The Nesting Season

June 1 - July 31, 1982

NORTHEASTERN MARITIME REGION
/Stuart I. Tingley

Weather patterns were relatively uniform across the Region this summer. June was cool and very wet throughout, and many observers reported hardships for susceptible species such as swallows and flycatchers and many nesting terns were reported washed out, particularly in the southern part of the Region. July weather was quite the reverse, with above-normal temperatures and virtually no precipitation anywhere in the Region during the first 20 days of the month. That undoubtedly allowed most failed breeders to re-nest which, however, is not usually as successful.

Many observers noted the earlier-than-normal appearance of southbound shorebirds owing perhaps, as Blair Nikula speculates, to a poor nesting season in the north; while looking south, weather-related nesting failures farther down the coast may have accounted for the modest influx of "southern" terns into the Region in late June. None of the four first state/provincial nesting records reported this season were really unexpected. Regional rarities were highlighted by a Brown Pelican, Sandhill Cranes in three provinces, White-winged Dove and remarkably, another Nova Scotia Cave Swallow.

Forest pests continue to play havoc throughout the Region. In the south, the gypsy moth again created extensive defoliation, although levels were reported reduced in New Hampshire. In the north, the spruce budworm continued to ravage through softwood forests, while the forest tent caterpillar caused extensive defoliation in parts of Maine and New Brunswick. Despite mounting public opposition the latter province continued with its 29th year of spraying several million acres of forest with pesticides, about which virtually nothing is known of their short or long-term effects on wildlife or indeed, humans!

Reporting coverage this season was generally good, although less than complete for Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia and unfortunately no reports were received from Prince Edward Island.

LOONS THROUGH CORMORANTS — Summering Red-throated Loons in New England included six at two Maine localities (fide MKL), and a maximum of six at Manomet, Mass. (PY). Northern Fulmars, while recorded in record numbers at Cox's Ledge with 37 on June 13 (fide DLE), were near normal elsewhere with small numbers in the Gulf of Maine and a maximum of 168 between N. Sydney, N.S. and Port-aux-Basques, Nfld., July 10 (RB). Cory's Shearwater numbered 55 off Block I., R.I., June 30 (fide DLE), while the only Manx Shearwaters reported were three off Newfoundland (RB). Other tubenoses were lightly reported, but apparently in near normal numbers, although 775 Wilson's Storm-Petrels in the Gulf of Maine from the Bluenose ferry July 5 was a high count (fide MKL). An imm. Brown Pelican at Dartmouth P., Long I., N.S., June 30 provided perhaps a 9th or 10th provincial occurrence (RD, RBS et al.). Small numbers of Great Cormorants were reported summering as far s. as Rhode Island. In that state, where the first nesting record for Double-crested Cormorant was recorded last year, the colony at Sakonnet Pt. has increased from 16 nests to 73 nests this year. That species continues to increase throughout the Region, except perhaps in Newfoundland where it has long been uncommon and very local.

HERONS, IBISES — Green Herons were noted feeding young out of the nest at Red Head Marsh, near Saint John, N.B., July 7 (fide DSC), where the species has been noted in summer for several years. Still unrecorded as a nesting bird in Nova Scotia, a Green Heron was observed at Little Harbour, Shelburne Co., June 11 (fide PRD). Southern herons reported in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia during the summer included three ad. Little Blue Herons, two Cattle Egrets, two Black-crowned Night-Herons.
Ruddy Ducks continue to hold on as breeders at A.P.B.S., N.S., Conn., June 10 were considered exceptional for that area (PJD). The region were a female on Mt. Desert I., Me., in early June (NF) and the Maritimes (RAF, RSH). The only summering King Eiders noted in this species were in Nova Scotia in July 1974 and 1975. A drake one Great Egret, and at least eight Snowy Egrets (fide DSC, PRD). Eur. Wigion just starting to molt at Plum I., Mass., July 2 (RSH) was Manomet, Mass., July 23 (PY) was probably summering. A drake late Brant in Connecticut included 72 at Riverside June 4 and five off Greenwich June 20 (fide TB); one off Manomet, Mass., July 23 (PY) was probably summering. A drake Eur. Wigeon just starting to molt at Plum I., Mass., July 2 (RSH) was most unseasonal. The only other recent regional summer occurrences of this species were in Nova Scotia in July 1974 and 1975. A drake Greater Scap at Plum I., July 7 was the only one reported s. of the Maritimes (RAF, RSH). The only summering King Eiders noted in the region were a female on Mt. Desert I., Me., in early June (NF) and an immature male and two females at Cape Freels, Nfld., July 29 (BB). An ad. male and two ff Black Scoters near New Hartford, Conn., June 10 were considered exceptional for that area (PJD). Ruddy Ducks continue to hold on as breeders at A.P.B.S., N.S., where 2-3 broods were observed this summer (MF).

A Turkey Vulture nest discovered near Camden, Me., provided the first undisputable state breeding record, although that species is now routine through much of the state. In Nova Scotia, a Turkey Vulture near Yarmouth June 6 (PY) was the only one reported away from Brier I., where small numbers have occurred annually in summer for several years. A Sharp-shinned Hawk nest with eggs discovered at Marshfield, Mass., June 24 (RSH, RRV) furnished apparently the first nesting record in that state for many years. In Rhode Island, Goshawks were found nesting at 2 new sites this summer, making it the states’ commonest breeding Accipiter – Cooper’s and Sharp-shinned hawks being suspected of nesting in just one location each in the state (fide DLE). Ospreys continued to fare well throughout the Region, although a poor gaspereaux run in Halifax County, N.S., resulted in evident failure for local breeding birds (fide IAM). Golden Eagles were reported from Stewarts Point, N.H., June 22 (D. Killam, fide RAQ) and at Stratton, Me., in July (fide MCL). The Canadian Whooping Crane released a total of seven Peregrine Falcons this summer at 2 sites in the Maritimes – Nat’l and current plans for even larger releases at unspecified sites in each of the next 4 or 5 years. A white Gyr falcon was reported to have summered in the Saunter’s Cove, Nfld. area, being seen several times in June and July apparently feeding on gulls (fide RB).
reported this summer. Several Black Terns noted away from their breeding areas in July (fide MKL). At least two Sandwich Terns roamed the outer Cape ranged as far n as Maine, where singles were reported at 2 locations in July (fide MKL). At least two Sandwich Terns roamed the outer Cape from late June to mid-July (RSH, RRV et al.), while an ad. Gull-billed Tern in breeding plumage on Monomoy June 24 (RVR, RSH) was unique. Several Black Terns noted away from their breeding areas in late June and early July were unusual; an ad at Grass Island, St. John, ranged as far n as Maine, where singles were reported at 2 locations in July (fide MKL). At least two Sandwich Terns roamed the outer Cape from late June to mid-July (RSH, RRV et al.), while an ad. Gull-billed Tern in breeding plumage on Monomoy June 24 (RVR, RSH) was unique. Several Black Terns noted away from their breeding areas in late June and early July were unusual; an ad at Grass Island, St. John, ranged as far n as Maine, where singles were reported at 2 locations in July (fide MKL).

DOVES THROUGH WRENs — A White-winged Dove photographed at a Stellarton, N.S., feeder May 8-23 marked a fourth provincial occurrence (Leo Mackay, fide IAM). That species has occurred almost annually in the Region in recent years. A Snowy Owl at North Harbour, Cape Breton I., N.S., June 17 was watched being harassed by gulls as it crossed a body of water. Eventually forced into the water, the owl was rescued but died shortly thereafter from severe head injuries apparently inflicted by the gulls (BCJ, ADS). Two Chuck-will's-widows were reported in Rhode Island in early June, where that species was unknown previous to 1980 (fide DLE). No word this summer of Arthur's Warbler's reception regarding Com. Nighthawks were negative and it seems that that species is genuinely on the decline in the Region. A Chimney Swift at Saunder's Cove, Nfld., June 29 was rare (RB). Single Red-headed Woodpeckers were reported from Maine, New Hampshire and Rhode Island in June. A Scissor-tailed Flycatcher at Mary's Pt., N.B., June 29 was unique this season (MM). Acadian Flycatchers numbered at least 16 singing males with 3 nests discovered in w. Massachusetts (fide SK, PY), while elsewhere singles were reported at Pulaski P., R.I., June 17-23 (fide IAM), Manomet, Mass., June 16-17 (PY), Sandwich, Mass., June 17 (RP), and New Boston, N.H., May 31 and at the same spot July 10 (fide RAQ). An Olive-sided Flycatcher at Chatham, Mass., June 25 (BN) was strangely between seasons.

Nova Scotia has done it again. A Cave Swallow was observed and impeccably described by competent observers near Louisbourg, Cape Breton I., July 9. That was a fourth provincial, and regional occurrence of that species, yet to be recorded elsewhere in the e., n. of Florida (Bret Whitney, David Wolf et al., fide IAM). In Maine, Crows were very numerous in the extreme s.w. at Mt. Agamenticus, and were reported present in "almost all the atlas blocks in Kennebec County" (fide MKL). Several reportees noted that Breeding Nuthatches were scarce in the Region this summer. In w. Massachusetts, Winter Wrens were termed "down and scarce", while Carolina Wrens were reported as completely absent (SK). Only one Short-billed Marsh Wren was reported, a singing male in Blandford, Mass., May 30-June 3 (SK).

THRUSHES THROUGH WARBLERS — Eastern Bluebirds seem to be slowly increasing, the northeasterly breeding this summer was a successful nesting at Sackville, N.B. (GP). Blue-gray Gnatcatchers continue to increase in Maine; adults were observed feeding young at Richmond July 13 (PDV). An unseasonal Water Pipit was noted at Sable I., N.S., June 5 (IAM). No Loggerhead Shrikes were reported this summer.

Golden-winged Warblers were recorded in w. Massachusetts near Granville June 16, and Florence June 27 (fide SK). Northern Parulas, rare in Newfoundland, were recorded in the Codroy Valley (BM) and at Salmonier in early June (IG). Also rare in that province, a Cape May Warbler was singing near Robinson's June 13 (BM, JW). Excit- ing in Rhode Island were singing Yellow-throated Warblers at 2 sites near Arcadia June 23-July 1 (fide IAM). A large number of Breeding Bird Surveys in Newfoundland indicated that N. Waterthrush was the commonest species in the Province. "You can stop route" (BM). Very rare in spring were singing Connecticut Warblers near Boston Brook, Victoria Co., N.B., May 31 (DK) and at Squeur de Mont's Spring on Mount Desert I., Me., June 12-18 (WT, fide MKL). A Kentucky Warbler was a good find at Foster, R.I., June 9 (fide DLE). A singing Yellow-breasted Chat at Lenox, Mass., repre- sented the first local record since 1968 (DS et al), others were reported in Florence, Mass., June 27-July 4 (fide SK) and at Apple- done I., N.H., May 24 (fide RAQ).

BLACKBIRDS THROUGH SPARROWS — A Yellow-headed Blackbird at a Concord, N.H. feeder June 6 & 7 was perhaps without precedent regionally at this season. Four pairs of Orchard Orioles in June including a nest at Hampton, was exceptional for New Hampshire. In Nova Scotia, a pair of Orchard Orioles spent 2 days in an orchard near Wallace in June (Shirley & Tony Bidwell, fide PRD). A pair of Summer Tanagers near Ellsworth, Me., June 8 was apparently unique in the Region this season (fide DLE). A singing in Maine, New Hampshire and Rhode Island in early June, where that species was unknown previous to 1980 (fide DLE). No word this summer of Arthur's Warbler's reception regarding Com. Nighthawks were negative and it seems that that species is genuinely on the decline in the Region. A Chimney Swift at Saunder's Cove, Nfld., June 29 was rare (RB). Single Red-headed Woodpeckers were reported from Maine, New Hampshire and Rhode Island in June. A Scissor-tailed Flycatcher at Mary's Pt., N.B., June 29 was unique this season (MM). Acadian Flycatchers numbered at least 16 singing males with 3 nests discovered in w. Massachusetts (fide SK, PY), while elsewhere singles were reported at Pulaski P., R.I., June 17-23 (fide IAM), Manomet, Mass., June 16-17 (PY), Sandwich, Mass., June 17 (RP), and New Boston, N. H., May 31 and at the same spot July 10 (fide RAQ). An Olive-sided Flycatcher at Chatham, Mass., June 25 (BN) was strangely between seasons.

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Quebec Region

The summer temperature of 1982 was slightly below normal in southern Quebec and above normal in northern Quebec. Precipitation was also above average in June in the northern half of the province, and below average in July in the southwest.

As a rule, detailed reports of the more outstanding sightings published in this column have been seen by the Regional Editors. In most instances, these details are to appear in one of the following regional publications: Bulletin ornithologique (Club des ornithologues du Quebec), Bulletin ornithologique estrien (Société de loisir ornithologique de l'Estrie), Club des ornithologues du Québec, Club des ornithologues de la Gaspésie, Horfang (Club des ornithologues amateurs du Saguenay—Lac St-Jean), Kakawi (Club des ornithologues du Bas Saint-Laurent), Ornitaouais (Club des ornithologues de l'Outaouais), Tchebec et Newsletter (Province of Quebec Society for the Protection of Birds).
HERONS THROUGH RAPTORS — Ten Great Blue Herons were found on Brion L., July 17 (YA), a suitable breeding site for this species. Noteworthy southern herons included an ad. Little Blue Heron near Lachute July 10 (MT), a Great Egret at Pointe-aux-Outardes June 1 (FL), and others at Barachois July 19 (RB), Chandler July 23 (DD), and Windsor June 12-13 (fide SM). A Great Ibis shot near Harrington-Portage in May (fide KBF) provided a first record on the Lower North Shore of the St. Lawrence. Nesting of the Canada Goose was again noted near Dundee with the sighting of four goslings June 18 (YA); since this year was banding, it is possible that it originated from feral stock found in parks or refuges of adjacent Regions. Both the Gadwall and the Am. Wigeon were nesting on L. Megantic, Madeleine Is., July 20-21 (YA). Up to five Turkey Vultures were seen intermittently near Mt. Orford (fide PBo), an area where breeding can be expected; the first sighting of this vulture in the Madeleine Is., was made at Havre-aux-Maisons July 12-14 (JR). A Red-shauleder Hawk at Saint-Damase, Matapedia Co., was making its nest near Perrieka July 15 (ND) provided breeding evidence for the L. Saint-Jean area.

