sightings, m.ob. noting their scarcity. Seventy-five at Cordelle Banks Oct. 19 (DS, BDP) was the only concentration reported, most Monterey boat trips found 0-4 on day trips during September and October. Rare, but not unprecedented, were nine Sooty Shearwaters *inside* San Francisco Bay Aug. 10 (JM). A single Manx Shearwater seen 8 mi off Cypress Pt., Monterey Co. (TC, SFB) was the only fall sighting. Only two Fork-tailed Storm-Petrels were found in Monterey Bay this fall, one Aug. 23 (TC) and one Dec. 7 (Alan Baldrige). High numbers of storm-petrels in the autumn Monterey Bay flocks were recorded Oct. 12 when there were 2000 Ashy Storm-Petrels and 8000 Black Storm-Petrels (JD). The elusive Wilson's Storm-Petrel put in appearances with the Monterey flocks Sept. 16 (RS), Oct. 11 (DRo, JML), Oct. 12 (JD) and Oct. 19 (JLu).

PELICANS THROUGH HERONS—One White Pelican lingered at Lower Klamath N.W.R., until Nov. 8 (SAL). Aerial observations in s. San Francisco Bay (HLC) indicated that the wintering flock of White Pelicans numbered $500 \pm$. This winter flock fragments and shuttles daily around many locations in the s. bay. Eight hundred fifty White Pelicans just w. of Vallejo Aug. 9 (BDP) was the largest concentration reported in recent years.

A Green Heron that reached F.I., Sept. 9 (P.R.B.O.) was noteworthy, as was one on the Calif. State Univ. campus at Fresno that was reportedly "feeding on a sidewalk" (FRG). An imm. Little Blue Heron just w. of Vallejo Aug. 9 (JP, BDP) was far from areas where they have frequented and provided the only sighting this fall. Large concentrations of Cattle Egrets were of 200 between Corco-

ran and Tulare Oct. 11 (PSm) and 20 in the Arcata Bottoms Sept. 26 & Oct. 2 (RLeV). Elsewhere they were found in lower numbers than in preceding years, although this is probably not an indication that their increase in our Region is subsiding. A wintering concentration of 700 Black-crowned Night Herons on the Creighton Ranch, Fresno Co. (*vide* R&KHa) was probably to be expected. A Least Bittern at Drakes Beach, P.R.N.S., Sept. 18 (RS) was the first coastal sighting in our Region in many years. American Bitterns were widely reported in small numbers throughout the Region. Notable records were from Arcata Aug. 24 - Sept. 15 (RLeV, LD), Eureka Slough Nov. 23 (SAL, SJ) and F.I., Oct. 5 (P.R.B.O.), this last sighting represented only about the third island record.

WATERFOWL—The mild fall and a poor hatch for Canadian ducks combined to keep duck numbers in the Central Valley (hereafter, C.V.) about 40% below normal between mid-October and mid-November (BED). A Whistling Swan near the Garcia R. mouth, Mendocino Co., Sept. 1 (BDP, KVV) was remarkably early. Despite the low numbers of many of the dabbling ducks, two rare but regular species, Blue-winged Teal and Eurasian Wigeon, were reported in about average numbers in most of their traditional localities (m.ob.). Two Wood Ducks at Laguna Ranch pond, P.R.N.S., Aug. 21 (JE) were the first at that locality for the observer in 3 years of regular observations. Elsewhere 14 in Golden Gate P., S.F., Nov. 2 were considered normal (DM). Redheads were reported in good numbers during the fall, noteworthy observations include 40 at the O'Neill Forebay Sept. 6 (AE) one in Golden Gate P., Sept. 27 (DM, NB) and 20 at Drakes Beach, P.R.N.S., Oct. 20 (DS). Two Greater Scaup on Indian Tom L., Siskiyou Co., Aug. 17 established either the earliest fall record or the first summer record for the Klamath Basin (SAL, SS). A ♂ Tufted Duck arrived at Muddy Hollow, P.R.N.S., by Oct. 3 (RH, KHa, DE) and was joined by a second male Nov. 9 (RS, JE, DS). At least one of these birds was still present through Nov. 11 (DS).

Barrow's Goldeneye made local news with one female at the Corning Sewage ponds Aug. 26-Nov. 11 establishing only the second Tehama County record (KVV, SAL), individual females at Tulelake N.W.R., Nov. 2 and Lower Klamath N.W.R., Nov. 9 (SS, RE, MRo, SAL, NEC) were in localities where this species is very scarce, and a male at the Clifton Court Forebay, Contra Costa Co., Nov. 3 was "apparently unprecedented" (RAE). Twenty males had arrived at the traditional wintering locale of L. Merritt by Nov. 30 (AE). A ♀ Oldsquaw at Pt. Reyes Nov. 2 (SAL, MRo, RE) stayed through at least Nov. 19 (BA). Two (male, female) were at Moss Landing Nov. 2 (CSw). Up to three (all females) present around F.I., after Nov. 17 (P.R.B.O.) was a high count for that locality. Seventeen Harlequin Ducks were at Pt. St. George Sept. 21 (RLeV, LD). Away from there only 11 other individuals were reported from 7 localities (m.ob.). The Region's first King Eider since 1978 was a first year male discovered at Abbot's Lagoon, P.R.N.S., Nov. 13 (†DS). This bird subsequently

delighted m.ob. through Nov. 23. Single White-winged Scoters at Indian Creek Res., Alpine Co., Nov. 16 (EH) and Iron Gate Res., Siskiyou Co., Nov. 16-23 (NEC, RE, MRo) were the only scoters reported away from the coast. A heavy movement of Surf Scoters past Pt. Reyes Oct. 4 (JE) was coincidental with the first fall arrivals around F.I., Oct. 5 (P.R.B.O.). Eleven Black Scoters at Pt. Reyes were the first increase in numbers along the Marin County coast (*vide* DS). A flock of eight Hooded Mergansers at L. Talawa, Del Norte Co., Sept. 21 (RLeV, LD) were possibly very early fall migrants, but local nesting has been suspected in other years.



Female King Eider, Abbot's Lagoon, Calif. Nov. 15, 1980. Photo/Dan Nelson.

RAPTORS THROUGH RAILS—White tailed Kites were well reported this fall, although local numbers vary considerably as a result of microtine rodent population fluctuations. Assessment of this species' status in our Region (or in other Regions) is complicated by poorly understood small-scale shifts in local populations as a result of these rodent outbreaks. Concentrations of White-tailed Kites this fall were 28+ s. of Byron, Contra Costa Co., Aug. 1 (RAE), 22 at Ano Nuevo Pt., Sept. 24 (RM), 15 along Sir Francis Drake Blvd., near P.R.N.S., Oct. 10 (NB), 22 near the Carmel R. mouth Oct. 31 (RLeV, DDeS) and 25+ near Dublin, Contra Costa Co., in November (HLC). Regular counts at a roost site in San Ramon, Contra Costa Co., found ten in late August building to a peak of 100 in late September with numbers diminishing rapidly until only three were present in mid-October (Kevin Hints). This pattern is more typical of a migrant species than a resident species, indicating that we still have much to learn about the movements of our so-called "residents".

Only six reports of Goshawks were received this fall. A Sharp-shinned Hawk at L.V.R.S., Aug. 5 (RAE) and another at Palomar Aug. 11 (P.R.B.O.) were early migrants. Six broad-winged Hawks were reported at the hawk-watching locality of Pt. Diablo Sept. 29 - Oct. 18 (m.ob.), with three birds on the latter date being the peak (SFB). The only sightings away from Pt. Diablo were individual sightings of an immature Sept. 24 (RS) and Nov. 28 (†KH) in Inverness, Marin Co. Three Swainson's Hawks at Tulelake N.W.R., Aug. 17 and a single Sept. 1 (SS, NEC, RE, MRo, SAL) were in an area from which there are few reports of this species. An immature at the Carmel R. mouth Oct. 11 (†JD) and an ad. s. of Byron Oct. 23 (RAE) were the latest sightings this fall.

Rough-legged Hawks were considered scarce in the Region this fall (m.ob.). Notable records include an early immature on Pt. Reyes Sept. 17 (KHa, BW), an adult at L.V.R.S., Oct. 22 (RAE), and an immature at F.I., where large raptors are very rare (P.R.B.O.). In contrast Ferruginous Hawks were reported in excellent numbers for the second fall in a row, again outnumbering Rough-legged Hawks (m.ob.). Early records include an adult at the Salinas R. mouth Sept. 10 (NS) and an immature at Mendota State W.A., Sept. 14 (RH, MMy). The largest concentration of Ferruginous Hawks this fall was at the L.V.R.S., where six were seen Oct. 23 & Nov. 9 (RAE). Another raptor whose local movements are poorly understood is the Marsh Hawk. Most adult females leave the coastal Pt. Reyes area in the late summer and fall records are of males or immature (JE). Twenty-four were s. of Byron Aug. 4, an area where many raptors were concentrated as a result of a local rodent outbreak (RAE).

A total of eight Ospreys was sighted in 6 days of censusing migrating raptors Sept. 11-24 near Springville, Tulare Co. (RH) indicating that a significant fall movement takes place along the e. side of the C.V. A total of 39 Prairie Falcons was reported, slightly more than average. One on the F.I., Sept. 23 was only the second recent record for the islands (P.R.B.O.). Twenty-six Peregrine Falcon reports were slightly above the normal numbers for recent years. The Merlin population in our Region seems to be reasonably healthy, over 38 reports were received for this fall (m.ob.). A flock of 35 Am. Kestrels at Tulelake N.W.R., Aug. 17 was notable (SAL).

A flock of 9+ Blue Grouse on Friday Ridge Rd., Humboldt Co., Oct. 22 was the largest number reported in recent years (RLeV). Ruffed Grouse, always very scarce in our Region, were reported as follows: one male drumming (!) along Walker Cr., near Seiad Valley, Siskiyou Co., Aug. 27 (SAL), two seen near Forks of Salmon, Siskiyou Co., Aug. 30 (MRO) and one seen s. of Cedar Camp, Trinity Co., Oct. 16 (RLeV). A Clapper Rail at Bolinas Lagoon Nov. 15 was apparently the first record from that locality in many years. Two adults with seven young at Alameda South Shore Aug. 26 indicated a late nesting (ER). Three Soras showed themselves on F.I., Aug. 17 - Sept. 11 (P.R.B.O.). A Black Rail was at Bolinas Lagoon from the end of September through at least Nov. 22 (RS, †JE, †JRI, †FB). At least eight were calling from the Port Chicago Marsh near Avon Aug. 25 (DE).

SHOREBIRDS—A Black-necked Stilt at Lower Klamath N.W.R., Nov. 9 was an extremely late record (SS, SAL, MRO, RE). Three Am. Avocets at L. Almanor Aug. 10-17 were probably trans-Sierran migrants (DAA), the first fall migrants at Pt. Reyes were seen July 28 (DS). The population at Arcata had grown to 593 by Oct. 25 (RLeV), the highest count ever for that locality. By far the most exciting shorebird of the fall was California's first **Mongolian Plover** discovered at Moss Landing Sept. 15 (Carol Deuel, Donna Dittman) and subsequently seen by m.ob. through Sept. 19 (†RAE, †JE *et al.*). This bird was again seen Oct. 3 roosting with a

flock of Snowy Plovers on the outer beach at Moss Landing (J&RW, Gary Page) but disappeared after that appearance. Up to 14 Mountain Plovers were present along Clifton Court Rd., near Byron Oct. 30 - Nov. 9 (Bob Richmond, RAE) establishing this century's first Contra Costa County records. Singles on Pt. Reyes Oct. 19 (JML) and Nov. 11 (RS) were notable. American Golden Plovers were sighted in normal numbers, inland reports included one at the Lodi Sewage Pond Aug. 18 (JLu), four at Lower Klamath N.W.R., Sept. 27 (B&CY) with one there the following day (NEC, RE, MRO), and one at the Stockton Sewage Ponds Nov. 6 (RAE).