DOVES THROUGH FLYCATCHERS — On her annual trip to the North Shore KBF was shown a captive Rock Dove found in a pile on Perrieka July 15 (PLn). The increase of Ruff sightings is remarkable; there were seven from 1933 to 1977, twelve 1978 through 1981, and eight so far in 1982, including four this summer with single birds in Rimouski, Pointe-au-Père, LaSalle, and near Granby. An ad. Long-tailed Jaeger in Quebec City June 11 (CV) added to the species’ records on the upper St. Lawrence in spring, which outnumber those combined of Pomarine and Parasitic jaegers. Most unusual was the presence of an ad. Lesser Black-backed Gull near Dardmondville June 12 (PBo). Near Magog, disturbance caused 300 Ring-billed Gulls to abandon their riparian nests (PBo); but the 150 birds found nesting safely on rock piles off Perrieka July 15 (ND) provided breeding evidence for the L. Saint-Jean area.

S.A.

The discovery of three species of hooded gulls (Blackheaded, Little, Bonaparte’s) nesting in Quebec was certainly the outstanding event of the season. At Havre-aux-Basques, a Madeleine Is. lagoon, P. Pradet discovered two Black-headed Gull’s nests containing two and three chicks July 1: on July 14, 5 empty nests, two chicks, three just-fledged young, and 10+ adults were counted (YA, PLn). The observation of just-fledged juvenals on Newfoundland’s w. coast in 1977 had provided the first breeding evidence in North America (AB 32: 312); it should be added that Black-headed Gulls have been breeding on the w. coast of Greenland since 1969 (Med. om Grønland 204(6):47). At the other end of the province, a pair of Little Gulls built a nest on a tiny islet of the Lachine Rapids; it contained 2 eggs June 12, a single chick was fed by the adult June 30 but disappeared July 3 (PBo). Quebec, Ontario, Wisconsin, Michigan, and Manitoba had previously claimed a combined total of about 10 breeding records. The Bonaparte’s Gull, was long suspected of nesting in our James Bay lowlands (an egg-bearing female had been collected near the Ontario border in 1926); an incubating adult was seen and photographed on its nest June 27-July 7 about 100 km up Eastmain R. (VL). However, this is a second Regional nest since one had been found near Perrieka in 1977 (Que. Nest Rec. Card Prog.).

CRANES THROUGH TERNs — A Sandhill Crane summering at Barachois July 11-29 (DS et al.) was most unexpected. Yellow Rails are still present near Coint-du-Banc (fide RB), where L.M. Terrill had found a nest in 1939 (Auk 60: 171-180). It is obvious that Killdeers are colonizing the giant embankment sites n. of their range, with a nest found at Gagnon July 18 (YA); since this year was banding, it is possible that it originated from feral stock found in parks or refuges of adjacent Regions. Both the Gadwall and the Am. Wigeon were nesting on L. Megantic, Madeleine Is., July 12-14 (JR). A Red-shauleder Hawk at Saint-Damase, Matapedia Co., June 21 (CG) and a Rough-legged Hawk at Bic July 5-21 (GG) were unusual.

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Adult Bonaparte’s Gull on nest, June 27-July 7, 1982, approx. 100 km n. on the Eastmain R., Que. Photo/V. Letourneau.

Daily observations to follow the breeding of the Little Gulls in the Lachine Rapids area also produced sightings of at least two Black-headed Gulls, two Franklin’s Gulls, two Forster’s Terns, two Arctic Terns, and six Caspian Terns (m.o., fide PS); two of the latter were seen copulating but no further breeding evidence could be found. The presence of an Arctic Tern in Saint-Joseph de Beauce June 13 (YM) also helps to outline the little-known inland migration of this bird.

Roseate Terns continued to be found in the Madeleine Is., but this year they frequented Havre-aux-Basques (YA).
Hudson-Delaware Region

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

It was abnormally wet and cold in June. In fact, June 1982 was the wettest month (not just the wettest June) since records began at the Brookhaven National Laboratory, Long Island, in 1947. The deluge reached its climax with a coastal storm June 7 that dumped 11 inches of rain on eastern Long Island. Coastal New Jersey and Delaware missed the heaviest downpour, but high tides destroyed nests of some species there as well. A warm, dry July allowed renesting in many cases.

Highlights of the season included an unprecedented invasion of Brown Pelicans, a possible Little Stint, and Chestnut-collared Longspur.

Six Summer Bird Counts (hereafter, S.B.C.) provided helpful data. Warren County, N.J., June 6; S. Lancaster County, Pa., June 6 (with a useful 6-year summary); Boonton, Morris Co., N.J., June 12, Central Suffolk County, L.I., June 12, Cumberland County, N.J.,
second week in June; and the Westchester County, N.Y., portions of the Greenwich-Stamford CBC, June 20.


LOONS THROUGH HERONS — In addition to normal late migrant Com. Loons, such as five at Harvey’s L., Luzerne Co., Pa., June 5 (J. Hoyson, K. McGuire) and two at Leaser L., Lehigh Co., Pa., to June 6 (C. Elwell), the usual handful summered along the coast migrant Corn. Loons, such as five at Harvey’s L., Luzerne Co., Pa., to June 6 (C. Elwell), the usual handful summered along the coast.

Although they enjoyed their most productive summer ever in the H.M. at Kearny (120 in 24 family groups—RK). Pied-billed Grebes have become dangerously scarce and localized elsewhere in this Region. Only 3 other New Jersey breeding sites were known this summer: Shades of Death Marsh, Warren Co. (one pair), Trenton Marsh (one pair), and the Pedricktown impoundment, Salem Co. (two pairs—RK, JKM). In Delaware, Pied-billed Grebes are believed to be down to one pair at Delaware City and another at Little Creek N.W.A. (DAC). At the Bashakill, on the Orange-Susquehanna Co. line, N.Y., they still breed “commonly” (JPT), but last year’s pair at J.B.W.R. did not repeat (CP), nor was there a pair at the other coastal heronries for upland forest. In New Jersey, where 6 active colonies are known, totalling 280 pairs this summer, including new colonies at Great Swamp (H. Laskowiski) and at Scotland Run, Gloucester Co. (Stallenberger), no colonies remain on the coast or along Delaware Bay (RK). On the Delaware side of the bay, a few pairs remain at Pea Patch I. (CS, DAC), but the main Delaware colony is inland at Taylor’s Bridge. The new colony reported last summer at Wyalusing, Bradford Co., Pa., was not in the same spot although birds remained nearby (WR). In New York, there is a new colony at the Bashakill, thought to comprise 5–10 pairs and at least one traditional heronry persists in Sullivan County (JPT); another nesting site is suspected in Dutchess County (R.T.W.B.C.), but Great Blue Herons have not nested on Long Island in living memory (GSR).

The Cattle Egret colony on the Susquehanna islands at Washington Boro, Pa., totaled 4500 Aug. 4, well short of last summer’s 7500 and just short of 1980’s 4700 (TA, Lancaster Co. Bird Club). Our general feeling is that the Cattle Egret population has stabilized, although we have no comprehensive heronry counts to prove the point. A Louisiana Heron at Scranton, Pa., June 6 (R. Bongey) was remarkable since none are known to breed inland in this Region.

Black-crowned Night Herons, already known as a predator of Com. Terns (H. Hays), are now believed to have eliminated a Least Ternery at Eaton’s Neck, L.I. (S. Rupert). The McCormick I. colony of Young-crowned Night Herons on the Susquehanna R., reported last summer was not checked again, but new Susquehanna drainage reports reinforce our impression that this is the largest inland breeding population in the n.e. United States. Five were fledged along the Conestoga R., near Lancaster, Pa., and breeding was suspected at Lancaster Co. Central Park (TA). Least Bitterns were present in good numbers at appropriate places: the Bashakill (JPT), Calverton, L.I. (two pairs—GSR), the H.M. at Kearny (up to 15 pairs—RK), Tinicum (JCM), and s. Cape May (8–10 pairs—P. Sutton).

WATERFOWL — In addition to the usual scattered non-breeding Snow Geese, a much more unusual lingering ad. blue morph was near Hopbottom, Susquehanna Co., Pa., June 8 (WR). A 2 Am. Wigeon with a brood at North Sea (J. Ruscica) was a first e. Long Island nesting for this species which has been edging S and E. Only remnants of a once-healthy Ruddy Duck population were in the H.M. (RK) and at J.B.W.R., where only one brood appeared in August (CP), but a brood at Patchogue provided the first breeding record elsewhere on Long Island (GSR). Most of the summering non-breeding diving ducks were singles, as usual, but an unusually large non-breeding scoter flock at Cape May included 40 Black, eight Surf, and a single White-winged scoter (DS), about in the order of their winter frequency there; another six Black Scoters were on the Cumberland County S.B.C. (D. Ward).

A Hooded Merganser with 7 young was at Gellett, Susquehanna Co., Pa. (S. Santner), but breeding could not be proven at the Bashakill, where Tromontano suspected two females of parasitizing the abundant Wood Ducks, nor at Cape May (July 27—DS), nor on Octoraro and Conowingo creeks, Lancaster Co., Pa. (RMS) where birds were present. Common Mergansers, too, were along Conowingo Cr., for the second summer, without definite proof of breeding (RMS). This species does breed on the Susquehanna at Tunkhannock, Pa. (WR) and probably on the Neversink R., Sullivan Co., N.Y. (JPT). We learned of two Red-breasted Merganser breeding reports: a female with eight young at Shinnecock Inlet, L.I., July 30 (GSR), where they bred very occasionally in the past, and a female with four flightless young at Beach Haven, N.J., on Barnegat Bay, July 27, the same location as a 1950 brood (P. McClain, N.J.D.F.G.W.).

RAPTORS — The spring’s Swallow-tailed Kite sightings continued with one at S. Cape May Meadows June 2 & 18 (CS, RK), perhaps the same, and another at the even less expected inland

Swallow-tailed Kite in flight over Greenbrook Sanctuary, N.J., June 2, 1982. Photo/John Serrao.
location of Media, Pa., June 11 (fide AH) We follow Mississippi Kite summer records with even closer attention, for breeding may be at hand. Following reports of up to five in the Cape May, N.J.—Lewes, Del., area through June 6, discussed last season, one was at Bethany Beach for Delaware’s second record June 20 (P. Bezark). Most of these observations are of sub-adults, the age-group most likely to wander, but are should be carefully ascertained for each observation.

Cooper’s Hawks did better than last year: five confirmed nests in New Jersey (two last year—RE, N.J.D.F.G.W.), plus one in Orange County, N.Y. (K. McDermott). As was formerly the case, a few Sharp-shinned Hawk than Cooper’s nests were reported: one in Passaic County, N.J. (Rra, T. Vogel), a young bird caught in a barn in Warren County, N.J. (G. Bleiweiss), and another possible pair in Warren County (WW). Only one Golden Eagle was observed, in Passaic County, N.J., July 3 (RJB, V. Blauvelt). The usual half-dozen wandering Golden Eagles clustered in late July.

The Osprey revival continues. Nests increased to 40 in coastal Delaware, many of them on duck blinds (25 in 1980, 31 in 1981—PJ), and to 97 in New Jersey (87 last year). The New Jersey nests enjoyed "great production," the 87 that could be checked fledging 100 young (89 last year—J. Frier, N.J.D.F.G.W.). The N.J.D.F.G.W. now considers the state's population self-sustaining, and has ceased its 4-year egg transfer project. Eleven pairs are using the power poles around the Salem nuclear plant without apparent mortality. The only bleak spot was Long Island, where cold and rain reduced fledging to 60 (125 in 1981, 101 in 1980). Even there total nests grew from 93 to 95, a hopeful sign for the future (M. Scheib, N.Y. State Dept. of Env. Conserv.). Perhaps the next step will be the development of interior Delaware Bay sites, if pollution levels permit.

All four pairs of hacked Peregrine Falcons in coastal New Jersey attempted to nest, three of them producing ten natural young to which two chicks were added (M. Welton, N.J.D.F.G.W.).

BOBWHITE, RAILS, SHOEBIRDS — Several observers (GSR, RFD) believe that Bobwhite are recovering from their 1978-81 low. F.E. Hartman, wildlife biologist with the Pennsylvania Game Commission, writes us to express doubt about the common theory (AB 35:924) that Bobwhite have become more vulnerable to winter because of restocking with southern birds. Mr. Hartman explains that few southern Bobwhites were used for stocking in Pennsylvania, and that few stock birds "live long enough to make an impact on populations or breeding genetics." He attributes Bobwhite decline to changing habitat conditions and some severe winters over the last 12 years.

The diminishing Sora still breeds in the Bashkill (JPT), and a calling bird along the Hackensack R., Rockland Co., N.Y., may have bided (RFD), but there was no repeat of 1980’s exceptional salt marsh breeding on Long Island. A Purple Gallinule frequented the Cape May lighthouse pond for the second summer (DS, RK), and another was at Tinicum June 6-27 (JCM, ph., S. Lipschutz), but since the disappearance of the Dragon’s Run Del., pair of a decade ago there has been no evidence that Bufflehead will breed in this location any longer.