A Marbled Godwit at L. Shastina, Siskiyou Co., Aug. 2-25 established the first Shasta Valley record (SS, RE, MRO, KVV, SAL). Other interior sightings included one at Honey L., Oct. 11 (DAA) and one just n. of Davis Oct. 15 (TBe). Solitary Sandpipers made solitary appearances at the Mad R. mouth Aug. 20 (RLeV), in Chico Sept. 11 (KVV) and at the Bolinas Sewage Pond Sept. 19 (JE, DS). A Willet at Lower Klamath N.W.R., Nov. 8 was a late record (SAL, MRO, RE, SS). The first Wandering Tattler record for the C.V., was a juvenile at the Stockton Sewage Ponds Aug. 22 (RAE, JF). Another sighting of a juvenile Sept. 5 at the same locality was probably a different bird (RAE). There was no major landfall of Red Phalaropes this fall but some notable inland records were established. One at the n. shore of Mono L., Sept. 1 (RS) was the first record for the lake and the county. One was present at the Chico Oxidation Ponds Sept. 26-27 (Jim Snowden, SAL, KVV) and one was on the Sacramento R., near Redding Sept. 30 - Oct. 3 (†BY). A late Red Phalarope was at Tulelake N.W.R., Nov. 2-9 (SS, RE, NEC, SAL). A Surfbird at the Bay Bridge Toll Plaza Nov. 15 was notable (JLu), as was a Red Knot at the Stockton Sewage Ponds Aug. 22 (RAE) and two at the s.e. shore of Mono L., Aug. 13 (CSw). There were at least 7 records of Sanderlings from 7 inland localities this fall. Semipalmated Sandpipers continued to be detected in August by experienced observers along the coast. An immature at Mono L., Aug. 30 (JJ) was one of the few substantiated inland records and another immature in Arcata Sept. 11-13 (RLeV) was later than usual. Both Baird's and Pectoral sandpipers were reported in normal numbers.

A Sharp-tailed Sandpiper photographed at L. Shastina Sept. 8 (†NEC, †MRO) established the first Siskiyou County record and the Region's fifth inland record. Another at Bolinas Sept. 27 (Ed Good, †DDeS) was the only other one reported. The only Stilt Sandpiper sighted this fall was at Arcata Aug. 31 (JML, †RLeV, LD). Following the last two years' "invasions" of Buff-breasted Sandpipers only one was found this fall, an immature photographed at the Gualala R. mouth Sept. 1-3 (Terry Coddington). An unprecedented *eight* Ruffs were found this fall. The Region's first ad. Ruff, discovered last summer in Arcata was present until Nov. 6 (LD, †RLeV, *et al.*). This bird frequented the same areas on Humboldt Bay and in the Arcata Bottoms that an immature male frequented last autumn, leading to speculation that the same bird might be involved. An imm. male photographed at the Orange Cove

Sewage Ponds, Fresno Co., Oct. 15-17 (RG) established only the third Regional inland record. Others included a female at Ano Nuevo Sept. 6-13 (JRI, FB, TC), a juv. female at Limantour, P.R.N.S., Sept. 14-22 (†JE, EH *et al.*), a female at Moss Landing Sept. 16-21 (JRI, NC, SFB), an ad. female at the Salinas R. mouth Sept. 27 (†RS *et al.*), a juv. female at the Watsonville Sewage Ponds Sept. 28 (†RS *et al.*) and another juv. female at the Watsonville Sewage Ponds Sept. 28 (†RS *et al.*) and another juv. female in the Arcata Bottoms Sept. 26-27 (†RLeV, LD)

JAEGERS THROUGH ALCIDS—Many observers commented on the low numbers of jaegers encountered on pelagic trips this fall. Inland there were three reports of imm. Parasitic Jaegers from Mono L., Aug. 8 (CSw), Aug. 29 (JJ), and Sept. 6 (CSw). Two Long-tailed Jaegers w. of Pt. Pinos Sept. 28 (RS) were the only reports from the ocean. More surprising were two from Mono L., an adult Aug. 15 (†CSw) and an immature Aug. 28 (JJ). These are apparently the first records for the lake. The only South Polar Skuas seen were two immatures on Monterey Bay Sept. 16 (RS). A Glaucous-winged Gull along the Sacramento R., above Rio Vista Aug. 21 (RAE) was unusually early for an inland locality. A well-described juv. W. Gull at the Stockton Sewage Ponds Aug. 22 (†RAE) established another inland record for this almost strictly coastal species. A Thayer's Gull was along the American R., above Sacramento Nov. 30 - Dec. 1 (†EH, JML). The Stockton Sewage Ponds have become the best place in our Region to see the unusual hooded gulls. An ad. Black-headed Gull seen there Nov. 7-12 (*vide* SFB) was possibly the same bird that was present there last winter. At least one adult and two imm. Franklin's Gulls visited the ponds Oct. 2 - Nov. 24 (RAE, JML, JM, WB, DE). An ad. Little Gull present Oct. 17 - Nov. 12 (NB, JM, JML) was presumably the same bird that has visited the ponds in the previous two spring periods. An imm. Sabine's Gull, rarely seen inland, was at the ponds Oct. 2 (RAE). Elsewhere there was an imm. Franklin's Gull at Lower Klamath N.W.R., Sept. 29 (SS), two there Oct. 4 (SS), and a single Oct. 12 (NEC, MRO, RE). Immature Franklin's Gulls were also reported from Arcata Sept. 26 & Oct. 25 (RLeV) and Eureka Nov. 29 (†LS). Six Black Terns at L. Almanor Aug. 17 (DAA) were the only records for the Almanor area.

Despite the below-normal ocean temperatures this fall, both Xantus' and Craveri's murrelets were found in good numbers. There were four Xantus' Murrelets on Monterey Bay Aug. 23 (TC), one there Oct. 11 (DRo, JML), and two at Cordelle Banks Oct. 19 (DS, BDP, DE). Three Craveri's Murrelets were seen in Monterey Bay Aug. 23 (TC), 2-4 on Aug. 24 (JLu, AJM) and four + Oct. 5 (RAE, RLeV).

PIGEONS THROUGH GOATSUCKERS—Band-tailed Pigeon numbers were generally low throughout. One near Chester, Plumas Co., Sept. 9 was considered the "only record for the Almanor area" (DAA). Two White-winged Doves were reported, both from the coast at Pt. Reyes: Aug. 30 (RS, DS, SSm) and Sept. 30 (JSt). Only four Yellow-billed

Cuckoos were reported Sept. 6 - Sept. 21, two coastally and two in the C.V. One at Moss Beach Sept. 9 provided "the third county record and the first in 20 years for San Mateo County" (PM). The state's fourth **Black-billed Cuckoo** at Pt. Reyes Sept. 8-14 (JLU, ME *et al.*) delighted m.ob. Barn Owls were



Black-billed Cuckoo, Pt. Reyes, Calif., Sept. 14, 1980. Photo/A.J. Helbig.

well reported: one was "lost in the fog over the ocean" 6 mi w. of Moss Landing Oct. 6 (RLeV, LD *et al.*) and another appeared on F.I., Sept. 10 where the species is extremely rare. In the interior at Springville, Tulare Co., one was hunting during the day, apparently exploiting a local microtine peak (MEM), and sixteen were found dead along Hwy 99 s. of Fresno (extending into Kern County) Nov. 11 (RH). Screech Owls were reported in peak numbers at L.V.R.S., with 33-44 heard in the oak woodland e. of Morgan Territory Regional P. (RAE, JF). Pygmy Owls were found at traditional spots, but ten on Willow Cr. Sonoma Co., Nov. 15 were exceptional (DE). Spotted Owls are rarely seen out of their preferred habitat, so one in the cypress trees on outer Pt. Reyes Oct. 3-4 (KHa, RH, †RS, m.ob) and another on the n. jetty, Humboldt Bay, Oct. 4-5 (KVV *et al.*) was amazing. At least six Long-eared Owls were found on Pt. Reyes Sept. 7 - Oct. 25, and five were considered rather high numbers on F.I. Other reports of singles came from Willow Cr., Sonoma Nov. 15-23 (DE), near Yreka Oct. 19 (MRo) and one in a Sacramento residential area Oct. 29 (C. Baker, *vide* BK). No large concentrations of Short-eared Owls were reported. This species is now rare in much of its former range, therefore apparent breeding s. of Byron (RAE) was noteworthy.

A nighthawk sp. was seen at Rio del Mar, Santa Cruz Co., Aug. 25 (DN). Either species is extremely rare here on the coast.

SWIFTS THROUGH WOODPECKERS
—Black Swifts were seen in small numbers along the coast between Bodega Bay and Año Nuevo Aug. 3 - Sept. 15. One was over F.I., Sept. 12 where it is extremely rare. Other reports were from Tulare County: at Springville small numbers were noted Aug. 23-29 (MEM); the Region's latest report was from Blue Ridge where several flocks of 10-12 were seen flying S Oct. 10 (F. Baldrige, R. Tucker, *vide* RH). There was a "good movement" of *Selasphorus* hummers on F.I., Sept. 11-12, and of the six caught and measured, all were Rufous. This is the expected pattern as most Allen's leave by early September. Numbers of *Selasphorus* peaked in Springville Aug. 28, and were gone the following day (MEM).

Common Flicker numbers were low on the coast (JE) and inner coast range (MR), and only one "red-shafted" individual reached F.I., but in the Fresno area "m.ob. commented on the large numbers" (RFG). Lewis' Woodpeckers appeared at scattered locations with peak movements during the last half of September along the coast and inland. Downy Woodpeckers were thought to be in good numbers in San Francisco (DM). One near Mono Lake in mid-August (*vide* CSw) was of interest; the status of this species e. of the Sierran crest is not well known. Nuttall's Woodpeckers staged a "minor influx to the immediate coast" in Marin County (DS); one at 8400 ft near Devil's Post Pile N.M., Sept. 18 (REW) was at an exceptional high elevation and provided one of very few records e. of the Sierran escarpment.

FLYCATCHERS THROUGH SWALLOWS—Twelve Tropical Kingbirds occurred coastally Sept. 20 - Oct. 30: this is an average number, but there are usually some November sightings. Eastern Kingbird reports began with one in Del Norte County at Ship Ashore Aug. 22 (SS). All others were in Marin County: three on Tomales Sept. 14 (JP, BDP, DE) and three on Pt. Reyes Sept. 6-13 (DDeS, EM, BLaB *et al.*) may include the same bird. Western Kingbirds are rare but regular along the immediate coast in fall. Eight at F.I., Aug. 4 - Oct. 25, with a peak in the first half of September, was normal. Two were reported from San Francisco where they are considered very rare in fall, Aug. 17 (NB) and Sept. 27 (DM). A Cassin's Kingbird was well described from the Cholame Hills in s.e. Monterey County Nov. 15 (†GP, J. Lane, F.A.S.). This species' distribution is enigmatic and has been changing in recent years. Winter records have been scarce or nonexistent for several decades. A Scissor-tailed Flycatcher was reported from Pt. Reyes Aug. 7 (P. Sugnet, *vide* PH). A Great Crested Flycatcher stopped at F.I., for a typically short visit Oct. 6 (†KHa, P.R.B.O.): this represented the eleventh regional record, eight of which are from F.I. A Say's Phoebe on N. jetty, Humboldt Bay Sept. 15-19 (RLeV) was n. of its usual coastal haunts. Willow Flycatchers were well reported, especially from the interior. At Gray Lodge N.W.R., they were more common than usual with the peak Aug. 10-15 (BED). Twenty-five at Clear Lake S.P., Sept. 7 (RAE) impressed the observer enough to declare it "the best year ever." Coastal movement spanned Aug. 19 - Sept. 23 and although numbers were normal, data from F.I. indicate an early passage. Two Least Flycatchers were on F.I., Oct. 21 & 26, and one at Fairhaven Sept. 16 (†RLeV *et al.*) provided the second Humboldt County record. Single Dusky Flycatchers were found Sept. 17 at the Carmel R. (RS, m.ob.) and Pt. Reyes (KHa, BW). Another at F.I., Sept. 16 was timely, but one there Oct. 13 was several weeks late. One Gray Flycatcher was found on Moss Beach Sept. 12 (PM) for the second San Mateo County record, and one was banded on F.I., Sept. 22 where the species is very rare. Western Flycatchers peaked early on F.I., and the coast (JE), and numbers were considered high at Palomarin through September (DDeS). An early peak was also noted for W. Wood Pewees on F.I., where numbers were normal. Migrant Olive-sided

Flycatchers were scarce in the interior (RAE, MEM), but numbers seemed normal on the coast (DM).

Amazing as it may seem, the infamous Pt. Reyes Skylark reappeared at the Hall Ranch Oct. 25 (BDP, JMI, DE) for the third consecutive fall and remained through the period (m.ob.). We may not be certain of the racial identity of this bird (see AB 34:197), but its presence indicates strong winter site fidelity. The obvious question remains—where does this bird summer?