American Oystercatchers have prospered by shifting from outer beach nesting to sand bars in the salt marsh, despite occasional losses to flooding there. Davis' intensive studies of shorebirds at J.B.W.R., show that oystercatchers have "increased dramatically" there in late summer (24 on July 31). Another good condition typical of recent summers was 75 possible with many other shorebirds at high tide on Stone Harbor Pt., Cape May Co., N.J., July 19 (CS).

We have no systematic study of Piping Plovers like that conducted by Ann Galli in New Jersey in 1980, but they seem to be holding their own there and on Long Island (AG, MG, ROP) despite seemingly overwhelming human pressures on the outer beaches. In Delaware, John found 18 adults during the statewide Least Tern survey June 12. A gratifying concentration of 500 Whimbrel gathered with 200 Willets and the aforementioned 75 Am. Oystercatchers on Stone Harbor Pt., N.J., during high tide July 19 (CS). The Upland Sandpiper situation becomes steadily more precarious. Wieder found only 12 pairs at 5 sites in n.w. New Jersey during an intensive survey of grazing land species. Mr. J.Br. (J.D.F.G.W.) has found that the best habitat is extensive fallow fields interspersed with cultivation that leaves some bare ground (e.g., soybeans, corn, strawberries), not a habitat compatible with either intensive agriculture or suburbanization. Additional localities reported to us since our 1980 survey (AB 34:880) included three pairs near Hawk Mt., Pa. (SB) and five birds at Gilbertsville, Pa. (AH), but only two pairs were at the traditional Sharttown. Salem Co., N.J. site July 2 (JKM).

The only healthy population is the 20 pairs at J.F.K. Airport, Queens Co., N.Y.C., where Chevalier banded 36 young (57 last year, but banding was easier in shorter grass). The usual counts for so late a date were 50 White-rumped Sandpipers at Cape Henlopen, Del., with 5000 peep June 11 (MVb, WWF), and 90 White-rumps with 3000 peep across Delaware Bay at Thompson’s Beach, N.J., June 12 (DS). They were probably late migrants, but a Long-billed Dowitcher and a W. Sandpiper, both at Shinnecock Inlet, L.I., June 23 (PAB) were probably non-breeding, summering individually.

Shorebird movement was clearly underway, as usual, by the end of June. Two breeding-plumaged Short-billed Dowitchers were at Cape May June 27 (PD). By July 3, 100 Lesser Yellowlegs, five Silt Sandpipers, and 500 Short-billed Dowitchers were at Moore’s Beach, Cumberland Co., N.J. (DS); Sutton found 1000 Short-billed Dowitchers there July 4. Least Sandpipers had reached 1000 at Brig., July 17 (RK).

A moulting ad. Calidris tentatively identified as a Little Stint was found at Little Creek W.M.A., Del., July 24 (P. W. Swift et al.) and seen again July 28-30 (P., J. & M. O’Brien, DFA et al.). There is some possibility that the second sighting was not of the same bird Rather distant photographs of it (J. O’Brien), which unfortunately do not show bill shape (Least Sandpiper bill shape is diagnostic), appear to rule out any American peep as well as Rufous-necked Sandpiper (THD). Previously confirmed e. North American records of Little Stint are of a specimen from James Bay, Ontario July 1979 (Auk 97:627-8) and photographs from a bird seen June 30 (WLB: 30:981), Little Creek, Del., May 1979 (AB 34:850-1), Monomoy, Mass., June 1980 (AB 34:876), and Grand Manan I., N.B., June-July 1980 (ibid.). There are also a recent summer record from Nebraska and a number from the Bering Sea coast of Alaska.

Three Curlew Sandpipers were reported in July (Tinicum—Bst, Cape May—DS, PD; and J.B.W.R.). Five Ruff/Reeve records were at June 6 at S. Cape May Meadows (CS, DS), one June 30 at J.B.W.R (B. Glass and again July 10—M. Sohmer, B. Baker), and two at B Hook in late July (PDU, DFA), were about normal. The presence of a breeding-plumaged Red Phalarope at S. Cape May Meadows June 5-19 (CS, DS, ph., AB) was explained by oiled plumage. Much more tantalizing was an ad. S. Wilson’s Phalarope at Cape May June 19-23 (DS), now that this species has bred e. to the New England coast.

GULLS, TERNs — White-winged gull reports were limited to the coast; a Glaucous Gull was at the Cape May ferry slip July 16 (RK), and an Iceland Gull at Cape Henlopen, Del., June 12 (P. W. Bright, WWF). An ad. Black-headed Gull at J.B.W.R., July 5-Aug. 28 was the only one reported. Flood tides damaged Laughing Gull success at 2 of 4 colonies in Ocean County, N.J. (JBr), but in Delaware, where breeding has not been verified in modern times, over 1000 nests with eggs were found on Rehoboth Bay June 13 (MVb, WWF, WFI). The new colony in New York flourishes, though its location at the end of a J.F.K. Airport runway poses problems. The only Little Gull reported was at J.B.W.R., July 5-18.

A few Gull-billed and Forster’s terns frequented w. Long Island in June, but there was no evidence of breeding n. of New Jersey this time (MG, PWP, JZ). Six “Portlandica” Com. Terns were at Holgate, N.J., July 3-5, four of them even retaining the black legs of first-winter plumage (WJB). Normally birds of this age winter in the tropics Common Tern colonies were successful on upper beaches on Long Island and at Holgate, N.J., but where they have been forced into salt marsh, as in Ocean County, N.J., storm tides washed out all but one of 25-30 colonies (JBr). An Arctic Tern in near ad. breeding plumage (white forehead) was at Cape May June 6-7 (DS), and four were at Shinnecock Inlet, L.I., June 23 (PAB). Roseate Terns, thought to be declining a few years ago, maintained their numbers at Cedar Beach and had a "marvelous year" at Great Gull I., off n. Long Island (700 pairs—JDC). A single adult at Cape May July 24 adds to a number of summer observations in New Jersey, but there is no suggestion of resumed breeding s. of Long Island.

In the absence of any systematic census of colonial water birds like those of the J.D.F.G.W., it is hard to say whether these tern and skimmer populations generally, and particularly the most fugitive and opportunistic nesters among them, Least Terns. The best-surveyed population was in Delaware, where 1317 adults were in 7 sites June 12, nearly up to last year’s level (PJ). Major colonies at Holgate and Corson’s Inlet, N.J., fished in by wildlife officials, did well, but volunteer efforts could not prevent the great colony at Eaton’s Neck.
Gandy's Beach, Cumberland Co., N.J., the first there in 27 years (D. under the Lambertville, N.J.-New Hope, Pa. bridge, whose repairs are staging a major expansion on bridges. A stunning 184 nests were Kunkle). Delaware had I0 pairs where 3-4 were known a few years ago. We have no overall census of Blue Skimmer (Orthetrum caledonicum) generally did well while salt marsh colonies were flooded out. Skimmers did much better than last year in Delaware, where the Tower Rd. colony in Indian R. Inlet reached 120 July 24 (PJ).

OWLS TO FLYCATCHERS — An intensive study of Barn Owls in s.w. New Jersey by B. Colvin revealed 39 nesting attempts in Salem County, N.J.; Gloucester, an 111 banded. In n. New Jersey, however, Soucy found fewer than 20 sites occupied out of 76 traditional locations (65-70 young banded), an even poorer year than last. A juv. Saw-whet Owl picked up injured in urban Hollis, Queens, June 20 (fide H. Richard) and another on Great Gufl., July 1 (JDC et al.), where the birds had almost certainly not bred, suggest that the juveniles may travel some distance from the nest.

The continued increase of Chuck-will’s-widows was demonstrated by at least five calling birds on e. Long Island (GSR) plus a nest at the original Oak Beach location (K. Fuestel). Chuck-will’s-widow is the only s. landbird species colonizing the coast rather than up the river systems. For e. Long Island is slow to receive the other s. immigrants (except the Ardea spp.), despite apparently favorable climate.

A Scissor-tailed Flycatcher was near Vineland June 19-20 (J. Mahan, ph., AB, S. L’France) for the second midsummer record in a row for Salem County, N.J.; probably the same individual was at Kimble’s Beach, Cape May Co., a few days later (J. Seibert, ph., K. Seager). Elsewhere, an immature was at J.F.K. Airport July 2 (SC). Acadian Flycatchers resumed expansion up the Hudson R. (BW, RFD), although they are “still scarce” on e. Long Island where a nest was confirmed (GSR). The real Empidonax success story was Willow Flycatcher, which seemed common everywhere. A pair nested exceptionally at Cape May Pt. (DS) and another at Gandy’s Beach, Cumberland Co., N.J., the first there in 27 years (D. Kunkle). Delaware had 10 pairs where 3-4 were known a few years ago (WWF, DAC).

SWALLOWS TO VIREOS — Cliff Swallows, barely hanging on at traditional barn sites since the painting of barns became widespread, are staging a major expansion on bridges. A stunning 184 nests were under the Lambertville, N.J.-New Hope, Pa. bridge, whose repairs the N.J.D.F.G.W. managed to postpone; the more traditional Bull’s Island, N.J., bridge increased to 34+ (M. Welton, N.J.D.F.G.W.).

Red-breasted Nuthatches have been nesting in ornamental conifers in part of this Region for some time, but a bird feeding young in Cumberland County, N.J., in June (D. Ward) signalled the second county nesting and the fourth on the coastal plain of New Jersey. Another nesting this summer in the Institute Woods at Princeton (fide RK), associated, as usual, with Norway spruce. A δ Short-billed Marsh Wren built a dummy nest and displayed fruitlessly at Purchase, Westchester Co., N.Y., June 20-July 11 (TWB). This species has not nested beyond coastal Delaware in this Region for many years. Warbling Vireos are thriving in the n. part of the Region. Deed reports that they have replaced Red-eyed Vireo as the commonest vireo species in Rockland County, N.J., while they were “in every hedgerow” in Hunterdon County, N.J. (WW) and were even pressing at the coastal plain of Long Island, where an advertising male was at Springfield Park, Queens, in June (THD).

WARBLERS, Icterids — A few Golden-winged Warbler populations still hold out against Blue-winged Warblers where newly abandoned fields remain at just the right early stage of succession (cf. Gill, Auk 97:1-18, and Coulter et al., Wilson Bull. 99:108-114). Seven pairs were found in Great Meadow, Warren Co., N.J. (RK et al.) and four at Lesser L., n.e. Lehigh Co., Pa. (BLM), but a traditional Golden-winged Warbler spot at Waterloo, Sussex Co., N.J., has been overrun by Blue-winged Warblers (BLM). A δ Lawrence’s hybrid was feeding young at Pound Ridge, Westchester Co., N.Y., July 11 (TWB). Yellow-rumped (Myrtle) Warblers bred for the first time in Dutchess County, N.Y. (R.T.W.B.C.) and one was at Wild Creek Res., Carbon Co., Pa., June 26 (BLM). This species has bred in e. Pennsylvania on occasion, and in 1979 in the New Jersey highlands. Still expanding, Kentucky Warblers bred at Miller Place for the third Long Island record (P. Laino), and two were “on location” near Berwick, Luzerne Co., Pa. (D. Gross, fide WR).

Bobolink appears to be one grassland species that is holding its own. Wander found 80-100 singing males in Hunterdon County, while they did well in w. Westchester County, N.Y. (BW) and n.e. Pennsylvania (50-60, one B. Seigle—WR). Whereas there have been six N. Orioles for each Orchard Oriole in the 6 years of the S. Lancaster County, Pa., S.B.C. (RMS), the ratio is more than reversed along the coast where Sibley found “‘every’ shade trade” with its territorial δ Orchard Oriole in 40 mi covered by bicycle in n. Cape May County, N.J. Northern Oriole does not breed here. Orchard Orioles also did very well in n.w. New Jersey (BW), in Orange County, N.Y. (JPT), and in Queens County, where they bred for the first time in years (THD), but they remain relatively uncommon on e. Long Island. Boat-tailed Grackles bred again in New York; three of the four nests observed at Peasall’s Hammock, Nassau Co., L.I. fledged young (JJZ, R. Miller). At the other end of the Region, they were present all season for the first time up Delaware Bay into Salem County, N.J. (JKM), having heretofore spread the other way from the first New Jersey settlement in adjacent Cumberland County.

GROSBEAKS, FINCHES, SPARRROWS — New York’s first confirmed Blue Grosbeak was at Mt. Poinsettia, Staten I. (W. & N. Siebenheller), and the species was increasing in all but the n. edge of the Region and e. Long Island, although there is no evidence of breeding n. of their present Maryland limit. Straggling Caspian Terns included not only the usual late July individuals, but midsummer birds on Raritan Bay June 22 (RK) and at Cape May June 19 (DS), particularly interesting since a few Caspian Terns have recently been nesting in colonies of other species in Virginia. We have no overall census of Blue Skimmer (Orthetrum caledonicum) generally did well while salt marsh colonies were flooded out. Skimmers did much better than last year in Delaware, where the Tower Rd. colony in Indian R. Inlet reached 120 July 24 (PJ).

The elusive Henslow’s Sparrow, no longer breeding in Delaware, is doing well only in n.e. Pennsylvania, where Reid follows 3-4 locations, and Galesville Airport, Ulster Co., N.Y., where 12-15 birds were present again. The only record in New Jersey was of a single singing male at Stony Brook—Millstone Watershed, Mercer Co., July 25-Aug. 1, the site of the last known state nesting in 1976 (RJB, RK, ph., P. Moylan, E. Breden).

Only a few pairs of Sharp-tailed Sparrows could be found in Delaware this summer (DAC, WWF). Vesper Sparrows appear to be rather common in the proper habitat. In s. Lancaster County, Pa., “any large expanse of agricultural fields has Vesper Sparrow breeding” (RMS), and the S.B.C. totalled ten as compared with four in each of the previous 3 years. Around Allentown, Pa., Morris had 4-5

locations, as did Reid in n.e. Pennsylvania. Wander found them common in n.w. New Jersey locations, e.g., Alpha, Warren Co., where extensive fallow fields were interspersed with cultivation that leaves some bare ground, the same habitat appreciated by Upland Sandpiper.

Dark-eyed Junco, which formerly bred only above 2000 ft in n.e. Pennsylvania, now breeds down to 1400 ft near Wyalusing, where Reid found 11 birds, one feeding young, July 5. A singing male was at Clinton Road, Passaic Co., N.J., July 3 (P. Bacinski). White-throated Sparrows, which have also been breeding sporadically in the New Jersey highlands, were singing at Wild Creek Res., Carbon Co., Pa., July 10 (fide AH) and at Berwick, Luzerne Co., Pa., June 24, at under 1000 ft (WR).

The passerine rarity of the season was a 3 Chestnut-collared Longspur in breeding plumage at Bay County P., E. Rockaway, L.I., June 6-8 (M. Lindauer, THD, BS, ph., G. Dremeaux), for the fifth state record, all from Long Island. This is the most likely "western" longspur to reach the e. coast; a number of coastal records include one in Virginia in June 1977 and one at Cape May in June 1980.

EXOTICS — Monk Parakeets persist in Rockland County, N.Y., despite New York State's efforts to prevent the establishment of this temperate zone, fruit-eater. One was at Piermont July 28-30 (P & E Derven), and 3-4 were reported in April (RFD).

CORRIGENDUM — The Short-eared Owl reported from Delaware in summer 1981 (AB 35:924) should be deleted.


MIDDLE ATLANTIC COAST REGION
/Henry T. Armistead

Deviations from normal of regional temperatures: June, -1.7°F, July +0.4°F; precipitation: June +1.39", July +0.34". Cold, rainy, windy weather characterized much of June adversely affecting some insectivores, birds breeding next to streams and ground nesters, although there was not overwhelming evidence of this. Beach nesters were set back by flood tides. Shorebirds and some migrant passerines lingered later than normal. July's weather was unremarkable.

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LOONS THROUGH IBISES — Common Loons lingered later than normal with seven at Bellevue, Talbot Co., Md., June 5 (HTA, EMW, JCW), most of these in breeding plumage, two there June 12 (HTA) and one flying over Assat. I., June 12 (SHD). Four summered at Chinc., July 4-25 (WBo, RFR et al.) Wolfe found two Red-throated Loons at Back Bay, Va., June 26, these always much more unusual in summer than the former species. A Horned Grebe, probably a late migrant, was at McKee-Beshers W.M.A., w. of Seneca, Md., June 5 (LB) and a summering bird was at Deal I., Md., July 4 (DM). Scarcce regional breeders, Pied-billed Grebes singles were at Green Springs in w.-c. Louisa Co., Va., July 26-29 (JBB). Chinc., July 9 (DM) and five were in Deal Island W.M.A., June 26 (HTA), a very poor total for the latter locality. Northern Fulmar staged an unprecedented showing for the summer period with two seen 25 mi e. of Smith I., Va., June 12 (BT), J4 the same day off Ocean City, Md. (RN, m.ob.) and a dead one on Hog I., Va.E.S., June 21 (RB, fide BW). Other highlights of Naveen's Ocean City pelagic trips included...
the likes of 224 Cory's, 905 Greater, 165 Sooty and one Manx shearwaters, 3300 Wilson's and 35 Leach's storm-petrels June 12, the last probably a record regional total. A June 26 trip produced 1042 Cory's, 1317 Greater, 227 Sooty and three Manx shearwaters, 627 Wilson's and one Leach's storm-petrels, the Cory's figure a regional record, the Seotties extremely late as they are normally remarkable after the first week in June. By contrast a July 17 foray found only nine Greater and six Cory's shearwaters plus 1724 Wilson's Storm-Petrels.

Extremely late (?) was a subad. Gannet moving N June 12 (RN et al.). Exciting were views of Wilson's Storm-Petrels from land such as one from Back Bay June 26 (TRW) and numerous sightings in or near inlets and islands of the Va.E.S., June 21-July 8, such as five inside Ship Shoal Inlet June 22 (BW, BT et al.). Frutti saw 600 July 10 at sea off the Virginia capes. Bizarre was a White Pelican consorting and roosting with breeding herons on Metomkin 1., Va., late May-late June complete with the knobby ridge on maxilla typical of breeding (HG, fide RLA). Other Virginia records of interest were up to 13 at Cape Henry (fide TRW), 25 at Smith L-Metomkin 1., June 22-23 (BW, BA, RB et al.), 19 at Metomkin 1., July 1 (BT), 15 on the York R., July 2 (BP et al., ph.), and 24 at New Inlet July 16 (BT). The 30 on Wreck I., constitute a record Virginia count. The last Virginia influx of note was in 1977. Maryland birds appeared from mid-June on (DN, fide HLW) with these sightings from Assat. 1.: nine July 1; ten July 6; 15 July 9; 11 July 11 (FZ, fide HLW). The 15 on July 9 was a new state high count. But the outstanding rarity of the period was a Brown Booby at Fisherman Island N.W.R., Va., seen June 26, for a fourth state record (CRV, AS, fide JSW). Double-crested Cormorants continue to manifest a strong summer presence although some early June birds are undoubtedly late migrants, such as 60 flying N over Mills 1., Md., June 13 (SHD). Good summer totals are 71 at Hopewell, Va., June 24 (FRS et al.), up to 15 in the Alexandria-Wash., D.C. area (JBB, CT, JAG, JWE). High counts at Chinc. included 221 Little Blue Herons, 162 Great Blue Herons were estimated at the Nanjemoy heronry June 11 (JAG). High counts at Chinc. included 221 Little Blue Herons, 162 Great Egrets, 525 Snowy Egrets July 30-31 and 295 Cattle Egrets and 202 Glossy Ibis July 22-23 (CPW). At Deal I., seven Least Bitterns were found June 26 (HTA). An Imm. White Ibis at Craney I., Va., July 13 was the only one reported away from the barrier islands (D & MM).


Cape Henry (fide TRW), 25 at Smith L-Metomkin 1., June 22-23 (BW, BA, RB et al.), 19 at Metomkin 1., July 1 (BT), 15 on the York R., July 2 (BP et al., ph.), and 24 at New Inlet July 16 (BT). The 30 on Wreck I., constitute a record Virginia count. The last Virginia influx of note was in 1977. Maryland birds appeared from mid-June on (DN, fide HLW) with these sightings from Assat. 1.: nine July 1; ten July 6; 15 July 9; 11 July 11 (FZ, fide HLW). The 15 on July 9 was a new state high count. But the outstanding rarity of the period was a Brown Booby at Fisherman Island N.W.R., Va., seen June 26, for a fourth state record (CRV, AS, fide JSW). Double-crested Cormorants continue to manifest a strong summer presence although some early June birds are undoubtedly late migrants, such as 60 flying N over Mills 1., Md., June 13 (SHD). Good summer totals are 71 at Hopewell, Va., June 24 (FRS et al.), up to 15 in the Alexandria-Wash., D.C. area (JMA, DFA, DC), and 100 on Holland 1., Md., July 15 (DM). At Barren 1., Md., 335 June 5 was a record total for Dorchester County (EMW, HTA, JCW).

Away from major breeding areas herons made a poor showing (RFR, DHW, DFA), low numbers were present in c. Chesapeake Bay heronries (HTA), but on the Va.E.S., better-than-average numbers were found (BW et al.). Williams and others completed the eighth year of surveys on the Va.E.S., from Assawoman-Fisherman 1., June 20-24 with these numbers of adults seen: Green Heron 44, Little Blue Heron 326 (new high), Cattle Egret 89 (new low), Great Egret 551 (new high), Snowy Egret 776, Louisiana Heron 1004, Black-crowned Night Heron 1456, Yellow-crowned Night Heron 75, Glossy Ibis 964 and White Ibis two (one each on Wreck and Fisherman Is.). Big mixed heronries, all with at least eight species, were on Metomkin, Hog, Cobb, Wreck and Fisherman Is. Herons were in very poor supply in Chesapeake colonies. A survey from Poplar 1., Md., to Watts 1., Va., revealed circa 1644 pairs (vs 2164-1980, 1747-1978, 2502-1973). This year's survey included more sites than those of previous years (HTA, HLW, DM). Totals for all species were low: Great Blue Heron 323, Green Heron 53, Little Blue Heron 88, Cattle Egret 315, Great Egret 114, Snowy Egret 212, Louisiana Heron 92 (new low), Black-crowned Night Heron 275, Yellow-crowned Night Heron 72 (new low), Glossy Ibis 100 (new low). Heronries with all 10 species were on Cherry I., and Hog Neck (both on Smith 1., Md.) and Watts 1. For the second consecutive year Little Blue Heron bred on Poplar 1., with three pairs July 10 (chicks in 2 nests), Talbot County's only breeding records (DM, HLW). In Charles Co., Md., 700 pairs of Great Blue Herons were estimated at the Nanjemoy heronry June 11 (JAG). High counts at Chinc. included 221 Little Blue Herons, 162 Great Egrets, 525 Snowy Egrets July 30-31 and 295 Cattle Egrets and 202 Glossy Ibis July 22-23 (CPW). At Deal I., seven Least Bitterns were found June 26 (HTA). An Imm. White Ibis at Craney I., Va., July 13 was the only one reported away from the barrier islands (D & MM).

WATERFOWL — At the s. edge of their range were 24 adult and 11 imm. Mute Swans at Chinc., July 25 (WBt) and two adults at Hooper's 1., Md., June 5 (HTA, EMW, JCW). Feral Canada Geese continue to thrive with counts such as 117 on Nolting Pond, Louisa Co., Va., July 31 in the Prince William Co., Va. Clam Sanctuary (MBD, JBB, CT, JAG, JWE). Bald Eagle news continues to be good news. Consult future issues for a spectacular development which for reasons of discretion must go unmentioned for the moment. At undeveloped Caledon S.P., Va., on the Potomac R., 41 were counted in early July (BC, fide FRS) and three adults with 21 immatures were there July 21 (FRS, MB, DM) at Point lookout S.P. (MD), 100 July 27 (very low), one Green-winged Teal and 46 Blue-winged Teal (HTA), one Pintail June 4 (DM), and two Am. Wigeon June 14 (DM, HLW). Eight N. Shovelers at Chinc., July 16 were of interest, there being no Virginia breeding record (FRS, JWD). At Dulles Int'l Airport, Va., July 3, 100 Wood Ducks were seen (CT, BC). Stray divers included a Ring-necked Duck at Dulles July 3 (CT, BC), a Lesser Scap at Craney June 22 (RC) and an abundance of Black Scoters such as 37 on Metomkin 1., June 23 (BW), 17-20 at Chinc., July 1-23 (CPW, FRS) and four at Fisherman I., the entire period (RLA).

KITES THROUGH RAILS — Honors for fanciest hawk go to Talbot County, Md., where two ad. Mississippi Kites were seen July 9, only the second state record (JKE). Most unusual were three different Sharp-shinned Hawks at Irish Grove Sanctuary e. of Crisfield, Md., June 30, July 2 & 10 (JLS). This and Cooper's Hawk were mentioned at least once in the usual reports (EMW, DT, JBB, CT, JAG, JWE). Bufflehead were still present all summer at Sterling, Va. (CT). They are almost unheard of in June, perhaps explaining the very poor supply in Chesapeake colonies (JHB). A Sora was at Elliott I., June 19 and 1-2 were at Deal I., June 6 & 20 (HLW). Breeding continues to be suspected in these areas. Wierenga's Black Rail high was eight at Elliott I., June 10 including two "singing right at our feet!" The top Com. Gallinule tally was of seven at Deal I., June 26 (HTA), very low for this prime spot.
SHOREBIRDS — Migration was protracted and late, extending even further into June than usual (CPW). Wilds conducted 9 weekly surveys at Chinc., the most interesting results of which follow. Many of these totals are considered low owing to high water levels. Highest counts included 2059 Ruddy Turnstones, 780 Red Knots, 6 White-rumped Sandpipers, 566 Semipalmed Sandpipers, 4 N. Phalaropes—all June 3-4; one Black-necked Stilt June 9; 34 Piping Plovers June 10-11; one Am. Golden Plover June 17-18; 728 Short-billed Dowitchers July 8-9; one Ruddy Turnstone, one Greater Yellowlegs, one White-rumped Sandpiper, one Curlew Sandpiper, 37 Stilt Sandpipers, one Marble Godwit, 1300 Sanderlings, July 22-23; 116 Semipalmed Plovers, 61 Greater Yellowlegs, 156 Lesser Yellowlegs, 405 W. Sandpipers, 16 Hudsonian Godwits, July 30-31. Mid-summer shorebirds are always puzzling such as her June 24 totals of two Black-bellied Plovers, one Ruddy Turnstone, one Greater Yellowlegs, one White-rumped Sandpiper, four Dunlin, 102 Semipalmed Sandpipers and six Sanderlings, some of which may actually be very late migrants. By July 1 migration is clearly underway again with the arrival of three Whimbrel, two Spotted Sandpipers, two Lesser Yellowlegs, 19 Least Sandpipers, 109 Short-billed Dowitchers—all these species having been absent since early June. Of note are these late spring migrants: 93 Ruddy Turnstones, 270 Red Knots, 24 White-rumped Sandpipers, 47 Short-billed Dowitchers, 3260 Semipalmed Sandpipers, June 10-11; 36 Red Knot, 747 Semipalmed Sandpipers June 17-18. Special attention was paid to dowitchers with these results:

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<td>July 8-9</td>
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<td>July 30-31</td>
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Other Chinc. sightings were 150 Whimbrel and one Buff-breasted Sandpiper July 24 (JKE), a Pectoral Sandpiper July 10, four Stilt Sandpipers, July 9, two Semipalmed Sandpipers, July 10 and a W. Sandpiper, July 10 (last 4 species all very early—all DFA). Craney I. also had good shorebird records. Chandler found these same dates: June 22: two Black-bellied Plovers, two Lesser Yellowlegs, 17 Semipalmed Sandpipers, two W. Sandpipers, four White-rumped Sandpipers, and a Dunlin. All the peep were gone June 24 but June 30 Wolfe found 10 Greater Yellowlegs, 35 Lesser Yellowlegs, 10 White-rumped Sandpipers, 47 Short-billed Dowitchers and three Stilt Sandpipers! By July 20 populations had built up to 800 Lesser Yellowlegs, 50 Stilt Sandpipers, 500 Semidanders, one Wilson’s Phalarope and Am. Avocets peaked here July 15 with 76 (TRW). On June 2, a N Phalarope was seen (HCl). Elsewhere 15 Piping Plovers, including six juvenals, were on Grand View beach, Hampton, Va., July 4 (RC, MC). On the Va. E.S., 129 were counted on 9 islands and 61 Wilson’s Plovers were on 9 islands, all-time highs in Williams’ 8-year survey—Williams estimated 3000 pairs bred here. Wolfe found 10 Greater Yellowlegs, 35 Lesser Yellowlegs, 10 White-rumped Sandpipers, 200 Whimbrel were on Ship Shoal I., July 19 (JSW). On Barren I., 35 Sanderlings June 5 (HTA, EMW, JCW) and on Smith I., MD., 350 Short-billed Dowitchers July 19 (DM) were good counts for Chesapeake Bay.

JAEGERS THROUGH SKIMMERS — Out from Ocean City three Parasitic and a late Pomarine jaeger were seen June 12 as was a well-studied South Polar Skua June 26 (RN et al.). Unique were an imm. Iceland Gull at Ocean City July 2 (CPW) and a subad. Lesser Black-backed Gull at Deal I., June 13 (EB, HLE, JO et al.). On Smith I., MD., contents of 1130 Herring Gull nests tallied this way May 30: empty nests 66, one egg 236, two eggs 246, three eggs 570, four eggs 1, two eggs-one young 6, one egg-two young 5 (HTA, DM, HLE). An estimated 3000 pairs bred here together with perhaps 50 pairs of Greater Black-backed Gulls. Va. E.S. totals of adult birds included 3772 Herring Gulls (high; 5 islands), 18,188 Laughing Gulls (new high; 5 islands), 74 Great Black-backed Gulls (new high; 4 islands), 970 Gull-billed Terns (low; 6 islands), 5000 Com. Terns (low; 10 islands), Forster’s Tern 166 (3 islands), Least Tern 550 (low; 7 islands), Royal Tern 5200, Sandwich Tern four (low), Caspian Tern six (high; 3 islands), Black Skimmer 6303 (low; 9 islands) (BW, RB, BA et al.; June 20-24). Since many islands were only visited once and high tide wiped out many sand nesters, especially the gale of June 16-17, these totals do not take into account later nesting and renesting attempts.

The same remarks apply to the heronness surveys, including my own on Chesapeake Bay, where each site is normally visited only one time per season but may drastically change one way or another during the course of the summer. Williams et al., found no Royal Terns on Ship Shoal I., in June but in July Weske banded 292 young there. On the Chesapeake Bay tern-skinners pairs found were 154 Forster’s Terns (low; 4 islands), 827 Com. Terns (high; 5 islands), 116 Least Terns (one island), 130 Royal Terns and 50 Black Skimmers (HLW, DM, HTA). The Royals-skinners were in one colony on the eastern portion of Smith I. (Chesapeake Bay) July 19 and represent the second and third known Bay breeding records for these species respectively as well as the largest colonies (MH, DM, WJLS, HLW). Of the Com. Terns a colony of 473 on Barren I., June 5 represents the biggest ever found in the Maryland part of the Bay and the Least Terns seen here also here suggest a purpose following the advice of birders consulted about this site (HTA, EMW, JCW). On the Va. E.S., 4484 Royal Terns and four Sandwich Terns were banded (JSW, JHB, CRV et al.). Up to 160 Royal Tern nests were found on Horsehead Tump, Chincoteague Bay, Md., but with as most other attempts by Royals to breed in that state this one was a failure. For the ninth straight year Caspian Terns bred here-on Melonkin, Ship Shoal and Smith Is. (BW, JSW) at Grandview Beach 250 Least Tern chicks were banded in mid-June indicating high fledging success (BW, RB, BA) but they were flooded out on Assat. I. (RFR et al.). About 10 pairs nested again on the roof of Cambridge, Md. H.S. (HTA). Notable counts at Chinc., were 13 Sandpipers and 113 Black terns July 30-31 (DM). The best record of 35 Black Skimmers June 5 (HTA, EMW, JCW) was a new high for this locality as were 100 on Holland I., July 15 (DM). Two Arctic and a Roseate tern were seen off Onancock June 12 (RN et al.). Just received is the report of 10,000 Bonaparte’s Gulls off Virginia Beach Apr. 4, 1982, considered a conservative count, and a new high for the state (RLA, NS).
WARBLERS THROUGH SPARROWS — A Swainson’s Warbler was at Dismal Swamp N.W.R., July 11 (WBo), notable because it is one of those species, like Black Rail, which few bother looking for after June. A Blue-winged Warbler and a Brewster’s Warbler were present and singing in the Nassawango Cr. preserve June 8-25, the Brewster’s having been there since late April (JLS, SHD). Either form is almost unheard of anywhere in the Region’s Coastal Plain in summer. Early post-breeding warblers included single N. Parulas (which breed nearby) at Virginia Beach July 4 (TRW) and Norfolk July 18 (RC), and a Chestnut-sided in Fairfax, Va., July 26-27 (PW). Very late spring migrants were a 2 Magnolia June 6 and a singing Blackpoll June 18 (both Norfolk—RC, MC), a Bay-basted at Jug Bay, Patuxent R., Md., June 9 (JAG) and an Am. Redstart at Talbot County, Md., June 7 (JGR). Louisiana Waterthrush is another stream species probably adversely affected by the rains and floods of May and June (BR). Common Yellowthroat seems to have sustained a significant decline, according to the fragmentary B.B.S. results available (SHD, HTA, FRS, CZ).

Summer stray Bobolinks included singles at Irish Grove June 24 (BD, ML, fide JLS) and Bellevue, Md., July 4 (HTA). Eastern Meadowlark nests with three eggs June 17 and four eggs July 3 (two eggs, two young July 7) at Green Springs, Louisa Co., extend the known nesting dates for the Virginia Piedmont (BM, fide JBBH). Elsewhere this species is variously regarded throughout the Region to be significantly down (BR, AJF, PW, HTA, FRS, normal (DLK, JK) or doing well (CT, JM). Orchard Oriole continues its long-term increase as reflected by B.B.S. (HTA, FRS, SHD). A 6 Boat-tailed Grackle, unusual this far up the Bay, was at Telghman I. Talbot Co., Md., July 10 (OM, HLW, HTA). Extremely late was a Rose-brested Grosbeak in Talbot County June 7 (JGR). Blue Grosbeak is another species undergoing a steady regional increase according to B.B.S. results (SHD, CZ, HTA, FRS) and Indigo Bunting was in higher-than-usual numbers this summer (CT, FRS, HTA) with 167 being counted on the Lynchburg, Va., June 5 “CBC” (MPM et al.). Dickcissels were absent from their Frederick County, Md., haunts no doubt due to the lack of fallow fields (DHW), a problem for other species also (meadowlarks, Grasshopper Sparrows). Two record-late Pine Siskins were at Bryan’s Rd., Charles Co., Md., June 5 (PN). An adult with young Savannah Sparrows July 24 at Outardes, Md., furnished the first Carroll County breeding record (RFR). Record Virginia county Sharp-tailed Sparrow were 100+ at Dulles Airport July 3 (CT, BC) and 61 on the June 5 Lynchburg “CBC” (MPM et al.). Eight Henslow’s Sparrows were at both Elliott I., June 10 (HLW) and Dulles. Thirteen Sharp-tailed Sparrows (low) were at Deal I., June 26 (HTA) and a nest at Irish Grove May 30 had five eggs, two of them cowbird’s (JLS, CRV). Aseasonal White-throated Sparrow singles were at Sandy Point S.P., Md., July 2 indicating probable breeding (HLW) and the first Carroll County, Md. breeding records were of several birds at Big Pipe Cr., June 20-3 and Winfield June 27-Aug. 1 (RFR, EB).


SOUTHERN ATLANTIC COAST REGION

Harry E. LeGrand, Jr.

After two dry summers in succession, the Region enjoyed a fairly wet breeding season. Rainfall varied from slightly to greatly above normal, depending on the locality, and many lakes were uncharacteristically full even in late July. Temperatures were a few degrees below normal, with no periods of truly hot weather. A tropical storm moved onshore near Morehead City, North Carolina on the night of June 18-19 and across the Outer Banks back to the ocean on the 19th, bringing winds of 30-40 miles per hour.

Overall, avian breeding success was fairly typical for the Region, although there was little input from coastal birders on the fate of colonial nesting waterbirds (herons, egrets, gulls, terns). Fussell mentioned that the tropical storm had little negative effect on breeding birds in the Morehead City area. This season’s highlights were a four-county survey of breeding birds between Albemarle and Pamlico sounds, North Carolina, by Lynch and Peacock, and several outstanding breeding records for South Carolina, including a first east of the Mississippi valley.

LOONS THROUGH FRIGATEBIRDS — Notable Com. Loons inland in midsummer were at Jordan Res., e. Chatham Co., N.C., June 23-July 1 (BW, MW) and on the Chattachoochee R., n. of Atlanta, Ga., July 9 (PM et al.). Even rarer inland was a Horned Grebe noted on a farm pond near Four Oaks, N.C., June 7 (TH). Pied-billed Grebes are very rare and sporadic breeders in the Piedmont; thus, of interest was the discovery of 4 nests at a marsh-pond complex in the lakebed of the Falls of the Neuse Res., e. Durham Co., N.C., July 5-Aug. 1 (JMcC et al.). Although the first half of June is one of the best times to take a pelagic trip off our coastline, there were no reports of such trips during that span or the entire summer. Nonetheless, in coastal Carteret County, N.C., Fussell observed a migrating Greater Shearwater June 18 and three dead Greaters there June 19; and Sooty Shearwaters were often seen along the county’s Bogue Banks June 10-19 with a peak of ten on June 16 (BH). The Brown Pelican nesting colony in the lower Cape Fear R., N.C., was down in number of adults by 20%, probably owing to winter losses (JFP). A few Double-crested Cormorants were reported inland, with an excellent 40-55 present most of the summer at Jordan Res. (BW et al.). Non-breeding Anhingas were rare in the Piedmont near Raleigh, N.C., June 5 (WI) and near Carterville, Ga., June 20 (GS). A pair was again noted during the summer near Fayetteville, N.C. (PIC), where breeding might be taking place. The tropical storm of June 18-19 was obviously responsible for bringing a notable number of Magnificent Frigatebirds to the coast. An ad. frigatebird was seen at Sullivan’s I., S.C., June 20 (ZB, fide JGR); in coastal Carteret County were a female at Radio L., June 20 (WI) and, ad. males at Cape Lookout June 20 or 21 (SS). Bogue Sound June 21 (JF), and Beaufort Inlet June 28-29 (LC).
WADERS — Extremely rare inland was a white morph Great Blue Heron at Augusta, Ga., June 14-July 31 + (CB, AW), it had a yellow tag (#49) on its left wing. Unusually large numbers of Great Egrets dispersed to the tidal lakes and ponds this summer, especially in the Atlanta (fide TM) and Jordan Res. (BW et al.) areas, with 170 July 28 at the latter site. A large herony at Midville, Ga., contained 4000 Cattle Egrets, 500 White Ibises, 25 Anhingas, and 8-10 Little Blue Herons May 29 (AV, AW et al.). Another herony 20 mi to the s. of the above one had 800 + Cattle Egrets, 20 + Little Blue Herons, and one nest of Great Egrets May 29 (AV, AW et al.). Rare for the Augusta area and (and many inland sites) was a nest of Yellow-crowned Night Herons Apr. 17-June 5, with three young fledged (AV, VW). Notable inland nowadays was the discovery of a Least Bittern nest at the Falls of the Neuse Res., near Durham, N.C., July 5 (JMcC, BW, MW); four plus young fledged later in the month. Presumably an early migrant was at seven note at Fayetteville N.C., July 22 (PH); whereas one heard and another seen May 13 at the Goose Creek impoundments along the Pamlico-Beaufort co. line, N.C., were likely late migrants (ML, LP), although breeding cannot be ruled out. For the second consecutive year, Wood Storks have nested along the lower Edisto R., Colleton Co., S.C. (TMa, fide JEC). Murphy observed 12+ nests in 1981 and 22 nests this summer. This is the first unequivocal breeding for the state, although storks have been believed to nest on several occasions in the lower Coastal Plain n. to Francis Marion N.F. Single Glossy Ibises were rare near Fayetteville July 15 (PIC) and at Beaverdam Res., n. of Raleigh July 23 (JM). Roseate Spoonbills have become regular, if very uncommon, summer visitors in the past few years in coastal Georgia; this summer two were noted on the Jekyll I. causeway June 19 (DB, PB) and one at St. Mary's June 22-23 (SP et al.).