Swallow movement was normal on F.I. with regard to both number and timing. On the mainland, mass movement of Violet-greens was noted Oct. 13-18 (B&CY, MEM, DS, P.R.B.O.) at scattered locations. A few records of Tree Swallow were submitted for November from the coast (DJ, P.R.B.O.); three on the valley floor near Byron (RAE) and 200 at Davis sewage ponds (KC) were both Nov. 3. Bank Swallow, a beleaguered species, deserves attention. The few reported from the C.V. were: 30 at Mendota Pool, Fresno Co., Aug. 17 (KHa, P. Walton) where they are suspected of breeding; one near Ordway Ranch, s.e. Contra Costa Co., Sept. 3 (RAE) where they are rare; a late date at El Macero in the C.V. Oct. 12 (A. Engilis, *vide* BK). Purple Martin, uncommon anywhere in the Region, was rare at the following locations: one at Blue Ridge, Tulare Co., Sept. 10 & 24 (RH); three at F.I., Aug. 24 - Sept. 4; and one at Babel Slough, C.V., Oct. 11 (DJ, S.A.S.) was very late.

CORVIDS THROUGH NUTHATCHES
—Fourteen Steller's Jays were banded by C.S.U. Ecol. Field Station at Garin Woods near Hayward July - October. Numbers declined August - November with none found in the last 2 weeks of the period (HLC). Down-slope drifting of Steller's Jays was first noted at L.V.R.S., Oct. 20 and corresponded with similar movement of other species (RAE); however, at Springville, warm weather was thought to be not conducive to a down slope trend and responsible for conspicuous absence of jays (MEM). Common Crows were found in montane meadows in Plumas and Tehama Cos., near Lassen Nov. 17 & 20 and were the only records for the area (DAA). Flocks of hundreds of Piñon Jays at Indian Creek Res., Alpine Co., were attracted to a good pinyon nut crop (EH). This continues to be the most reliable place to find the species in the Region.

Single Mountain Chickadees occurred on the coast at Crescent City Aug. 23 (MRo) and in the coast range 5 mi n.w. of Covelo, Mendocino Co., Nov. 10 (OJK). Three Chestnut-backed Chickadees were found in the Sierra at You Bet, Nevada Co., Aug. 10 (RAE). Flocks of up to 15 Bushtits appeared through the period in Fresno, where they may be colonizing the city (RH). Vagrant White-breasted Nuthatches occurred coastally with one or two in Golden Gate P., S.F. (hereafter, G.G.P.), Oct. 18 - Nov. 9 (JM, DM) and one at Moss Beach Sept. 12 (PM). In the C.V., out-of-habitat individuals were at Lost L., Oct. 22 (F.A.S.) and near Kerman (TBA, *vide* RH), both in Fresno County. Numbers of Red-breasted Nuthatches were "back to normal" after last year's invasion.

DIPPER THROUGH THRUSHES—One

Dipper at Steep Ravine, Marin Co., Nov. 18 (Rs) was the one one reported away from breeding locations. House Wren numbers were modest along the coast (JE, DS), but more than usual were recorded at Gray lodge N.W.R., in the C.V. (BED). An early migrant Winter Wren was on outer Pt. Reyes Aug. 19 (JE, DS) and the species was "early and everywhere [with] many more on Pt. Reyes than the last 15 years" (RS). An increase in the sparse resident population of the Lassen/Almanor area was documented during early to mid-November (DAA). The island's first Bewick's Wren occurred on F.I., Oct. 2; exhausted from the commute, it stayed 12 days (†P.R.B.O.). Plumage characteristics indicated that it was not of the local race, but that was the extent that could be said about the bird's origin (DDeS). One at Mono L., Sept. 25 (CSw) was of interest, since the species is rare on the e. side of the Sierra. On Nov. 4 Bolinas Lagoon, Marin Co. hosted California's first Short-billed Marsh (Sedge) Wren (†DDeS *et al.*). Mysteriously, the bird eluded hordes of searchers the following few days only to be rediscovered Nov. 8 (†DDeS) and photographed (RS). A single Brown Thrasher on F.I., Sept. 22 provided the earliest island record; most fall records are for October. Twelve Sage Thrashers within 100 yards at Lower Klamath N.W.R., Sept. 1 seemed worth noting (NEC, MRo, RE).

Thrush numbers were generally low throughout (m.ob.) with a few notable exceptions. Numbers of Am. Robins were low at Palomarin and F.I., and inland at Lafayette (LF) and Springville (MEM), but high in Guerneville, Sonoma Co., where the *Pyrocantha* bushes bore a bumper crop (PH). Varied Thrush numbers were considered generally low except near Covelo, Mendocino Co., where "it seems to be a better year for Varied Thrushes and robins than I remember in 4 or 5 years" (OJK) and along the n. fork of the American R., Placer Co., where good numbers were found in early November (TBe). Hermit Thrushes peaked on F.I., Sept. 17 and were in greater numbers than in most years in Alamo, Contra Costa Co. (JRI). Swainson's Thrushes were unrecorded at L.V.R.S., despite much time afield (RAE). Concern for the continuing decline of W. Bluebird in the Lafayette area was expressed (LF). In Shasta County, three W. Bluebirds were "night feeding in soccer field lights" Sept. 23 (B&CY). Two Townsend's Solitaires strayed to the coast: one at Lincoln Park, S.F., Sept. 13-14 (NB, B. Seaver), one at the fish docks, P.R.N.S., Sept. 27 (J. Zablackis).

SYLVIIDS THROUGH VIREOS—Blue-gray Gnatcatchers staged a rather large influx into Pt. Reyes mid-September - early October (EH), and one was at Gray Lodge N.W.R., Aug. 14 where they are not seen every year. Golden-crowned Kinglets were found in high numbers in migration (DM, MR, P.R.B.O.) and one at Tulelake N.W.R., Aug. 17 (SAL *et al.*) was early. Very early Ruby-crowned Kinglets were in San Rafael Aug. 31 (WMP).

The White Wagtail (*M. a. lugens*), present on the Pajaro R., at Watsonville since July 20, was last seen flying NE and out of sight

S.A.

The first record of a *Phylloscopus* s. of Alaska appeared in the form of a Dusky Warbler (*P. fuscatus*) on the Farallon Islands Sept. 27. This Old World warbler breeds in the forests of Siberia and winters in the Asian tropics. The three previous North American records are from islands that are actually closer to Asia than North America: Shemya I., in the Aleutians and St. Lawrence I., in the Bering Sea (AB 32:158). The bird arrived without fat and died in captivity. The specimen is in the collection of the Calif. Academy of Sciences.



Dusky Warbler (*Phylloscopus fuscatus*), S.E. Farallon I., Calif., Sept. 27, 1980. Photo/Brian Pendleton.

Sept. 21 (SFB *et al.*). A description of a bird seen in Novato, Marin Co., Oct. 18 (†B. Ehreth, E. Lagel) suggested a juv. Gray Wagtail, a species heretofore unrecorded south of Alaska's outermost islands. The acceptability of this record will be determined by the Calif. Rare Bird Committee. Thirty-five+ Water Pipits on the trail to Lassen Peak, Lassen Volcanic N.P. (hereafter, L.V.N.P.) Sept. 28 was of interest; this species is seldom recorded within the park (DAA). The first Humboldt County record of a Red-throated Pipit at Cape Mendocino Sept. 28 (†BC, SWH, RLeV) was followed closely by the second, a bird heard at Arcata Bottoms Oct. 1 (RLeV). The only N. Shrike reported away from usual haunts was a juvenile at Limantour, P.R.N.S., Nov. 4-18 (†JE, m.ob.). Loggerhead Shrikes were considered high in numbers on the coast at Palomarin (P.R.B.O.) and in the C.V. (TBe).

Hutton's Vireo was a subject of interest to many observers: at Gray Lodge N.W.R., it was "the bird of the season" Aug. 28 where it had never before been recorded (BED); one at Roeding P., in Fresno Sept. 14 (RH, MMy) was one of a few C.V. floor records; it was unusually common as a migrant on the outer coast (RS). Solitary Vireo was thought to be in good numbers on the coast (P.R.B.O.) but rare inland at L.V.R.S. (RAE); the only non-*cassinii* report was of a *solitarius* at Olema Marsh, P.R.N.S., Oct. 10 (†RS). A Yellow-green Vireo at F.I., Oct. 30 was an island first, and only the second for the Region: the previous record was in San Francisco Sept. 30, 1978. Six Red-eyed Vireos were found on the coast from Fairhaven to Monterey Sept. 11 - Oct. 26. Philadelphia Vireos made an unprecedented showing with eight documented

along the coast Sept. 14 - Oct. 28.; however, none was on F.I., where 6 of the 15 previous records occurred. A late Warbling Vireo lingered at the Carmel R., Oct. 30 (RAE).

PARULIDS—The salient feature of this season's vagrant pattern was the virtual invasion (relative to previous records) by some of the Region's rarest species. Of particular note were Philadelphia Vireo, Prothonotary and Black-throated Green warblers. High numbers of Prairie, Connecticut and Mourning warblers were also found. Interested readers are referred to Roberson's *Rare Birds of the West Coast of North America* (1980, Woodcock Publications, Pacific Grove, California) for a summary of records and per-year averages.

Twenty-two Black-and-white Warblers on the coast Aug. 28 - Nov. 28 were average. None on F.I., was unusual as was one along the American R., Sept. 27 (D. Shaw, *vide* BK). Three Prothonotary Warblers were found coastally: Carmel R., Oct. 18 (JLu *et al.*); North Lake, G.G.P., Oct. 20!23 (†BA, DM, m.ob.); Rodeo Lagoon, Marin Co., Sept. 18-19 (T. Goldbin, DTo, m.ob.). There were only six previous records for the Region. The Region's eighth and ninth Golden-winged Warblers appeared at F.I., Sept. 2 and an ad. male at Moss Beach Sept. 10-11 (*PM *et al.*). Tennessee Warbler numbers were low on the coast with only ten reported Aug. 23 - Nov. 29; an additional nine on F.I., Aug. 9 (early) - Nov. 17 showed a minor peak in late October and early November; an inland bird was at Davis Oct. 11 (†E. Schaefer). Sixty Orange-crowned Warblers were tallied at Honey L., Sept. 13 (KVV). No wonder Nashville Warblers were hard to find along the c. coast (JE, DM, DS), they were all on F.I., where a record 17 were counted Aug. 18 - Nov. 24! One Virginia's Warbler was at Nunes Ranch, P.R.N.S., Sept. 9 (LCB *et al.*) and one Lucy's was found near Palomarin Sept. 3 (P.R.B.O.). Four N. Parulas Sept. 7 -Oct. 12 was normal for fall. Seventeen Magnolia Warblers on the coast Sept. 9-Oct. 28 was higher than usual; five of these were at F.I., and only one was n. of Pt. Reyes, at Eureka Oct. 6 (KC,SAL,KVV). Four Cape May Warblers tended toward the late side of the average span with singles at: Nunes Ranch, P.R.N.S., Sept. 30 (RS); Pt. Reyes Lighthouse Oct. 5 (RS, JM *et al.*); Rodeo Lagoon Oct. 14 (DS *et al.*); F.I., Oct. 29. Five coastal Black-throated Blue Warblers (two from F.I.) Sept. 26 - Oct. 20 represented low numbers but normal dates; one at West Davis, Yolo Co., Oct. 12-15 (B. Hackett, *vide* TBe) added to a small number of regional interior records. Yellow-rumped Warblers of both races showed-up slightly early at a variety of locations (m.ob.). In keeping with the mild November temperatures, Black-throated Gray Warblers continued to be found in small numbers Nov. 30+. Townsend's Warbler numbers were considered high (LF, BK, DM, P.R.B.O.) despite some concern that "Mt. St. Helens had decimated the population."

An incredible eight Black-throated Green Warblers descended on the coast Oct. 10 -Nov. 11 from Pt. Reyes to the Carmel R. mouth, with three on F.I., considered a "stunning all time high." An individual at

the fish docks, P R N S , Oct 9 (†JE, †DS, RS *et al.*) caused some controversy; some observers considered it a Townsend's X Hermit, others a Black-throated Green. Hermit Warblers appeared along the coast in strong numbers. A peak movement of 15 noted at Pt Reyes Aug. 28 (RS) corresponded with the F.I. peak, and late migrants were seen at Land's End, S.F., Nov. 2 & 22 (DM). A good showing of 12 coastal Blackburnian Warblers Sept 6 - Oct. 26 was followed by a late one at F I , Nov. 27. Of 24 Chestnut-sided Warblers found along the coast Sept. 3 - Oct. 12, the five at F.I. were "fewer than usual" and one at Pt. St. George Sept. 21 (†SS, RE, MRo, NEC) was only the second record for Del Norte County. Three reports of Bay-breasted Warblers were received, but only one, at Mendoza Ranch, P.R.N.S., Oct. 12 (†BB, DE), was well seen and well described; none was on F.I.