WATERFOWL — A φ Pintail was early in n.e. Pamlico County, N.C., July 30 (PIC). Apparently the first Regional nesting of Blue-winged Teal away from the tidal wetlands was detected at Beaverdam Res., N.C.—a female with seven young June 12 (Dfde RHJ). A non-breeding pair of Ring-necked Ducks remained on an inland. (TMa, fide JEC). Murphy observed 12 + nests in 1981 and 22 nests this summer. This is the first unequivocal breeding for the state, although storks have been believed to nest on several occasions in the lower Coastal Plain n. to Francis Marion N.F. Single Glossy Ibises were rare near Fayetteville July 15 (PIC) and at Beaverdam Res., n. of Raleigh July 23 (JM). Roseate Spoonbills have become regular, if very uncommon, summer visitors in the past few years in coastal Georgia; this summer two were noted on the Jekyll I. causeway June 19 (DB, PB) and one at St. Mary's June 22-23 (SP et al.).

KITES THROUGH COOTS — Although Swallow-tailed Kites breed regularly in Francis Marion N.F., most recent monitored nestings have failed (fide JEC). This spring Cely found 2 nests, and both were successful, producing three young. He and other workers in the Southeast have evidence that Great Horned Owls prey on adult white herons (such as on nests), and he speculates that the owls might be a limiting factor in the small numbers of kites in most southern states. An imm. Golden Eagle was flushed from a large field on the unusually late date of May 27 near Mayesville, S.C. (ED). A Bald Eagle hacking project has (or will be) begun at L. Mattamuskeet, N.C., last site in the state where eagles nested regularly. A handful of sightings was reported from that state, but again none involved nesting birds. As usual, Marsh Hawks were seen at Cedar Island Ref. in June (JF et al.); but several females or immature were noted in June and July at 2 places in Washington County, N.C. (ML, LP), where breeding is unknown. A few Ann. Kestrels were observed over the Region, as expected, with breeding at Ft. Bragg, N.C. (JHC), and five "Atlanta falcons" at the Atlanta-Fulton County Stadium (fide TM)! The Marsh at Falls of the Neuse Res. had probable breeding King Rails: two were seen and heard all summer (JMcC, DK et al.); a good find for the Piedmont. A calling Black Rail was noted at Pea I., July 30 (AP), perhaps a new (but certainly not unexpected) summer locale for the species. The best of the Ann. Cot reports, all apparently representing non-breeders, was of three all summer at Peachtree City L., in Atlanta (PB).

SHOREBIRDS — Fussell et al. had a number of notable shorebirds in a pond to Fort Macon S.C., N.C., following the tropical storm: four to seven Ann. Aveces June 19-July 24, a Wilson's Phalarope June 19, a N. Phalarope June 19-21, and two White-rumped Sandpipers June 19 & 24. Piping Plovers have been seen the past few summers at Sunset Beach, N.C., s. of the established breeding range, one there July 18 (PIC, JC) was perhaps a nesting bird. At Pea I., July 30 were an early Am. Golden Plover and four Wilson's Phalaropes (AB), and on July 31 were 250 Stilt Sandpipers and an Eurasian Whimbrel (JF, LC). This is the second report of the Eurasian race for North Carolina, the first (Aug. 20-21, 1976) being erroneously reported in this journal (AB 31:164) as a Slender-billed Curlew (fide JF) inland shoreline breeding suffered from high water levels at reservoirs, although a few notable finds were made. Late at Pendergrass, Ga., were single Semipalmated and White-rumped sandpipers June 7 (JP). There was a fairly early inland influx of the uncommon Stilt Sandpiper; singles were near Dulluth, Ga., July 11 (PB), nearby Forsyth County July 23 (JP), and near Durham July 18 (BW, MW). A Ruff near Dublin, Ga., July 30 (TKP, JS) was surprisingly the second record for that town, but the species is, nevertheless, of casual occurrence inland.

JAEGERS THROUGH TERNS — The only jaegers sighted were three Parasitics at Atlantic Beach, N.C., June 13 (JF, WI). Gulls are seldom seen inland in June or July, thus, unusual was a Ring-billed Gull July 1-28 at Jordan Res. (AB, BW, MW) and a Laughing Gull at Sweetwater Creek S.P., near Atlanta June 8 (D & PM). I received no information concerning the outcome of gull and tern colonies along the coast. Several Least Terns were seen at a spoil area in Beaufort County, N.C., June 28 (ML, LP), a site where the species was reported breeding a few years ago and probably is still doing so. Inland, tern sightings (with gulls), are notable in summer. Common Terns were at Fayetteville June 29 (PIC) and near Hartwell, Ga., July 3 (DC), Caspians were at Fayetteville June 22 (PIC) and Jordan Res., July 17 (DK, BW), and three Blacks were near Raleigh July 31 (JM).

GOATSUCKERS, WOODPECKERS — Chuck-will's-widows are scarce in the n. Piedmont of North Carolina; of interest were two heard near Butner July 5 (McB et al.); sandpipers June 7 (JP) and 2 (WDE). It was identified as a Tropical, but the observer had no

Absolutely unprecedented was the successful breeding of Scissor-tailed Flycatchers in the Region, the first such event e. Mississippi. The adults were found at Young's Community in n. Laurens Co., S.C. (MR), and they nested in a grove of hardwoods surrounded by plenty of grassy fields and crop- lands. One young was fledged, and the three birds were seen by many observers into early August (JEC et al.); the empty nest was collected (RM, S.C.S.M.).
Two Willow Flycatchers were noted carrying food in June at Winston-Salem, N.C. (RS), a city where breeding has been taking place for several years. A major population of Horned Larks has been uncovered in the North Carolina Sandhills at Ft. Bragg, near the edge of the nesting range. P.J. Crutchfield et al. noted 30+ adults feeding young, in Hoke County June 21, and approximately half that number (including juveniles) in adjacent Cumberland County on the same date.

SWALLOWS THROUGH VIREOS — Early Tree Swallows were one at Jordan Res., July 1 (AB) and 1000+ at the L. Phelps area, N.C., July 10 (ML, LP). Bank Swallows nest provably in the Region only along the Roaring R., N.C., but this season two possible sites were reported. At Cedar I., two were noted June 6 and one June 20 (JF, LC, RH); Barn and Rough-winged swallows nested in holes in old barns there and the Banks might have been breeding in the holes also. Lynch watched five Banks, apparently not migrating, at a bridge over the Hwy Res., n. Person Co., N.C., June 27; exposed banks are present along the shore of the lake. Cliff Swallows continue to expand their breeding range in North Carolina, with 2 sites discovered under bridges at Hyco Res., in June and July (KM, ML) and one site at a bridge in Hoke County, (AB). Lynch found Worm-eating Warblers in good numbers. They had three singing males during the nesting season. Along the base of the Blue Ridge, at the w. edge of the Piedmont, two territorial d Cerulean Warblers and several Swainson's Warblers were found in June and July at Bat Cave Preserve, w. Rutherford Co., N.C. (TK). Kentucky Warblers and Am. Redstarts bred in rich deciduous bottomlands, habitats that are fairly numerous in extreme e. North Carolina, but Lynch and Peacock noted Kentucky only at 3 sites in Pamlico County and the redstart only in Gull Rock Gameland, s. Hyde Co., June 17. Surprising was a singing first-year d Am. Redstart June 12 in the Moores' yard in Atlanta, a city where the species is a rare breeder.

BOBOLINKS THROUGH SPARROWS — The latest ever Bobolinks in spring for Atlanta were two females June 5 (PM, TM) along the s.e. edge of the Scarlet Tanager's slowly expanding breeding range were males near Arapahoe, N.C., July 13 (ML, LP). Ft. Jackson near Columbia, S.C., July 13 (JEC), and near Palmetto, Ga., July 1 (three birds—D & PM). A singing ad. d Painted Bunting at Fayetteville most of July (PIC) was unusual away from the coast in North Carolina. The only summer report of Dickcissels came from Anderson County, S.C.: three territorial males and a female at one site near Townsville June 5 and another singing male one mile away on two dates in June (HL et al.). House Finches are apparently breeding to (or just beyond) the Fall Line, as nesting or suspected nesting was reported from Fayetteville (HR), Columbia (JE), and Columbus, Ga. (MS, JM), fide SP). Irvin had a very late Pine Siskin at his Raleigh feeder June 5, and even more bizarre was one that lingered until June 20 at a feeder near Southern Pines, N.C. (LW). On June 19, the latter siskin appeared with "two apparent juveniles", but no corroboration of these "juveniles" was made by other birders. Siskins are not known to breed in the Region. An extremely rare visitor was a d Lark Bunting found by Parks while jogging in Piedmont P., in Atlanta July 23; Three Grasshopper Sparrows, very rare breeders in the Sandhills, were noted Aug. 3 in the Hoke County portion of Ft. Bragg (PIC, MEW). Disappointingly, I received no word on whether Lark Sparrows returned to n. Richmond County, N.C., following the surprising breeding of several pairs in 1981. Although they are quite scarce in cities such as Durham and Chapel Hill in summer, Song Sparrows were considered "fairly common" in Roxboro, N.C., in June and July (KM), only 30 mi. n. of Durham.


FLORIDA REGION
/Richard T. Paul

Drought conditions dominated the Florida peninsula in summer 1981. This year heavy rains—up to 200% of normal in some areas—raised water levels throughout the Region. Levels in Lake Okeechobee rose to 14.84 feet above mean summer level by July 21, five feet higher than last year’s all-time low and an increase of over four feet in just two months. Owing to the high waters, inland observers noted a paucity of shorebirds. On the other hand, the National Audubon Society heronry survey in west-central and south Florida revealed a marked increase in July nesting. Detailed analysis awaits publication elsewhere, but half of 218 colony sites checked were active. Thirty-eight more colonies were active in 1982 than 1981, an increase of 55%. All were inland sites, reflecting the response of herons to wetter conditions in the freshwater wetlands of the state (BWP).

An unnamed storm packing hurricane force winds and heavy rains unexpectedly struck the Gulf Coast June 18, battering shorelines from Naples to Tarpon Springs and flooding lowlying areas with 5-foot tides. Damage to coastal bird colonies varied. At Passage Key, where 20,000 pairs of Laughing Gulls, 1000 pairs of Royal Terns and 250 pairs of Black Skimmers were nesting, just 1000 young gulls and 250 pairs of Black Skimmers were nesting, just 1000 young gulls and.
100 young terns survived the storm (BZ). By contrast 4000 pairs of Laughing Gulls and 125 pairs of Royal Terns nesting on higher ground at Alafia Bank suffered far lighter losses (RP). Brown Pelicans and herons nesting at the ABC Islands near Marco Island lost about 30% and 20%, respectively, of their nests (TB), while at Cortez Island in Sarasota Bay about half the remaining pelican nests were blown down (RP). But even at these sites most herons and pelicans had already completed nesting efforts and overall storm-related losses were not considered severe. In the Orlando area, Kale reported losses of Mockingbird, Blue Jay and Mourning Dove nests, as well as several woodpecker and Wood Duck trees.

Seabirds blown inland June 18 by the storm included Magnificent Frigatebirds at Archer (1), Dundee (6), Myakka River State Park (1) and four sites in Highlands County (30+) (m.ob.). A Brown Noddy at the Naples Pier a day later was weak and considered a storm waif (TB), while 15 Black Skimmers at Lake Annie, Highlands County on the 18th surely were (JL).

Frequently cited locations are abbreviated as follows: E.N.P. (Everglades National Park), S.G.I. (St. George Island), T.T. (Tall Timbers Research Station), Tally Div. (Tallahassee Division), * (specimen).

LOONS THROUGH BOOBIES — Summerng Com. Loons were again found in the Gulf of Mexico, with one each at Eastpoint June 2 (HS), Steinhatchee June 18 (JC) and S.G.I., June 22 & 25 (GM). Another, Gavia sp., was also at S.G.I., on the same dates (GM). Pelagics off the e. coast were less common than last year. Eight Cory's Shearwaters were seen off Boynton Inlet July 11 (HL, PS et al.), one was off Ft. Lauderdale June 11 (TH), and another was e. of Key Biscayne July 20 (WH). One Sooty Shearwater was seen from Ponte Vedra Beach June 7 (PP). On July 11, a Harcourt's Storm-Petrel believed to represent the fifth state record was studied at leisure at 15-20 ft some 15 mi e. of Boynton Inlet (PS, HL et al.). A Broad-winged Hawk summered at Stock 1., but may have been at Duda July 10 (PS, BH, HL et al.). Another was reported from McKay Bay July 3 (16—PF) and the Leon County sewage plant July 28 (one, GM). Eight Ruddy Ducks were at Clear Springs Mine June 5 (PP), seven were at McKay Bay July 3 (PP), and one drake was in full breeding plumage at Duda July 31 (PS, BH, HL et al.). One Red-breasted Merganser was late at J. Jackson June 15 (GM) but a few summer annually along the coast s. to the Keys.