Of seventy-two Blackpolls Aug. 26 - Oct. 26 between Fairhaven and Pt. Pinos, 25 were on F.I. One early individual was at Battery Wallace, Marin Co., Aug. 19 (JRi). Prairie Warblers made an outstanding showing with 13 on the coast Aug. 13 - Nov. 12. The Nov. 12 bird at Bodega Bay (RS) furnished a Sonoma County record, and one at Pt. St. George Sept. 21 (SS, RE, MRo, NEC) was a first for Del Norte County. Seventy-nine Palm Warblers along the coast (32 on F.I.) Sept. 12 - Nov. 30+ was well above the mean, but dwarfed by last fall's invasion. Twelve Ovenbirds coastally (five on F.I.) Sept. 8 - Oct. 11 was about average, but one at Monticello Dam Oct. 22 provided the second interior sighting (A. Engilis, *vide* BK). Nine N. Waterthrushes occurred coastally from Pt. Reyes to Carmel R., Aug. 24 - Oct. 6, three of these were at F.I. Three **Connecticut Warblers** were at F.I., Sept. 1-19 and another was banded at Palomarin Sept. 12 (DDeS, †JLu). Three **Mourning Warblers** were also at F.I.: one arrived Sept. 8 and two Oct. 10. Two other *Oporornis* sp. were reported: one at Bodega Bay Sept. 10 (†JE, DS, JW), one on N. Spit, Humboldt Bay Sept. 19 (†RLeV, BC, LD, SWH). Three Yellow-breasted Chats reached the coast Sept. 6-18, but only four were reported inland, all in August. The Hooded Warbler that appeared in Tilden P., Berkeley, July 4 was last seen Aug. 2 (F.&L. Nelson, *vide* SFB). Single Wilson's Warblers lingered at Tulelake Nov. 2 (SS, RE, NEC), at Fresno Nov. 15 (TBa, *vide* RH) and at Berkeley Nov. 25 (A. Miller, *vide* SFB). Four Canada Warblers were somewhat early with singles at F.I., Aug. 23-24, and Pt. Reyes Sept. 7-8 (JM *et al.*) and Sept. 9 (m ob.). Of 74 Am. Redstarts Aug. 24 - Oct. 25, 25 were at F.I.

ICTERIDS THROUGH TANAGERS—Of six Bobolinks at F.I., Sept. 2 - Oct. 6, three arrived Sept. 8. Other singles were at Nunes Ranch, P.R.N.S., Oct. 5 (JM, RS *et al.*) and Limantour, P.R.N.S., Oct. 6 (JE). Vagrant Yellow-headed Blackbirds reached Arcata Bottoms Sept. 13 (RLeV, LD) and Pt. Reyes Sept. 27 - Oct. 12 (DMcC, DN); one at Springville Sept. 17 was at a high elevation in atypical habitat (RH). Single Tricolored Blackbirds were very rare at both of the following locations: Pt. Pinos Sept. 17 (DRo) and F.I., Oct. 7. Four coastal Orchard Ori-

oles Sept. 11-27 was about average. Single N (Baltimore) Orioles were in San Rafael Aug. 20-21 (*vide* DS), F.I., Oct. 10, Bodega Bay Nov. 9 (JM, BA) and at the fish docks, P.R.N.S., Nov. 15 (RS). A N. (Bullock's X Baltimore) Oriole hybrid was banded at F.I., Aug. 24 and is suspected of being the same individual seen perched on a television antenna in Bolinas Oct. 26 (DDeS) !

FRINGILLIDS—Eight Rose-breasted Grosbeaks were seen coastally Aug. 21 - Oct. 25 and two were inland: an ad. male at Shasta City Aug. 4 (B. Clark, *vide* MRo) and an imm. male at Tulelake N.W.R., Sept. 28. A Blue Grosbeak at Pt. Pinos Sept. 11-13 (†DRo) and five at F.I., Aug. 25 - Sept. 29 were vagrants, but two singing males at Victoria I., San Joaquin Co., Aug. 4 (RAE) were clinging to a dwindling riparian stronghold in the C.V. Single Indigo Buntings were at Tilden P., Aug. 8 (P. Gordon, *vide* SFB), inland at L.V.R.S., Sept. 10-12 (JF, RAE), Asilomar, Monterey Sept. 22 (RS) and Olema Marsh Oct. 3 (RS). Pt. Reyes hosted the only Dickcissel with two Sept. 1, at Mendoza Ranch (†DN) and one at the Lighthouse Sept. 6 (†EH, †JH *et al.*). "Gray-crowned Rosy Finches of both forms [*dawsoni* and *littoralis*] appear to have colonized Mt. Lassen during the last five years" (DAA), and ad. *dawsoni* feeding juveniles at 9600 ft Aug. 18 (MA&D. Showers, *vide* DAA) is the best evidence of breeding yet obtained. A mixed group of four near the summit Sept. 29 had one ad. plumaged *littoralis* and one juv. *dawsoni* (DAA). Lawrence's Goldfinches are always erratic; scattered groups were reported from the coast Oct. 18-31 (JLu, RS, RAE); from L.V.R.S., where they bred, they were unrecorded Aug. 27 - Oct. 8, then a flock of 35 was seen Oct. 10 with subsequent sightings of small numbers in late October (RAE). Another erratic species, Red Crossbill, appeared as a vagrant on the coast at Moss Beach Sept. 17 (PM) and Pt. Reyes (DN). Two Green-tailed Towhees found the coast: F.I., Aug. 24 and Bodega Bay Sept. 10 (†JE, DS).

Three Lark Buntings were found: two at F.I., Aug. 22 & 24, one at the Pt. Reyes Lighthouse Sept. 9 (SFB, JM *et al.*). Interesting Savannah Sparrow records came from L.V.R.S., Aug. 15 (RAE), Lassen Volcano N.P., Sept. 2 (D. Rice), and Happy Camp, Siskiyou Co., Oct. 16 (SAL). Two Sharp-tailed Sparrows at Bolinas Oct. 25 (RS) had increased to three by Nov. 5 (†RS) and stayed Nov. 30+ (m.ob.). Another was at Palo Alto Baylands Nov. 22 (D. Houle, JM, EM *et al.*). Fourteen coastal Vesper Sparrows Aug. 23 -Nov. 15 was high, and they began arriving early. Small numbers were present at the Sutter Buttes as the season progressed (JH). The only Black-throated Sparrow reported was an immature at Pt. Reyes Lighthouse Oct. 3 (KH, RH).

A Sage Sparrow at Lava Beds N. M., Oct. 19 was, surprisingly, the "only known record for Siskiyou County" (SAL). One at Nunes Ranch, P.R.N.S., Sept. 21 (EM, *vide* SFB) was the only vagrant on the coast, where this species is extremely rare. Coastal Tree Sparrows totaled three: two at F.I., Oct. 18 (KH), one at Lincoln Park, S.F., Oct. 20 (Alan Hopkins). Three Clay-colored Sparrows were reported, all from Marin County: Pt. Reyes

Sept. 27 (JSt, EM), Inverness Sept. 26 - Oct. 2 (RS), Kentfield Nov. 5-12 (†Scott Carey) Fourteen were on F.I., Aug. 22 - Nov. 3 Coastal Brewer's Sparrows were found only at Pt. Reyes, with five there Sept. 7 - Oct. 3, and F.I., with six there Sept. 15-29. A female feeding a juvenile at L.V.R.S., Aug. 5 confirmed breeding there (RAE). Three Harris' Sparrows were reported: F.I., Nov. 1; Kilgore Hills, Yreka Nov. 14 (RE); Honey L , Nov. 29 (TBr). A very early Lincoln's Sparrow was at the Pt. Reyes Lighthouse Aug. 16 (HLC); this species continued to arrive early and in high numbers (P.R.B.O., JE, BED). Eleven Swamp Sparrows were reported at 7 locations Oct. 11 - Nov. 30+. Three immatures at Eureka Slough (SJ, SAL, RLeV) were considered high numbers for that area Song Sparrows were scarce near Auburn (BBa), and none were seen at L.V.R.S., during the entire period (RAE). Chestnut-collared Longspurs were at Pt. Reyes Oct. 14 - Nov. 30+ in small numbers (m.ob.). Two other observations were more unusual: one at Humboldt Bay Sept. 19 (RLeV) was very early; one Oct. 23 s.w. of Byron, Contra Costa Co., provided a first county record, and perhaps the first for the San Joaquin Valley and adjacent foothills (RAE).

ADDENDA—An imm. Brown Pelican at Pine Flat L., Fresno Co., June 8-22, 1980 (RG) was only the third inland record for the Region. A Flammulated Owl was heard May 6, 1980 in the Digger Pine/Valley Oak association at Alum Rock Park, Santa Clara Co (Dave Moore). A ♂ Summer Tanager visited a Hayward yard June 29, 1980 (HLC).

CORRIGENDUM—The Oct. 1976 *AB* lists a ♀ Phainopepla at Kilgore Hills June 4-5. The actual date was May 19-20.

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SOUTHERN PACIFIC COAST REGION

/Guy McCaskie

The fall period was dry with virtually no rainfall in the Region. There was an excellent movement of shorebirds in August and September with a number of rarities encountered. Landbird migration, however, was generally unimpressive, with no concentrations reported; although, the variety of vagrants made birding during September and October exciting. November was quiet with little evidence of movement other than the influx of wintering waterbirds from the north.

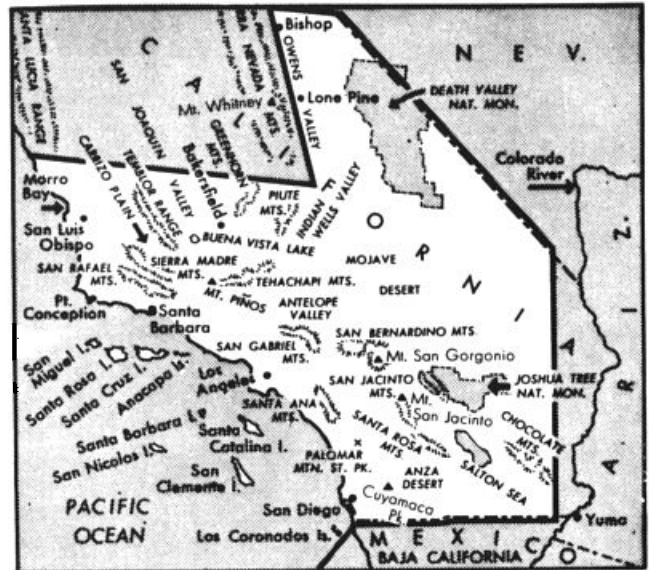
LOONS, GREBES—Six Com. Loons on L. Palmdale in the Antelope Valley, Los Angeles Co., Oct. 21 (JD) were the earliest of the fall migrants to be found inland this year, and were followed by at least a dozen more at various inland localities during November including one at Baker, San Bernardino Co., Nov. 5 (EAC). A Red-necked Grebe at the Santa Maria R. mouth Oct. 12 (JSR) was the only one reported. A Horned Grebe at Furnace Creek Ranch in Death Valley (hereafter, F.C.R.) Oct. 19-20 (LN) and another at the south end of the Salton Sea (hereafter, S.E.S.S.) Nov. 22 (SC) were the only ones reported from the interior.

ALBATROSSES THROUGH STORM-PETRELS—*Procellariiformes* were exceptionally scarce in s. California waters throughout the period; therefore, a Laysan Albatross within the Santa Barbara Channel near Santa Rosa I., Nov. 15 (PWC) came as a surprise. A few N. Fulmars reached s. California as indicated by 100 off Morro Bay Nov. 1 (GMcC) and one onshore at Pt. Mugu, Ventura Co., Oct. 26 (REW). A New Zealand Shearwater was seen 50± mi off Morro Bay Sept. 13 (GMcC), three more were found there Nov. 1 (GMcC) and one was seen 75± mi off San Diego Aug. 10 (IMacG); this species is scarce in s. California waters. A Fork-tailed Storm-Petrel 50± mi off Morro Bay Sept. 13 (GMcC) was near the s. limit of the species' range. A Leach's Storm-Petrel within Morro Bay Nov. 2 (JSR) was most unusual, this species normally staying far offshore. A Wilson's Storm-Petrel well seen 6 mi w. of San Diego Sept. 3 (DWP) was only the fourth found in s. California waters.