RAPTORS — Interesting reports of Swallow-tailed Kites came from both ends of the state: one was seen June 11 in s. Jacksonvillle where they are rare (PP), four seen June 20 constituted a Leon County high count (GM), and a nest near the Nat'l Audubon Soc. Research Dept. office on Plantation Key was thought to be the southernmost documented nest in the state (SS, KS). In 1979 this column reported the Mississippi Kite to be increasing in the Gainesville area. The trend continues, with increasing numbers seen in the last 3 years (SN).

It is now possible to assess the damage of last year's drought on Everglade Kite numbers. The annual winter survey combined with subsequent observations suggests a population of about 225 birds (JAR). About 25 young were reared this season, all from nests in Lakes Kissimmee and Tohopekaliga. As one indicator of food supply, apple snail eggs were very scarce in the traditional s. Florida nesting areas but common in the lakes where nesting did occur (S. Beissinger). With the easing of the drought this summer, perhaps the next breeding season will bring better news.

Two Cooper's Hawks were reported, a male near Venus May 17 (GW, WH) and an immature at Archbold June 6 (IL). Despite these and previous Highlands County records, there is still no county nesting record (FL). Also of interest was the Accipiter sp. seen carrying prey at the Lykes Bros. campground on Fishrearing Cr., June 4 (JR). A Broad-winged Hawk summered at Stock 1., but may have been an escape (JVL, FH). The statewide Bald Eagle nesting survey found 340 active pairs, slightly below last year's 359. Two hundred

Immature Masked Boobies were reported at Siesta Key June 27 (emaciated, died June 28—HK) and off Boynton Inlet July 28 (PS, HL, TT). Six Brown Boobies at the Tortugas June 29-July 8 was a high number (OB).

HERONS THROUGH FLAMINGOS — Two white form Great Blue Herons were reported near Tampa June 3 (RP), while another was found 11 mi s.w. of Lake Placid July 14 & 23 (GW, KM). Reddish Egrets nested again at Vero Beach (two pairs—HK), Tampa Bay (3 sites—RP) and probably Haulover, in Merritt Island N.W.R., where four birds were seen in the colony June 15 (HS, PS). Two young of the year standing in the shallows at Pelican L., June 9 & 23 (JAR), and two immatures plus seven adults at Ding Darling N.W.R., May 26 (HW) suggested breeding at those sites. Northernmost reports of Reddish Egrets this season were from St. Marks Lighthouse June 13 (one, RC) and Matanzas Inlet July 24 (three immature, SN). The rains came too late to help nesting Wood Storks. Thirty-seven hundred pairs nested in 23 colonies, producing about 2200 young. Only 700± pairs nested in the key s. Florida colonies (BWP). A conservative count of 1000 Glossy Ibises at Duda Farms near Belle Glade (hereafter, Duda) July 24 was very high (PS, HL, et al.). Roseate Spoonbills nesting at the Alafia colony in Tampa Bay fledged at least 31 young (RP); this is still the state's only known nesting site n. of E.N.P. Six spoonbills inland at L. Hancock (PT, LC) were considered exceptional by CG. Three Am. Flamingos including two immatures at Duda July 10, and five a week later, were considered escapes (PS, HL, BH et al.).

WATERFOWL — Seventeen Fulvous Whistling Ducks were at Zellwood July 23 (DF, BP), where they are now considered annual visitors. Two 2 Malls, both in the company of Mottled Ducks, were reported. One was at Duda July 10 (PS, HL et al.) and the other was at Zellwood July 23 (DF, BP). A 2 Mallard was also seen at Duda July 31 (PS). A high count of 690 Mottled Ducks at Duda was made July 24 (PS, HL, et al.) A 2 Green-winged Teal was considered late at L. Jackson, Tally Div., June 15 (GM), while five Blue-winged Teal were found at Duda July 10 (PS, HL, et al.). Twelve Pectorals were reported from McKay Bay July 3 (16—PF) and the Leon County sewage plant July 28 (one, GM). Eight Ruddy Ducks were at Clear Springs Mine June 5 (PP), seven were at McKay Bay July 3 (PP), and one drake was in full breeding plumage at Duda July 31 (PS, BH, HL et al.). One Red-breasted Merganser was late at J. Jackson June 15 (GM) but a few summer annually along the coast s. to the Keys.

It is now possible to assess the damage of last year's drought on Everglade Kite numbers. The annual winter survey combined with subsequent observations suggests a population of about 225 birds (JAR). About 25 young were reared this season, all from nests in Lakes Kissimmee and Tohopekaliga. As one indicator of food supply, apple snail eggs were very scarce in the traditional s. Florida nesting areas but common in the lakes where nesting did occur (S. Beissinger). With the easing of the drought this summer, perhaps the next breeding season will bring better news.

Two Cooper's Hawks were reported, a male near Venus May 17 (GW, WH) and an immature at Archbold June 6 (IL). Despite these and previous Highlands County records, there is still no county nesting record (FL). Also of interest was the Accipiter sp. seen carrying prey at the Lykes Bros. campground on Fishrearing Cr., June 4 (JR). A Broad-winged Hawk summered at Stock 1., but may have been an escape (JVL, FH). The statewide Bald Eagle nesting survey found 340 active pairs, slightly below last year's 359. Two hundred
forty were successful, and produced 356 young (SN). While these numbers suggest a healthy population, populations in urbanizing areas should still be considered at risk. As one example, the population in the 4-county Tampa Bay area (Pasco, Pinellas, Hillsborough, Manatee) has declined from 24 to 13 pairs in just 6 years (RP). Oystercatchers were reported doing well along the coast, where three new nests doubled the known nesting population (GM) and L. Hancock, where 43 birds seen July 4 was a high count (PT, LC).

An astounding 8 reports of Am. Kestrels provide the first information available for the resident subspecies poulus in some time. They are related here in full. Mark Hoffman of the Univ. of Florida considers kestrels "locally common" in suitable habitat in Alachua, Putnam, Clay, Marion and Levy cos. Highest densities of about 6 pairs/sq. mi occur at Gold Head Branch S.P. and the new Ordway Preserve in Putnam Co. Where favored pineland habitats have given way to farmlands, as at Chiefland, kestrels are greatly diminished. Longleaf pine/turkey oak sandhills of n. Florida are the preferred habitat, but pastures with some standing pine are also used—at least while the pines remain. Sand pine clearcuts in Ocala N.F. are also used if snags are left standing. Old Pileated Woodpecker holes and barns that provided nest sites for Am. Kestrels should be looked for where suitable habitat remains along the c. ridge s. to Highlands County (M. Hoffman). In Leon County, kestrels roused two young at a site last active in 1979 (GM, GH). At the Duval County Audubon kestrel trail in Clay County, 10 occupied nest boxes produced at least 11 young (RL). In s. Jefferson County, 12 birds representing 2-3 pairs with new fledglings were found throughout June (RP). Between May 16 and June 20, repeated observations by DS e. of Ft. Myers verified a pair with one juvenile in a pasture with scattered live slash pines plus a few old stubs. Other kestrels were found at Oxford and Wildwood (each one June 17—HS), Lakeland (one May 30—PF & PT) and near Myakka River S.P. (two June—D & GM).

CRANES THROUGH SHOREBIRDS — Heavy rains in n Florida during incubation caused widespread Sandhill Crane nesting failure, while cranes nesting in other parts of the state did quite well (SN). The Com. Gallinule—enjoy the name while you can—was confirmed at the L-67A dike in Vero Beach at Caxambas Pass (one July 19-TB). While the description suggested a S. Polar Skua, the record awaits further review by the Florida Ornithological Society Bird Records Committee.

The ad. Great Black-backed Gulls seen July 31 at Wards Bank were unusually early. Another, a subadult, was seen repeatedly in June at Riviera Beach (JG, PH, HL). Inland Laughing Gulls were noteworthy at 3 locations: L. Weir (two seen June 16 by HS; second Marion County record), Tallahassee (a high of 22 at the sewage plant July 12—GM), and Duda Farms where Sykes found 131 July 10 and 300 July 7 weeks later. Incidentally, a report surfaced of Laughing nesting on the Busch Brewery roof in Tampa in 1981, where young were said to have been seen. Attempts to verify this in 1982 failed when a July check revealed ongoing roof repairs instead (D. Coker).

Gull-billed Terns counted at Duda peaked at 36 on July 17 (PS). They also nested, but all 12 nests failed when the field was drained. Two Arctic Terns were found. One, a sick adult, was picked up June 10 in s.w. Miami but died June 13 (*U. of Miami, MC). The other was seen June 11, 20 mi e. of Miami. A leisurely study at 15-20 ft revealed the following: solid red bill, gray throat and body that contrasted with the white cheek (TT). Roseate Terns nested in 2 locations in the Lower Keys. At Missouri Key 2 pairs were found with a colony of 50 pairs (one nest June 1 [C. & C. Roberts], while in Key West at least 80 adults [revised downward from Spring Season Report—Ed.] nested with Least Terns on top of the Truman Annex (KW). Weekly counts of young peaked at 31, which probably underestimates true production since just half the roof could be seen. With the reactivation of the Key West Navy base the future of roofnesting at the Truman Annex is in doubt. Terns in general were well spread, with a high count of 10+ seen e. of Port Canaveral June 11 (TH). Four July reports totalled 16 scattered Sooties from Ft. DeSoto, Flamingo, the Florida Straits and the East Coast n. to Boynton Inlet (m.o.). Least Tern reports featured an interesting inland nesting record at L. Jackson, Tally Div., where 70 adults, several fledged young and 6 nests were found July 2 (one fledgling "T.T.", HS). However, reports of nesting numbers around the state were contradictory. The usual roof-top colonies in Vero Beach and Ft. Pierce did not appear this year (HK). The colony at the Occidental phosphate mine in Hamilton County, active the last few years, was not active (DM, RR). Numbers were considered down in Key West (FH) and Orlando (HK). On the other hand, numbers seemed normal in the Marco L. area, although nesting was disturbed by people and the June 18 storm (TB), Sarasota (S & AS) and the Tampa Bay area (RP). Fifty pairs nested at the Flamingo campground, E.N.P. (OB). About 75 juveniles were at Wards Bank July 31 (JW), and a roof-nesting colony was found at the K-Mart in s. Jacksonville (PP), success unknown. Generalization from these reports is difficult (not only are the observations uneven), but they should be seized as a reminder to us to pay continued attention to the fortunes of this species.

Sandwich Terns nested at 2 colonies in Tampa Bay—Passage Key (one pair—SP & LH) and Alafia Bank (eight pairs—RP)—and Caspian were again reported at Alafia (13 pairs—RP). Two Brown (?Noddes) were seen in the Florida Straights s.e. of Islamorada, and about ten Bridled Terns were seen along the roof edge from Melbourne to Miami July 19-20 (WH). About 600 pairs of Black Skimmers nested in the Tampa Bay area, where most failed because of the June 18 storm. At Wards Bank, where 145 pairs of skimmers fared somewhat better, J. Wilson banded 47 young.

PIGEONS THROUGH WARBLERS — White-crowned Pigeons were reported feeding in good numbers on the E. N.P. mainland (OB). Ringed Turtle Doves and Black-headed Parakeets (now up to 6-12 birds) did well in the Redlands area of Homestead (OB). The only Mangrove Cuckoo reported this season was near the Key West airport June 12 (FH, JVL), while a Yellow-billed, apparently migrating, was eastbound June 2 at S.G.I. (HS). Up to seven Chimney Swifts were at Lake Worth throughout the period, somewhat s. of normal range (GSH), and a Ruby-throated Hummingbird at Casey Key June 7 was unusual (S & AS). A Red-headed Woodpecker was seen July 26, w. of W. Palm Beach, where they have become rare as such habitat has disappeared (GSH). Three previous sightings in the northern parts of the state were of Red-cockaded Woodpeckers discovered in Alachua, Melrose and Putnam cos. (RR & BC). Eastern Kingbirds apparently were not nesting in downtown Ft. Myers, where repeated checks revealed only 2 adults and, on July 14, a third bird believed to be an immature (L &
BA) This is near the s. limit of their breeding range
Barn Swallows remain uncommon breeders in n. Florida, but 2
nests found along I-10 near Greensboro were the first for Gadsden
County (WB). Another nest was found for the second straight year
at Eastpoint June 2 (HS). Three other June records in n. Florida suggest
additional breeding in the Tally Div. and Clay County (GM, MJW),
with 2 exceptions. Three early sightings in south Florida (single birds at
Long Key June 18, Dade July 10, and Lake Worth July 12—HL, PS,
GSH) raise the possibility of early breeding failures farther n. Cliff
Swallows were found again at Port Mayaca, where PS located one or
two nests June 29. A Blue Jay, always uncommon in the Keys, was on
Plantation Key July 6 (JO). Three Scrub Jays were found July, 3 near
Yeehawctet. (HS), one of 2 known Osceola County sites for this
sedentary species. Florida’s fourth Bahama Mockingbird was found
on Long Key June 10 (SS). Gray Catbirds nested in s. Jacksonville
for the third time, and at Greenville where at least five were seen July 19
(GM). Brown Thrashers may have nested on Stock L, where two
adults were seen June 12 & July 31. No young were found, but one
adult appeared to be carrying food on the 12th (FH, KW). A few years
ago a thrasher was found singing on Sugarloaf Key in June, so birders
in the Lower Keys might stay alert to the possibility. While a Blue-
gray Gnatcatcher at Ft. Pierce July 25 was thought to be a summer
straggler or early fall migrant (HD), a nest with two young in the Avon
Park Bombing Range furnished possibly the first Polk County breed-
ing record (CG, m.ob.). A Hill Mynah (Gracula religiosa) at Arcadia
June 3 represented probably the first Highlands County record (GW).
Are they expanding their range N from Miami?
A Red-eyed Vireo at Ft. Pierce July 28 was unusually early (WD).
Black-and-white Warblers, always among the first warblers to mi-
grate S, were first detected at Bartow July 10 (B & DC). A singing
Prothonotary at Highlands Hammock S.P., June 3 was about at the
edge of normal breeding range (JR), but another farther s. at Palmdale
July 25 may have been a migrant (BH et al.). Other early fall warblers
were a N. Parula on Big Pine Key July 19 (PS) and a Yellow-throated
at Archbold July 12 (FL). Breeding Prairie Warblers are considered
“elusive” in Leon County, so four singing males n. of Tallahassee
June 19-21 were noteworthy (GM & RC). Single Louisiana Water-
thrushes were found dead at Ramrod Key July 4 and alive at Orlando
July 22 (T & CR). One or two singing Yellow-breasted Chats near
Green Cove Springs July 5 may have been breeding (HS). Three
singing Hooded Warblers nearby at Black Cr., on the same date
indicated a slight range extension S (HS). American Redstarts were
among the early migrants, with one at W. Palm Beach July 13 (AA),
one near Lakeland July 24 (PF & TP) and two at Cowpens Key,
Florida Bay July 29 (SS).