PELICANS, BOOBIES, FRIGATE-BIRDS—Brown Pelicans remained scarce on the Salton Sea with one at the north end of the Salton Sea (hereafter, N.E.S.S.) Sept. 17

(RMcK) being the last reported this year. A minor influx of Blue-footed Boobies to the Salton Sea occurred in September, with two at N.E.S.S., Sept. 12 (WDW) building up to five on Sept. 20 (DP); one there Oct. 23 (RMcK) was the last reported. Magnificent Frigatebirds continued to be seen along the coast into early August, with single birds over the Santa Clara R. estuary (hereafter, S.C.R.E.), Ventura Co., and in Encinitas, San Diego Co., Sept. 13 (REW, JH) being the last reported. In addition, one was at S.E.S.S., Aug. 2-4 (SG) and another was at the unlikely location of the summit of Mt. Pinos, Kern Co., Aug. 5 (RS).

HERONS, STORKS, SPOONBILLS—An imm. Little Blue Heron at L. Tinnemaha in the Owens Valley Sept. 19 (REW) was the first found away from the coast or the Salton Sea in fall. Cattle Egrets were scarce along the coast with < 20 individuals found n. of San Diego; 17 at F.C.R., Nov. 2 (BB) was a large number for that area of California. An imm. Reddish Egret found in Long Beach, Los Angeles Co., Sept. 26 (JA) was probably the same bird present at Seal Beach/Bolsa Chica, Orange Co., Nov. 8+ (TW). A Louisiana Heron on San Diego Bay Oct. 19 (A&JM) was the earliest reported this winter; one at Seal Beach/Bolsa Chica Nov. 28+ (DD) and another at Pt. Mugu Sept. 1 (REW) were the only ones found n. of San Diego. Up to three Least Bitterns in San Pedro, Los Angeles Co., Sept. 5-17 (JD) and one in Santa Barbara Aug. 16-Oct. 10 (PEL) were in areas where now extremely rare. An imm. Wood Stork on L. San Jacinto, Riverside Co., Oct. 15 (EAC), another near El Monte, Los Angeles Co., Sept. 16-26 (Mickey Long, *vide* GSS) and an adult in Oceanside, San Diego, Co., Aug. 24-Sept. 8 (EC) were away from the Salton Sea. White-faced Ibises were evidently commoner than normal along the coast with up to 18 around Santa Maria, Santa Barbara Co., Sept. 12-Oct. 19 (PEL), 81 at Pt. Mugu Nov. 2 (LRB) and 20 near Imperial Beach, San Diego Co., Sept. 5 (EC) being ex-



amples of larger than normal concentrations. The ad. Roseate Spoonbill was last seen at S.E.S.S., Sept. 7 (KC).

SWANS, GEESE, DUCKS—A Whistling Swan near Yermo, San Bernardino Co., Nov. 16 (JO) and another in San Diego Nov. 19 (JHn) were both s. A Cackling Goose (*Brantha canadensis minima*) in San Diego Nov. 19 (CGE) was of interest as this race is rare in s. California. An imm. White-fronted Goose near San Luis Obispo Nov. 8 (JD) and another at the Santa Ynez R. mouth Oct. 30 (PEL) were the only ones found along the coast. Two Ross' Geese, rare along the coast, were near Santa Maria Nov. 22+ (PEL). A flock of up to 40 Blue-winged Teal in Long Beach Oct. 6+ (JA) was an exceptionally large concentration for anywhere in s. California. As usual a few Eur. Wigeon appeared with the wintering Am. Wigeon with single birds near Santa Maria Nov. 2+ (JD), in Goleta, Santa Barbara Co., Nov. 23+ (PEL) and at Pt. Mugu Nov. 2 (REW), and three near Hemet, Riverside Co., Oct. 30 (DMM). A Greater Scaup at Pt. Mugu Sept. 27 (REW) was nearly a month earlier than expected, but clearly a fall migrant rather than a summer straggler. At least six Oldsquaws were found along the coast in November with one in San Diego Nov. 18 (AH) being the southernmost; one in San Luis Obispo Oct. 30-Nov. 6 (FRT) was 10 mi inland and another at Little Lake, Inyo Co., Oct. 26 (B&TC) was in the e. part of the Region. The ♂ Harlequin Duck initially found in

Carlsbad, San Diego Co., Dec. 31, 1977, was still present Nov. 30+. A White-winged Scoter at N.E.S.S., Nov. 5 (DWD) and two at S.E.S.S., Nov. 22 (DW, CGE) were inland. Two Black Scoters at Pt. Mugu Nov. 22+ (LRB) and one at Playa del Rey Nov. 1 (BSh) were the only ones reported.

VULTURES, HAWKS, FALCONS—A Turkey Vulture near Victorville, San Bernardino Co., Nov. 27 (KLG) was late for the locality. Three White-tailed Kites at Harper Dry Lake, San Bernardino Co., Oct. 18 (EAC) and another at N.E.S.S., Nov. 28 (RMcK) were outside the species normal range in California, and one at the summit of Mt. Palomar, San Diego Co., Sept. 21 (RH) was at an unusually high elevation. An imm. Goshawk at Oasis, Mono Co., Nov. 1 (BB) was in an area where small numbers are believed to occur each fall. About a dozen Red-shouldered Hawks were found e. of the species' normal range with eight in the Antelope Valley Aug. 6-Nov. 6 (JD), an immature near Daggett Nov. 25 (SC), an immature at F.C.R., Oct. 25-Nov. 16 (LN), an adult at N.E.S.S., Sept. 17 (RMcK) and an immature near there Nov. 10+ (RMcK) indicated that some movement takes place in this "sedentary" species. At least seven Broad-winged Hawks were seen migrating down Pt. Loma, San Diego Co., Sept. 22-Oct. 18 (PU), but single birds near Santa Maria Oct. 26 (PEL) and in Santa Barbara Oct. 4 (NSC) were the only ones found away from San Diego. An imm. Zone-tailed Hawk, a casual vagrant, was seen flying down Pt. Loma Sept. 20 (EC). Rough-legged Hawks were decidedly scarce with only two reported. An ad. Golden Eagle over Santa Barbara Aug. 13 (LB) was in an area where considered rare. A Merlin near Imperial Beach Aug. 23 (GMcC) was exceptionally early.

RAILS—A Black Rail was seen at Morro Bay Nov. 23 (JSR) and another was at Pt. Mugu Oct. 25 (REW); both were in *Salicornia* marshes, habitat suitable for wintering birds.

SHOREBIRDS—A Black Oystercatcher at Goleta Oct. 6 (GNF), one at Pt. Mugu July 2-Sept. 6 (REW), three on the Palos Verdes Pen., Los Angeles Co., Oct. 13 (HF), two on Pt. Loma Oct. 19+ (DP) and three at Imperial Beach Sept. 24 (J. Boland, *vide* AH) were all away from areas of normal occurrence. A Piping Plover at Morro Bay Oct. 1+ (GP) was only the third ever found in California. About 25 migrant Am. Golden Plovers were found along the coast Aug. 7-Nov. 2 along with 12-15 inland around Lancaster Sept. 20-Oct. 25, all believed to be *dominica*. In addition, 15-24 Am. Golden Plovers near Santa Maria Sept. 1+ (PEL) and one at Playa del Rey Oct. 21+ (BSh) were evidently wintering locally and believed to be *fulva*. A Black-bellied Plover at L. Tinemaha Sept. 15 (REW) and another near Daggett Nov. 25 (SC) were in areas from which few are recorded; however, the species is common on the Salton Sea and large numbers (72 Sept. 20) were found in the Antelope Valley Aug. 3-Nov. 20 (JD) indicating an overland flight is normal. An imm. Hudsonian Godwit found dead at

N.E.S.S., Oct. 11 (DG, *S.B.C.M.) was only the third found in this Region. About 50 Solitary Sandpipers were found Aug. 1-Sept. 28 which is somewhat fewer than normal. Six Ruddy Turnstones were at S.E.S.S., Aug. 2 (GMcC), one was at Salton City Aug. 3 (DP) and another was at N.E.S.S., Sept. 20 (AH); in addition, one was at Lancaster Aug. 2-3 (FH), another was there Aug. 9 (JD) and up to three were there Aug. 31-Sept. 4 (KLG, JD); this species is known to occur regularly inland on the Salton Sea and may also prove to be regular in the Antelope Valley. Red Knots were found inland on the Salton Sea (five Aug. 2-Sept. 20) and in the Antelope Valley (six Aug. 31-Sept. 21). Five Sanderlings were seen around Lancaster Aug. 9-Sept. 20 (JD, KLG); this species has been considered rare inland away from the Salton Sea but is proving to be regular in the Antelope Valley. Semipalmated Sandpipers were exceptionally numerous with 65± juveniles identified Aug. 2-Sept. 3, with five at the Santa Maria R. mouth Aug. 19 (LB), eight at S.C.R.E., Aug. 19 (REW), five at Lancaster Aug. 30 (JD) and six near Imperial Beach Aug. 10 (DP) being the largest concentrations; one at the Santa Maria R. mouth Oct. 19 (LB) was exceptionally late.

A juv. Red-necked Stint, identified primarily by pattern of upper wing coverts and size of bill, was near Imperial Beach Aug. 10 (EC, DP, ph. S.D.N.H.M.); this furnished only the second recorded in s. California. The bird at McGrath S.P., Sept. 1-6, 1978 (AB 33:214) is now generally believed to have been a Semipalmated Sandpiper. An ad. White-rumped Sandpiper near Lancaster Aug. 15-22 (JD, ph. S.D.N.H.M.) was only the fifth found in California and the first w. of the Rocky Mts. in fall. Baird's Sandpipers



White-rumped Sandpiper, Edwards A.F.B., near Lancaster, Calif., Aug. 22, 1980. Photo/Hal Spear.

passed through the Region in fair numbers; 250± were recorded during August and September with stragglers as late as Oct. 21. Pectoral Sandpipers were scarcer than normal with 220± reported Aug. 4-Nov. 4. A Stilt Sandpiper near Santa Maria Aug. 27-29 (LB), one at S.C.R.E., Oct. 13 (REW), two at Pt. Mugu Oct. 25 (REW), single birds near Lancaster Aug. 27-31 (SSa), Sept. 20-28 (JD) and Oct. 17-21 (KLG), one in Carlsbad Aug. 2 (R&MW) and one near Imperial Beach Sept. 18-19 (EC) were all of interest as the species is rare away from S.E.S.S. Once again Buff-breasted Sandpipers were found in the Region with 1-3 around Pt. Mugu Sept. 13-25 (BD, REW) and the species may prove to occur annually on the sod farms in this area. An ad. ♀ Ruff near Imperial Beach Aug. 10 (GMcC) was followed by a juvenile near Lan-

caster Oct. 21-26 (JD), another in San Pedro Oct. 4 (BD) and single birds near Santa Maria Oct. 26+ (PEL) and Oct. 31+ (REW); small numbers are found each year but the Aug. 10 bird was the first adult recorded in this Region.

JAEGERS THROUGH SKIMMERS—An ad. Parasitic Jaeger near Lancaster Sept. 20-21 (LS) was the first found inland away from the Salton Sea in this Region; however, this species was constantly present at N.E.S.S., Sept. 17-Nov. 10 (RMcK, WDW), with a high count of 12 there Sept. 20 (GMcC). At least three Long-tailed Jaegers were found at N.E.S.S., with an adult and an immature there Sept. 20 (GMcC) and two immatures there Sept. 23 (JD); one found dead at N.E.S.S. (Aug. 24, 1974 (*S.D.N.H.M.)) was the only previous record for the Salton Sea. At least ten Long-tailed Jaegers off Morro Bay Sept. 13 (JD) were more than normally encountered on one-day boat trips off California. Eight S. Polar Skuas off Morro Bay Sept. 13 (JD) was a large number and one off Pt. Mugu Sept. 30 (REW) was close to shore, having been identified from the beach.

An ad. Black-headed Gull at Huntington Beach, Orange Co., Nov. 21+ (GSS, ph. S.D.N.H.M.) was only the second found in s. California. A juv. Franklin's Gull at



Black-headed Gull with Bonaparte's Gulls, Santa Ana River, Calif., Nov. 25, 1980. Photo/S. Ganley.

N.E.S.S., Aug. 13 (JD) established the earliest date for a fall migrant in s. California but an immature near Lancaster Oct. 25 (JD), one in Long Beach Aug. 16-20 (BD), another at Zuma Beach Oct. 4 (KLG) and four at Huntington Beach Nov. 1+ (DW) were the only others reported. An ad. Little Gull at Huntington Beach Nov. 22-27 (BSc) was the sixth found in this Region. An imm. Heermann's Gull, a casual straggler to the interior, was at S.E.S.S., Aug. 3 (DP) and another was at the same place Nov. 22+ (CGE). Most unusual were two imm. Black-legged Kittiwakes at N.E.S.S., Nov. 28 (RMcK, ph. S.D.N.H.M.). An imm. Sabine's Gull in San Luis Obispo (10 mi inland) Oct. 1 (FRT, ph. S.D.N.H.M.) and another in San Pedro (15 mi inland) Oct. 3 (JD) may have wandered inland from the coast, but an immature near Lancaster Oct. 5 (E. Strauss, *vide* JD), an adult on L. San Jacinto Sept. 28 (EAC) and an immature at N.E.S.S., Oct. 17 (WDW) had probably migrated overland from breeding grounds in n. Canada; this species is rarely encountered anywhere away from the open ocean in this Region.

A concentration of 1000± Com. Terns at N.E.S.S., Sept. 20-23 (GMcC) was unusual considering this is an inland location; away from the Salton Sea 15 were seen on L. Tinemaha Sept. 15 (REW) and 12± were found near Lancaster Aug. 6-Sept. 20 (JD). An Arctic Tern at Doheny Beach, Orange Co., Oct. 5 (BSc) was oiled, explaining its presence on the beach. An exceptionally late Least Tern was an immature in San Pedro Oct. 1-5 (BD). As usual a few Black Terns were present along the coast with 15± reported during August and September and an exceptionally late bird at sea off Goleta Nov. 20 (JA). Two Black Skimmers at S.C.R.E., Aug. 21 (REW), and 2-3 there Sept. 13-14 (REW), along with one at the Santa Ynez R. mouth Aug. 1 (REW) were the only ones found away from the Salton Sea and San Diego.

ALCIDS—An imm. Pigeon Guillemot at Las Tunas Beach, Los Angeles Co., Sept. 3 (KLG), another at Playa del Rey Sept. 3-Oct. 5 (BSh) and a third in Redondo Beach Aug. 11-20 (H&NS, ph S.D.N.H.M.) were a little s. of the species' normal range. Nine Marbled Murrelets were at Pt. Sal, Santa Barbara Co., Aug. 25 (LB) with four still present Sept. 12-13 (REW), three were a short distance to the s. off Vandenberg Air Force Base Oct. 15 (REW) and another was at Hermosa Beach, Los Angeles Co., Oct. 5 (H&NS); this species is unexpected s. of San Luis Obispo County. Two Xantus' Murrelets off Morro Bay Nov. 1 (GMcC) were of the s. race *hypoleuca* rarely identified in California waters. The only Craveri's Murrelets identified were seen from shore with one at Corral Beach, Los Angeles Co., Aug. 19-Sept. 12 (KLG) and another off Pt. Mugu Sept. 1 (REW). Two Ancient Murrelets off Vandenberg Air Force Base Oct. 15 (REW), one off Goleta Nov. 7 (LB) and another in Oceanside, San Diego Co., Nov. 30 (RG) were the only ones reported.

PIGEONS THROUGH GOATSUCKERS—A Band-tailed Pigeon at Deep Springs, Inyo Co., Oct. 19 (BD), single birds on Pt. Loma Sept. 5 (CGE), Sept. 24 (DP) and Oct. 10 (DWP), and one near Pt. Mugu Sept. 26 (REW) were all out of normal range. Only 15 White-winged Doves were found along the coast, but one at Baywood Park, San Luis Obispo Co., Aug. 25 (FMW) was farther n. than normal, and another inland in the Saline Valley, Inyo Co., Sept. 2 (WFL) was also relatively far n. Two Ground Doves near Saticoy, Ventura Co., Sept. 4 (JM) and another at F.C.R., Sept. 21 (REW) were n. of the species' normal range. A Yellow-billed Cuckoo at Los Osos, San Luis Obispo Co., Aug. 8 (JMcD) was one of very few recorded along the coast of s. California in recent years. Single migrant Short-eared Owls were seen moving down Pt. Loma Sept. 30 (DWP) and Oct. 5 (EC). A Poor-will at Gaviota, Santa Barbara Co., Oct. 22 (LRB) and another on Pt. Loma Oct. 3 (DP) were both believed to be migrants.

SWIFTS THROUGH WOODPECKERS—Six Black Swifts were seen over Bishop, Inyo Co., Sept. 18 (REW) and another was at Hopper Canyon, Ventura Co., Aug. 19 (JG); we still know little about the fall movements of this species. A ♂ Black-chinned Hummingbird on Pt. Loma

Oct. 12 (EC) was the latest recorded this fall. An Acorn Woodpecker in Newport, Orange Co., Sept. 1 (DW), single birds on Pt. Loma Sept. 1 & 15 (CGE) and a fourth near Imperial Beach Sept. 21 (JO) were all out of normal habitat. An imm. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker of the eastern race *varius* was found in Whitewater Canyon, Riverside Co., Oct. 15 (RMcK) and another of the Rocky Mountain form *nuchalis* was on the coast at Zuma Beach Oct. 22 (KLG). A ♂ Williamson's Sapsucker on Mt. Palomar Sept. 27 (RH) was at the s. limit of the species' range. A Downy Woodpecker on Pt. Loma Oct. 18 (DP) was at an unusual locality as was another in the Antelope Valley near Pearblossom Oct. 17 (JD). A Ladder-backed Woodpecker at F.C.R., Oct. 19-21 (LN) was the first to be recorded at that spot. A Nuttall's Woodpecker at 11,000 ft above Lone Pine, Inyo co., Aug. 6 (RMcK) was exceptionally high in the mountains and another near Barstow, San Bernardino Co., Oct. 18 (EC) was well out into the Mojave Desert.

FLYCATCHERS, SWALLOWS—Three E. Kingbirds were found in the e. part of the Region, with one in the Saline Valley Sept. 2 (WFL), and single birds near Lancaster Aug. 30-31 (JD) and Sept. 20 (JD), and seven were found along the coast, with five in Santa Barbara Sept. 3-Oct. 4 (PEL), one in Carpinteria Sept. 11-12 (PEL) and another at Zuma Beach Sept. 21-27 (KLG). Tropical Kingbirds were scarcer than normal with only ten found along the coast in October. The only E. Phoebe found this fall was one in Whitewater Canyon Oct. 15 (RMcK). A bird believed to be an *Acadian Flycatcher* was well seen on Pt. Loma Sept. 27 (GMcC, EC, AH); the large size and broad bill, combined with the crisp green upperparts, clean yellow belly and white throat appear to eliminate all regularly occurring *Empidonax*, and if accepted by the California Rarities Committee would constitute the first record for the State. Three Least Flycatchers were found with one near Oxnard Sept. 26 (REW), another near Pt. Mugu Sept. 19 (KLG) and the third near Imperial Beach Sept. 10 (EC); this species has proven to be regular in small numbers in California each fall. A Coues' Flycatchers in Griffith Pk., Los Angeles Nov. 1+ (JA) is believed to be the same individual present at this location all last winter. Only ten migrant Purple Martins were reported, all between Aug. 15-Sept. 12, illustrating how rare this species has become in s. California.

TITMICE THROUGH WRENS—Mountain Chickadees moved down into the w. portions of the high desert during September with at least 34 found in the Antelope Valley Sept. 4-Nov. 6 (KLG) and about 30 in the Whitewater Canyon-Morongo Valley-Yucca Valley area after Sept. 9 (RMcK); two near Barstow Oct. 18 (EAC) and two more at Thousand Palms Oasis Sept. 15 (RMcK) were the farthest out into the desert. Two Plain Titmice near Lancaster Oct. 2 (JD), one near Pearblossom Oct. 17-21 (JD) and another at Yaqui Wells Nov. 22 (DW) were all at desert localities well away from breeding areas. A Verdin at F.C.R., Oct. 19 (JD) was at the n. limit of the species' range. Five Bushtits near N.E.S.S., Aug. 16 (DW) and four at the same

place Oct. 22 (RMcK) should be treated as a small flock present in the area most of this fall; this area is outside the species' normal range. A few White-breasted Nuthatches moved into the w. portion of the high desert as indicated by five in the Antelope Valley Sept. 4-Nov. 6 (KLG, JD) and two in Morongo Valley Nov. 16 (H&PB). A Dipper in Cold Cr. Canyon of the Santa Monica Mts., Oct. 25 (R. Beck, *fide* JD) was away from any known breeding locality. A Winter Wren in Santa Barbara Sept. 6 (PEL) was early, but one near Pt. Mugu Oct. 7-19 (REW) was as far s. along the coast as the species was found.

THRASHERS THROUGH VIREOS—A Brown Thrasher, a rare straggler to California, was at Gaviota Sept. 29 (AE) and another was in Newport Beach Nov. 27 (DW). A Bendire's Thrasher at Malibu Oct. 7-Nov. 2 (BE) and another on Pt. Loma Sept. 17-Oct. 12 (DP) were both on the coast. Varied Thrushes were exceptionally scarce, hence, it was interesting that single birds were found s. to Yucca Valley Nov. 22 (RMcK) and Pt. Loma Oct. 18-24 (JO). A Golden-crowned Kinglet on San Clemente I., Sept. 11 (EC) was early and far s. A Ruby-crowned Kinglet near Pt. Mugu Sept. 7 (S&DR) was a little early for a coastal locality. A Water Pipit at Malibu Sept. 9 (KLG) was very early. The only Red-throated Pipits to be found were up to 3 near Santa Maria Oct. 18-31 (PEL), one in Goleta Sept. 24 (PEL) and one at S.C.R.E., Sept. 28 (BD).

A Solitary Vireo of the nominate race *solitarius*, a casual vagrant to California, was well studied in Carpinteria Sept. 22 (JD) and another was found on Pt. Loma Sept. 23 (CGE); a gray bird in Santa Barbara Sept. 13 (PEL) was the first of the *plumbeus* race to be identified in that area of California. Six Red-eyed Vireos were reported with single birds at Gaviota Sept. 14-15 (JMG), Santa Barbara Sept. 11 (PEL), Zuma Beach Sept. 27 (KLG), Pt. Fermin Sept. 10 (M. Dinsmore, *fide* KLG), Pt. Loma Sept. 18-20 (CGE) and near Imperial Beach Sept. 20 (BSc). A Philadelphia Vireo in San Pedro Oct. 17 (BD) and another at Deep Springs Oct. 19-25 (BD) were the only two found this fall.

WOOD WARBLERS—This fall produced reports of 38 species of warblers, a greater variety than normally encountered, yet overall numbers of most vagrant species appeared lower than usual. Thirty-seven Black-and-white Warblers is more than usual. A Prothonotary Warbler, a rare vagrant to California, was at F.C.R., Oct. 18 (BD), another was in Morongo Valley Sept. 27 (MP), a third was on Pt. Loma Oct. 10 (DP) and a fourth was near Imperial Beach Sept. 16-21 (DK). A *Golden-winged Warbler* at Thousand Palms Oasis Oct. 3 (RMcK) was the seventh to be found during the fall in s. California. A *Blue-winged Warbler* on Pt. Loma Oct. 22 (WTE) was the seventh to be found in the Region. Tennessee Warblers were more numerous than usual with 50± reported. Ten Virginia's Warblers along the coast Sept. 2-28 was somewhat low, and single birds at Deep Springs Sept. 20 (REW), F.C.R., Sept. 20 (REW) and near Lancaster Aug. 27 (JD) and Sept. 4 (JD) were the only

ones found inland. The only Lucy's Warblers found along the coast were one at Gaviota Sept. 9-12 (PEL), another in Goleta Sept. 22 (PEL), one in Santa Barbara Oct. 7-16 (JMG), one at S.C.R.E., Sept. 11 (REW), one in Zuma Beach Sept. 18 (B&TC), another in San Pedro Sept. 2+ (BD) and four near Imperial Beach Aug. 23 (CGE). A N. Parula at Nojoqui Falls Park, Santa Barbara Co., Sept. 7 (LB) and another in Santa Barbara Sept. 30 (PEL) were the only two found.

Seven Magnolia Warblers were found, with six along the coast Sept. 11-Oct. 21 and one inland at Deep Springs Nov. 1 (BB) being about average. Three or four Cape May Warblers on Pt. Loma Sept. 28-Oct. 5 (DP,EC) were the only ones reported. Eight Black-throated Blue Warblers were found with single birds in Morongo Valley Nov. 16 (H&PB), near Lancaster Oct. 21 (JD) and near Banning Oct. 6 (WDW) being inland, and one near Goleta Oct. 25 (PEL), one in Newport Beach Sept. 14-16 (SJR), two on Pt. Loma Oct. 10-12 (GMcC) and one near Imperial Beach Oct. 8 (DWP) being on the coast. Single Black-throated Green Warblers were found inland at Scotty's Castle Oct. 27 (B&TC), Yucca Valley Nov. 4 (RMcK) and in Morongo Valley Oct. 29 (WDW); one on Vanderberg Air Force Base Oct. 15 (PEL), one at Zuma Beach Oct. 4-5 (LJ) and two at Pt. Loma Oct. 8-10 (GMcC) were along the coast. Blackburnian Warblers were more numerous than usual with 12 found along the coast Sept. 1-Oct. 16 along with single birds inland in Whitewater Canyon Sept. 22 (WDW) and Oct. 15 (RMcK). A Grace's Warbler, a casual straggler to California, was near Imperial Beach Sept. 16-17 (EC). Ten

Chestnut-sided Warblers Sept. 21-Oct. 26 would appear to be about normal. A Bay-breasted Warbler at S.C.R.E., Sept. 24 (REW) and single birds on Pt. Loma Sept. 27-28 (GMcC) and Oct. 3-4 were the only ones reported.

Some 40 Blackpoll Warblers along the coast Sept. 9-Oct. 31 was about average; one at Mesquite Springs Oct. 28 (B&TC), another near Lancaster Sept. 21 (REW), one at Tujunga Sept. 18-20 (GSS) and a fourth at L. Henshaw Nov. 7 (RH) were all at inland localities. A Prairie Warbler near Santa Maria Oct. 26 (PEL) was the only one found. Palm Warbler numbers were below average with 45 found along the coast after Sept. 20, along with single birds inland at Mesquite Springs Sept. 20 (REW), F.C.R., Oct. 19 (GMcC) and near Lancaster Oct. 25 (JD). Seven Ovenbirds Sept. 27-Oct. 26 was about average. Only 13 N. Waterthrushes were reported, but this may be due to the paucity of observers in the e. portion of the Region in early September. A Kentucky Warbler was well seen in Cambria Sept. 14 (F&NS) and another struck a window in Goleta Oct. 14 (PEL, *S.B.M.N.H.); there were only 6 previous records for the Region. Unexpected was a Connecticut Warbler at F.C.R., Sept. 20 (REW) and up to two on Pt. Loma Oct. 4-12 (AH, DP), since there were only 6 previous records for the Region. A Mourning Warbler in Carpinteria Sept. 20-23 (REW) was only the seventh to be found in the Region. A ♀ Hooded Warbler at Deep Springs Oct. 19-25 (BD) was the only one found. A Canada Warbler in Carpinteria Oct. 10 (PEL), and single birds on Pt. Loma Sept. 7-8 (RS) and Oct. 9 (DP) was fewer than expected. About 45 Am. Redstarts was somewhat fewer than normal.

BLACKBIRDS, ORIOLES, TANAGERS—Only 65 Bobolinks were reported from along the coast, and single birds at F.C.R., Oct. 19-21 (LN) and 25 (LN) were the only two found inland. Five Orchard Orioles were found along the coast and another was inland at Scotty's Castle Sept. 20 (REW). A Scott's Oriole on Pt. Loma Oct. 4-5 (EC) was on the coast, one at Green Valley (at 7500 ft) in the San Bernardino Mts., Aug. 20 (KLG) was at a high elevation and 10 in Palm Canyon near Palm Springs Nov. 22 (WDW) was a large number for such a late date. Nine N. (Baltimore) Orioles were reported from along the coast in October and November, which appears about normal. A Rusty Blackbird at Baker Oct. 26 (GMcC) and another near San-



Orchard Oriole, San Simeon, Calif., Nov. 29, 1980. Photo/ Eugene A. Cardiff.

ta Maria Nov. 8 (PEL) were the only two reported. A ♀ Great-tailed Grackle at Olancho in the Owens Valley Aug. 9 (RMcK) was quite far n., and another in Goleta Oct. 20 (JMG) was on the coast; the bird found at L. Cachuma May 6 was still present at the end of the period (LRB).

A Scarlet Tanager, a casual straggler to California, was in Goleta Oct. 20 (NSC), another was at Carpinteria Sept. 22 (LB) and a third was on Pt. Loma Oct. 24 (JO). Nine Summer Tanagers along the coast would appear low, and only two were found inland away from known breeding localities, but local breeding birds remained on territories in Morongo Valley/Whitewater Canyon as late as Oct. 15 (RMcK).

FINCHES, SPARROWS—Fifteen Rose-breasted Grosbeaks appeared to be about normal. A Blue Grosbeak at F.C.R., Oct. 25 (LN) was quite late. Twenty Indigo Buntings was slightly fewer than normally encountered. A Lazuli Bunting in Goleta Nov. 7 (PEL) was late. A ♂ Painted Bunting in Ventura Oct. 17 (GG) was believed to be an escape. Single Dickcissels in Goleta Sept. 12 (BSc), 21-22 (PEL) and Oct. 21 (PEL) and another near Imperial Beach Sept. 7 (AH) were the only ones reported. Five Evening Grosbeaks on Mt. Pinos Oct. 29 (JG) were the only ones to be found. A ♀ Purple Finch in the New York Mts., e. San Bernardino Co., Nov. 24 (SC, *S.B.C.M.) was in an area where scarce. A Pine Siskin at Montana de Oro S.P., near Morro Bay Sept. 6 (JD) would be exceptionally early for a migrant and local nesting should be considered. Green-tailed Towhees are evidently quite scarce as fall migrants on the coast n. of Los Angeles as indicated by single birds at Goleta Oct. 21-22 (PEL), in Santa Barbara Oct. 4-8 (PEL), at Pt. Mugu Oct. 13 (REW) and near Malibu Oct. 3 (KLG) being the only ones reported.

A Sharp-tailed Sparrow, a rare straggler to California, was at Pt. Mugu Oct. 25 (REW) and three were in Imperial Beach Nov. 22+ (GMcC). A Black-throated Sparrow near Pt. Mugu Oct. 1 (REW) was only the second found along the coast of this Region n. to Los Angeles. A Dark-eyed (Pink-sided) Junco at L. Cachuma Nov. 19 (PEL) was somewhat out of range. As usual a few Gray-headed Juncos were found in the s. portion of the Region with single birds near Malibu Nov. 1+ (KLG), Anaheim Oct. 23-30 (DW), and on Pt. Loma Oct. 19-23 (DP) and Nov. 5+ (DP) being on the coast. Single Tree Sparrows at F.C.R., Oct. 28 (B&TC) and Nov. 1-2 (BB) along with one near Santa Maria Oct. 11 (PEL) were the only ones reported. Clay-

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Lark Bunting, Harper Dry Lake, Aug. 17, 1980. Photo/Eugene A. Cardiff.

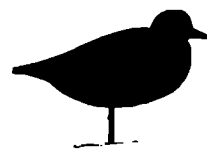
colored Sparrows were scarce with only six found along the coast Sept. 9-Nov. 9, along with two inland at F.C.R., Oct. 28 (B&TC). Three Harris' Sparrows at F.C.R., Oct. 19-Nov. 16 (LN) were the only ones found. White-throated Sparrows were also scarce with three found in the interior and only seven reported from along the coast. Five Swamp Sparrows at F.C.R., Oct. 18-26 (BD,GMcC), one at Morongo Valley Nov. 3 (RMcK), another near S.E.S.S., Nov. 23 (DW) and nine in coastal Santa Barbara County after Oct. 9 (PEL) gave us an average number for the fall.

Two McCown's Longspurs were at Deep Springs Oct. 25 (GMcC) and single birds were seen near Perris, Riverside Co., Oct. 30 (DMM) and Nov. 14 (EAC); this is the rarest of the longspur species to reach California. Single Lapland Longspurs near Yermo Oct. 26 (GMcC) and at Kelso Oct. 4 (EAC) were the only ones found inland and no more than ten were reported from along the coast in October and November. Chestnut-collared

Longspurs were also scarce with about 25 reported during October and November.

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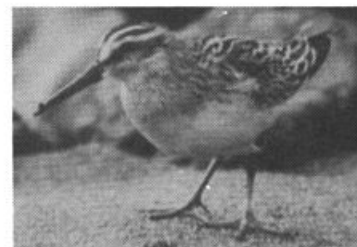
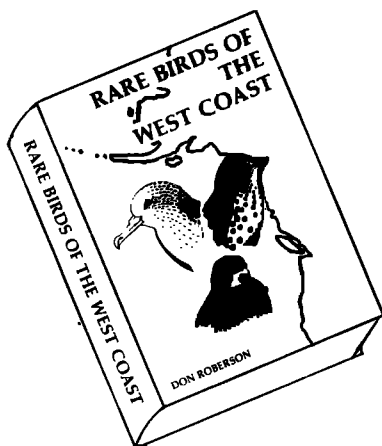
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HAWAIIAN ISLANDS REGION

/ Robert L. Pyle and C. John Ralph

Fairly frequent light showers producing only small volume, which is typical of summer rainfall, continued this year through October and November when heavier winter rains have normally begun. Honolulu precipitation from August through November totaled only 1.25 inches compared to a normal 6 inches. And with temperatures averaging 1.5°F above normal in September, October and November, it appeared that fall simply had not yet begun, even by the end of November. Perhaps as a consequence, numbers and variety of migrant waterbirds were disappointing after September 1, despite a good influx of shorebirds in August.

ABBREVIATIONS—F.F.S. (French Frigate Shoals), H. (Hawaii I.), K. (Kauai I.), M. (Maui I.), O. (Oahu I.).

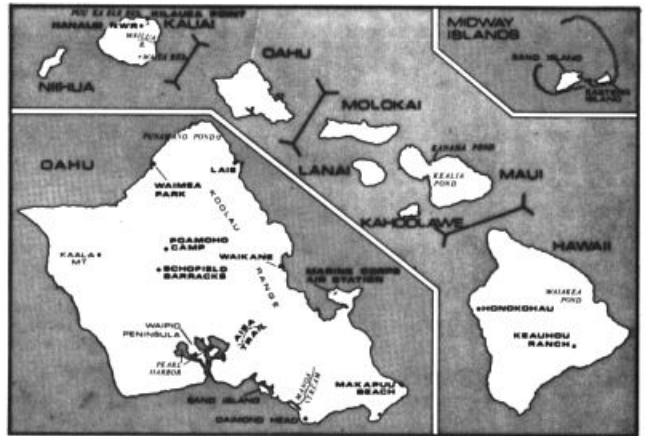
ALBATROSSES THROUGH PETRELS—The first Laysan Albatross returned to the nesting area near Kilauea Pt., K., Nov. 11 (RC), and at least three had returned the same week to their other nesting site across the island at Barking Sands. With the Endangered Hawaiian (Dark-rumped) Petrels now being seen and heard by the hundreds each spring in the mountains of Lanai I., it is not too surprising to have the first report from this island of a bird in the fall "downed" by attraction to lights. One was picked up Nov. 5 just after sunset in a brightly lighted park-

ing lot in Lanai City, and released successfully the next day (PC). The well-organized and publicized program on K., requesting citizens to bring in downed shearwaters resulted in the rescue, banding and release of well over 1200 birds by the end of November. Most were fledging Manx (Newell's) Shearwaters. Again this year, at least four Hawaiian (Dark-rumped) Petrels and two Harcourt's Storm-Petrels were rescued with the shearwaters (JS, TT). Three Bulwer's Petrel chicks were found in nest crevices on Manana I., off O., during an Hawaii Audubon Soc. field trip Aug. 17 (SC).

TROPICBIRDS THROUGH EGRETS—Both Red-tailed and White-tailed tropicbirds were recorded on the Aug. 17 Manana I. trip. Off Pelekunu Valley on the rugged, virtually inaccessible n.e. coastline of Molokai I., a Red-tailed Tropicbird was observed Aug. 1 (PPy) sitting on a possible nest atop tiny Moku Manu Islet (not the better-known Moku Manu Islet off Oahu I.). This would be a new nesting locality in the main Hawaiians for this species.

Cattle Egrets continue to increase on H. The island's only known roost, a lone tree growing in the middle of Lokoaka Pond near Hilo, is now used by more than 220 individuals (PPa). In January 1978, a count of 79 there was considered high.

WATERFOWL THROUGH COOT—A (Black) Brant, rare straggler to Hawaii, appeared at Lokoaka Pond, H., Nov. 17 and remained through end of the month (PPa). This year's duck flight was disappointing, especially with the main Kii Pond on Oahu dry for repair work. Pintails and N. Shovelers were below usual numbers in November and very few other species turned up among them. Ten Am. Wigeon on Waiakea and Lokoaka Ponds in Hilo, H., Oct. 25 (PPa) was a high number for the Big Island. A few wigeon and a dingy ♂ Ring-necked Duck were all that Waipio, O., could boast this fall. At Kuilima Pond, O., a full breeding-



plumaged ♂ Greater Scaup Oct. 19 (MO) was unexpected.

A pair of Kalij Pheasants Sept. 13 in open pasture near the entrance to Puu Waawaa Ranch w. of Waimea, H., seemed out of place for this shy species that normally prefers dense, wet forests at mid-elevations (DP). Although the Endangered Hawaiian (Am.) Coot is doing reasonably well at a few favored localities in this state, the count of 84 at Aimakapa Pond, H., Sept. 27 (PPa) was very encouraging, particularly for the Big Island.

SHOREBIRDS—Counts of 500+ and 700+ Ruddy Turnstones at Waipio, O., Aug. 22 & 31 (MO, RP, PD) were remarkable, along with uncountable hundreds of Am. Golden Plovers scattered through the piles of bagasse. Unusual species recorded at Waipio up to Sept. 1 included W. Sandpiper, Ruff and Wilson's Phalarope. Elsewhere, notable shorebirds included a Red Knot in fine breeding plumage at Kealia Pond, M., Sept. 8 (DP), a Bar-tailed Godwit at Fort Kamehameha mudflats, O., Aug. 1-22 (MJ, PD), another at Waipio Nov. 22-28 (PD, RP) and a **Buff-breasted Sandpiper** (2nd confirmed state record) at Princeville, K., Sept. 5 (DP).

Bristle-thighed Curlews were reported in small numbers this year at some unusual places on Oahu: single birds at Manana I., Aug. 17 (PD) and Kaena Pt., Sept. 1 (JO), and two at Nuupia Pond Sept. 15 (RC). Up to three birds were in the Kii-Kahuku area, their favorite locality Aug. 24 - Oct. 19 (PB *et al.*), but none were found thereafter. Single Bristle-thigheds were reported at Tern I., F.F.S., for a week each in June, August and September.

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S.A.

In Hawaii, Am. Golden Plovers are abundant and a familiar sight on many lawns and open grassy areas as well as mudflats August - May. Many an average citizen is convinced that the plover he sees in his yard or favorite park area each winter is the same individual returning year after year. This is because of some real or imagined distinctive mark, a peculiar behavior pattern, or just "a feeling" that it is the same bird.

Last winter, in the first successful attempt to investigate this phenomenon, Dr. Oscar Johnson and assistants color-banded 42 plovers from a relatively stable population of several hundred wintering at Bellows A. F. Sta. on Oahu. His colleague, Philip Bruner, monitored the return of the plovers this fall. By Nov. 1, 30 of the color-banded individuals had been recorded back at Bellows. These birds had made the journey to the Arctic tundra and back, returning to the same small part of the same Hawaiian island. Further, every one that had defended a feeding territory last winter returned to occupy the same territory, not more than a few hundred m² in size (Johnson, Johnson and Bruner, 'Elepaio, in press). Two or three more of the 42 banded plovers were sighted later in November.

The average citizen now has some impressive scientific backing for his gut feeling that the bird returning each winter to his lawn is indeed his same friendly plover.

GULLS THROUGH OWLS—A summer season report (late) of a Franklin's Gull in full breeding plumage at Tern I., F.F.S., June 8-10 (4 obs.) represents a remarkable out-of-season record for Hawaii. The bird was observed on the ground in a large Sooty Tern colony. The one or two Red-crowned Parrots seen regularly for many years in Kapiolani Park, O., have increased in recent months to a flock of at least six (sev. obs.). Since September, two Yellow-cheeked Parrots have been traveling with them. Also this fall, a pair of Nanday (Black-fronted) Conures have been seen more frequently in this same area. A Barn Owl was heard Sept. 19, 29 & Oct. 9 near Puu Oo at 5400 ft elevation on the s.e. slope of Mauna Kea, H. (PPa).

PASSERINES—Red-billed Leiothrix were heard on Oahu twice this season: on Woodland Trail Sept. 20 (MO, RP *et al.*), and on Poamoho Road Oct. 19 (MO). This was once a common species in Oahu forests, but now has almost vanished from the island. Similar decreases may also be occurring on other islands. Three Red Munias and a Red-eared Waxbill at Kuilima Pond, O., Oct. 19 (MO), and a flock of ten Warbling Silverbills on Kilauea Iki Trail, H., Nov. 20 (BP) furnished somewhat extra-limital records for these introduced Ploceids.



Robert L. "Bob" Pyle, co-editor of the Hawaiian Islands Region, a meteorologist with NOAA who has birded in 49 states, with a list of 630 ABA species. Currently President of the Hawaii Audubon Society and editor for field records, H.A.S.'s 'Elepaio among a host of other credits.

CONTRIBUTORS—John Andre, Philip Bruner, Rick Coleman, Sheila Conant, Peter Connally, Peter Donaldson, Jon Gravning, Ruth Ittner, Merrill Jensen, Jaan Lepson, John Obata, Mike Ord, Peter Paton (PPa), Doug Pratt, Bill Principe, Peter Pyle (PPy), John Sincok, Tom Telfer.—**ROBERT L. PYLE**, 741 N. Kalaheo Ave., Kailua, HI 96734, and **C. JOHN RALPH**, U.S. Forest Service, Institute of Pacific Islands Forestry, 1151 Punchbowl St., Honolulu, HI 96813.

WEST INDIES REGION

/ Robert L. Norton

Compared with last year, severe weather systems during the period were not as devastating. Rainfall in the Virgin Islands was generally low; only October had more than average, indicating frontal precipitation and winds affecting the Region.

ABBREVIATIONS—Anegada (ANE), British Virgin Islands (B.V.I.), Mahogany Run Golf & Tennis Resort (M.R.G.&T.R.), Puerto Rico (P.R.), St. John (STJ), St. Thomas (STT), Virgin Islands (V.I.), West Indies (W.I.).

BOOBIES THROUGH COOT—The Red-footed Booby appears to be slowly increasing its population on the Puerto Rico Bank. At Dutchcap Cay, STT, 250+ nests were counted Aug. 21. A small group of Red-footeds was reported nesting in August at Culebra, P.R., where they may have been overlooked. More evidence is welcomed. A juv. Double-crested Cormorant was observed at Congo Cay, STJ, Oct. 16 (RLN). However, a phenomenal cormorant count of 20+ was reported from San Juan (JC) to Humacao, P.R. (JCo). Seven have since been reported from STJ where they roost among Brown Pelican nestlings (TMA). Two cormorants were observed at Brewer's Bay, STT, Oct. 23 (KT). Bahama Ducks numbered 81 Oct. 17, as the result of an island-wide count on STJ. A single Green-winged with 30

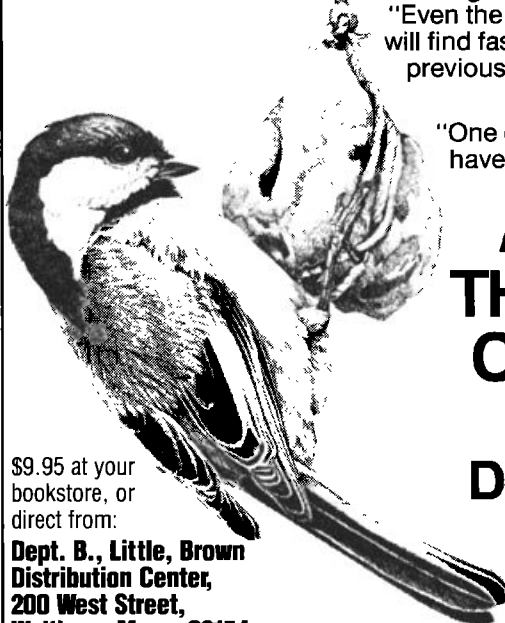
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Blue-winged teals and an Am. Wigeon were observed Nov. 27 at the Lagoon, STT. The first fall date for an Osprey was Aug. 24 at ANE. A Peregrine Falcon was seen at Carvel Rock, STJ, Oct. 10 (TMA). Five Soras were seen at a remnant wetland pond at Red Bay, STT, Nov. 12. The first Am. Coot of the fall was observed at the Lagoon, STT, Nov. 27.

PLOVERS THROUGH TERNS—An Am. Golden Plover was seen in flight at ANE Aug. 24 (RRV). Six Whimbrels were noted at ANE Aug. 22+, and a single Upland Sandpiper (RRV) noted at the airstrip on ANE Aug. 24. Two Uplands were seen at rain-soaked M.R.G.&T.R., STT, Sept. 27 (RLN). A Solitary Sandpiper and a Willet appeared at the Lagoon, STT, within a day of last year's first fall date, Aug. 11. Twelve Willets were counted on ANE Aug. 22+, where breeding was suspected, and a blue color-dyed Red Knot was noted among a group of 12 adults (RRV) at ANE. Two of 120 Semipalmated Sandpipers seen at Pointe Basse Terre, St. Martin, Fr. Antilles, Sept. 8, were yellow color-dyed (RLN). A surprising number (=63) of W. Sandpipers was recorded

(RRV) on ANE in various states of molt and feather wear. Of particular interest was the 602 Stilt Sandpipers on ANE Aug. 22+, of which two were juveniles (RRV).

Larids are known for vagrancy in the North Temperate Zone as illustrated by several gull, and interestingly, by certain S. American tern species (see recent *Am. Birds* Indices). Vagrancy by gulls in the West Indies is encouraged or sustained by fleets of cruise ships bound for Caribbean ports-of-call. Thus, a third V.I. record of Herring Gull, first year juvenile, was seen, although unexpectedly, at Coral Bay, STJ, Nov. 27. Tern vagrancy is much less common or observed in the W.I. Of particular note was a Cayenne Tern on ANE Aug. 23, in the company of breeding Sandwich Terns (=12+). A pair of Sandwich Terns was seen at Philipsburg, St. Maartin, Neth. Ant., Sept. 6 (RLN, JVG). Least Terns were common among the extensive, polluted salt ponds at Philipsburg and a pristine pond, Pt. Basse Terre, St. Martin. Seven winter-plumaged Black Terns, reported infrequently from the Region, were also noted at ANE Aug. 24 (RLN, RRV).

S.A.

On Aug. 21, at the Lagoon, STT, an ad. Reeve was positively identified by RRV and RLN. Until this date, the species had not been adequately documented from the P.R. Bank (Biaggi, *Las Aves de Puerto Rico*, 1974). Bond (*17th Supplement to Checklist of Birds of the West Indies*, 1972) relates observations from Cabo Rojo, P.R., the s.w. corner of the island Jan. 28, implying that 1972 was the year of record. The only other documentation (Bond, *18th Suppl.*, 1973) of the species in the Greater Antilles comes from Jamaica Sept. 25, 1972. Several sightings from the Lesser Antilles, Trinidad (=2), and recent records from Peru are certainly enlightening as to the worldwide vagrancy of the species. A second observation in the same week at ANE Aug. 23, of a carefully studied Ruff (RRV, RLN) extinguished any thought of the Reeve chasing ornithologists. These are the first observations of *Philomachus pugnax* n. of Guadeloupe and e. of Puerto Rico.

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CUCKOOS THROUGH BUNTINGS—Yellow-billed Cuckoos were plentiful from Oct. 14+ on STT and STJ. During a survey of ANE Aug. 22-24, West Indian Nighthawks were observed and heard calling their distinctive notes. A juvenile was seen at mid-day Aug. 22 resting on a sandy road. Subsequently, 12 other individuals were counted at Windlass Bay. Common Nighthawks were observed Oct. 19 (=1), and Oct. 22 (=4) on an overcast afternoon at Cruz Bay, STJ. Among the thousands of Barn Swallows that pass through the V.I. in autumn were eight Cliff Swallows Oct. 22 at Cruz Bay. Uncommon Parulids and their first fall dates in the V.I. are as follows: Prothonotary Oct. 17, STJ; Black-throated Blue Oct. 17, STJ; Louisiana Waterthrush Aug. 17, Jost Van Dyke B.V.I. (RRV) and Sept. 6 St. Martin, Fr. Ant. (RLN); Yellow-throated Nov. 12, STT. A flock of 160 Bobolinks was observed at M.R.G.&T.R., STT, Sept. 27. The first N. (Baltimore) Orioles (♀, ♂) of the season were seen Oct. 17 at Mary Pt., STJ. A Shiny Cowbird fledgling was observed being fed by a Yellow Warbler Aug. 15, near the Lagoon, STT. The rarely observed Scarlet Tanager in basic plumage was seen Oct. 17 on Bordeaux Mtn., STJ. Indigo Buntings (=15) were seen in grassy openings of Benner Hill, STT, Nov. 1.

ADDENDUM—A vagrant Greater Shearwater followed a yacht, July 6, midway between ANE and Virgin Gorda, B.V.I. It, or another Greater Shearwater, was observed s. of V.G., July 13 (LH).

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