BOBOLINKS THROUGH SPARR OWS — A δ Bobolink at the
Dry Tortugas July 1 appears to have been one of the latest spring
migrants on record for Florida (OB). A few miles s. of previous
breeding records for the species, a family group of four Orchard
Orioles was seen near Wildwood June 17 (HS). Inland breeding of
Boat-tailed Grackles occurred again at L. Miccosukee in the Tally
Div., where a female was seen feeding a youngster June 21 (GM).
Brown-headed Cowbirds are increasing in the Region. Stevenson
noted a “striking increase” in abundance and found a juvenal in a
family of gnatcatchers at Alligator Pt., June 4, the third such area
record. S.A. Grimes also commented on the increase, and found a
Other records were of five birds at the Clear Springs Mine July 10 (BK
& TP) and one,融合发展在 the Shark Valley Rd., E.N.P., June 15
(C. Miles). A Bronzed Cowbird made its first summer appearance in
Florida, in company with Com. Grackles and Red-winged Blackbirds
at a Lower Keys feeder July 31 (FH, KW, MD). A Summer Tanager
in full song at S.G.I., June 2 may have been breeding, although it was
not found July 14 (HS).

Single Blue Grosbeaks were noted in Lakeland May 1 & 15 (CG et
al.), Wildwood June 17 (RS). Five more at Lakeland July 17 were
considered to be nesting (PF, PT). A nesting pair at Mims May 23 (DS
et al.) and two males in full song near Scottsmoor June 15 (HS)
provided evidence of breeding in Brevard County. Three Indigo
and nine Painted buntings were also singing at Scottsmoor on that date
(RS; one δ Indigo *T.T.*), where all three species have established
themselves in neglected orange groves in the last decade. Two more Indigos at Saddle Cr. Sanctuary near Lakeland July 17
were thought to suggest nesting (PF, PT, TP), while a δ Painted at Ft.
Jefferson, Dry Tortugas July 2 or 3 (WR) had perhaps just taken a
wrong turn. A Chipping Sparrow at Nine-Mile Pond in E N P, June 1
was late (HA), and a lingering White-throated Sparrow sang in
Tallahassee as late as July 18 (HS).

ADDENDUM — A very late Pine Siskin lingered in Tallahassee
until approximately May 7-11 (B. & F. Stoutamire, ph. to T.T.)

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS — As readers of the Summer Season
reports for the last 2 years may have noticed, I have poached spring-
time breeding records rather freely from Herb Kale and borrowed
data for a number of studies that undoubtedly will be published in
detail elsewhere. While this is done in part because the nesting season
here is so long and begins so early—Mockingbirds in my Tampa
backyard were rearing their third brood by late June—these practices
permit a much more cohesive evaluation of nesting records than
otherwise possible, and allow results of studies by a number of
individuals and agencies to reach an audience that otherwise might
not see them. I am indebted to Herb Kale for allowing me to pillage his
Spring Season records, and to the various biologists cited in these
pages for generously sharing their information.

CONTRIBUTORS AND OBSERVERS (Area Editors in boldface)
— Lynn & Brooks Attherton, Harold Axtell, Ann Ayers, Wilson
Baker, Oron Bass, Ted Below, Lee Calvert, Bert Charest, Ron
Christen, Buck & Dena Cooper, Mort Cooper, Jeff Cox, Helen
Dowling, William Dowling, Mary Dennis, Becky Fellers, Paul Fellers,
Dot Freeman, Chuck Geanangel, Frances Hames, Lise Hanners, Ted
Hendrickson, Gary Hines, Wayne Hoffman, Brian Hope, Gloria S
Hunter, Herb Kale, Bruce Kistler, Howard Langridge, Jack V
Larcombe, Jim Layne, Karen Leathers, Robert Loftin, Fred Lohrer,
Don & Grace Mace, Dave Machr., Kevin McGowan, Gail Menk, Steve Nesbitt, John Ogden, Tom Palmer, Steve Patton,
Barbara W. Patty, Becky Payne, Jon Piotkin, Peggy Powell, Jack
Reinechel, Robert Repenning, Ann Reynolds, William Robertson, Bill
Robinson, Ted & Chad Robinson, James A. Rodgers, David Smith,
Sand Sprint, Stanley & Annette Stedman, Henry Stevenson, Rosa
Belle Stevenson, Karen Sunderland, Paul Sykes, Pete Timmer, Tadziu
Trotsky, Helen Walker, M Joyce Williams, Joe Wilson, Kathy
Wolff, Glen Woolfenden, Bob Zibro. —RICHARD T. PAUL, Na-
tional Audubon Society, 1020 S. 82nd Street, Tampa, FL 33619.

ONTARIO REGION
/Ron D. Weir

Throughout June, conditions colder and wetter than usual pre-
valied over most of Ontario. The three counties in the extreme
southwest suffered record cold. Adverse effects on breeding birds
seem not to have been serious. Colonial nesters throughout the Great
Lakes were one to two weeks later in their nesting activities and
Eastern Bluebird fledging in late June in eastern Ontario suffered
increased mortality. However, sunny, hot and very dry weather
lasted all through July.

This year is the second in the five year Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas
programme. The available data at the time of writing this account
show exciting results particularly in the discovery of northerly
species breeding farther south than previously thought. The news
about Double-crested Cormorant, Wilson’s Phalarope and House
Finch is good as all three increase their numbers in the dramatic range
extension or reoccupation that began only 5 to 10 years ago. The
Henslow’s Sparrow does not provide grounds for optimism for its
fortunes in Ontario, and the Herring Gull is in trouble on some islands
in Lake Superior. The Loggerhead Shrike may be holding its num-
bers, but until all the Atlas data is on hand, their future is in
question. Rarities in the period include Black Vulture, Swallow-tailed
Kite and California Gull.

It is of interest to examine the migration indices calculated for
spring migrants over an eight year period at Long Point shown in
Yellow-rumped and Ruby-crowned Kinglets were 595 nests (cf. 461 in 1981, 276 in 1980). C. W. et al. (GMcK). In the survey by Canadian Wildlife Service of the Canadian heronries of Great Blue Heron, the largest comprising 150 nests (SP), United States of America and hence in the next reporting area—there continues steadily as existing colonies expand and new ones start up. The recovery of the Double-crested Cormorant on the Great Lakes winters 1977-79 and subsequent recovery but the Winter Wren is now at its lowest level. These indices represent actual numbers present at Long Point based upon a daily census. A correction factor for weather has not been introduced.

In the text following, place names in italics denote counties. LOONS THROUGH CORMORANTS — The Red-throated Loon in Humber Bay June 1 (JAK) and nearby at Burlington June 6 (RC et al.) was probably a late spring migrant, but more difficult to categorize were the three off Cranberry Marsh June 25-July 3 (J & AL). A similar situation is suggested by the single Red-necked Grebes at Quetico June 2 (JNill), Ottawa June 10 (BMD), Kitchener June 18 (CAC, Hlif), with 24 at Burlington July I (KMcL). An ad. Eared Grebe was at the Rainy R. sewage lagoon June 1 (RT). A White Pelican appeared at Big I., Prince Edward June 15-30 for the county's fourth ever (TS et al.) and four were at Kettle Pt., July 6-12 (ph., AR). The recovery of the Double-crested Cormorant on the Great Lakes continues steadily as existing colonies expand and new ones start up. In e. L. Ontario, the colony on Pigeon I. has grown to 175 nests from zero in 1977 (cf. 169 in 1981, 80 in 1980, 38 in 1979—CW, K.F.N.). In w. L. Erie, 158 nests were on Big Chicken I., and at Lighthouse Pt., Pelee I., the 48 nests represent a doubling over those of 1981 (PAW, GMcK). In the survey by Canadian Wildlife Service of the Canadian side of the Great Lakes, 1156 ± nests were tallied, up from the 961 in 1981 (CW). On Little Gallo I., offshore Kingston—technically in the United States of America and hence in the next reporting area—there were 959 nests (cf. 461 in 1981, 276 in 1980—CW et al.).

HERONS, IBISES — Atlas work at Atikokan revealed several heronries of Great Blue Heron, the largest comprising 150 nests (SP), and 6 heronries totaled about 250 nests in Prince Edward (TS). One

Table 1: Spring migration indices 1975-82 at Long Point Bird Observatory

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Table I for six migrants (DJTH). Flicker numbers have returned to 1975 levels, although still below levels of the 1960s. Hermit Thrush appears to follow what is regarded as a normal fluctuation. Ruby-crowned Kinglet indices correlate nicely with their decline in the cold winters 1977-79 and subsequent recovery but the Winter Wren is now at its lowest level. These indices represent actual numbers present at Long Point based upon a daily census. A correction factor for weather has not been introduced.

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HERONS, IBISES — Atlas work at Atikokan revealed several heronries of Great Blue Heron, the largest comprising 150 nests (SP), and 6 heronries totaled about 250 nests in Prince Edward (TS). One

Little Blue was in Picery P.P., June 12 (ph., GE). The only Cattle Egrets reported were singles in Jarvis June 22 (BD), Hamilton June 23 (RC) and Port Weller June 25 (MP, BD). In 1981, 276 were the 4 outside the Region on Little Gallo I., noted above, July 23 (CW). For the second successive year, Great Egrets nested in a small colony on Middle I., in L. Erie (CW) and 75 were seen on Walpole I., June 5 (AR). Individuals appeared in ones or twos at Cranberry Marsh, Kitchener-Waterloo, Stratford, Long Pt., and Ottawa. A Single Bonelli's Egret was at P.O. June 10 (DP). No other individual or another was there July 11 (RC et al.). The very rare Louisiana Heron was in Cranberry Marsh July I (MB, m.ob.). Black-crowned Night Herons continue to prosper. On Middle I., 400-500 pairs nested for the second successive year (CW). In the Kingston area, Snake I. has been colonized and on Pigeon I., the species is maintaining its own territory in the Biscuit trees into which the expanding cormorant population has now moved (CW).

Atlas work in pursuit of the secretive Least Bittern is beginning to pay off. A nest with three young was found in Simcoe (PV) and several nests in Rondeau (PAW), but so far scarce elsewhere in Essex and Kent (AHK). Birds were at 2 locations in Grey-Brace (JJ, MP), Long Pt. (RS) and Luther Marsh but not yet elsewhere in the Kitchener area (CAC). In Prince Edward several individuals were reported and one was killed on the road at Big I. (TS). At Kingston, 9 marshes are known to be occupied with at least one pair each (RDW) and one accessible nest contained four young (FP). Patience and repeated visits to the same marsh are essential. The spring flight of Glossy Ibis spilled over into the summer period. Two were at Hatt's I., Prince Edward June 10 (SH) and singles were found in Oshawa July 13 (MMcE, m.ob.) and at Isaac L., Bruce July 15-16 (TM, FD).
secretive behaviour when nesting. A Cooper’s Hawk was on territory at Mallorytown Landing, but its nest was not found (DrO et al.), and another was seen carrying food near Sudbury July 15 (CB). A Red-tailed (Krider’s race) was at Lake of the Woods June 1 (RT). Five breeding sites were found for Red-shouldered in Bruce where it is probably increasing (JI). In the Kingston area, 5 nests and several territories were located. This species continues to do very well in the shield areas of Frontenac and Leeds & Grenville (RDW). Late Rough-legged Hawks included two at Ottawa June 6 (BMD) and singles near Sudbury June 3 (JL), Wolfe Island, June 8 (HQ, AEH) and Kitchener June 19 (MCa, LH). The bird at Sudbury was without its legs, but appeared healthy.

The current Bald Eagle stronghold is in n.w. Ontario and its population remains vigorous. Within Q.P.P., 12 active nests produced 16 young and 4 other nests outside the Park held four young (SP). At Long Pt., two young were fledged from the nest on Canadian Wildlife Service property. It represents the first authenticated successful nest there since 1963. The proud parents were an 8-year old male and 4-year old female (GMcK). Farther e., an immature was found at Jones Falls July 27 (M & TH). Two Peregrine Falcons were reported: Ottawa June 29, July 4 (EMD, SG) and Morton July 15 (M & TH), but in neither case was breeding suggested. The Am. Kestrel nest box programme at Sudbury resulted in 75 young fledged (JL).

GROUSE THROUGH COOTS — Bobwhite continued to be very scarce and from the three counties in extreme s.w. Ontario only one was reported, that from Kettle Pt. (AHH). The lone Sandhill Crane at Rondeau to July 25 was most unusual (PAW). Only one King Rail was found in Essex and Kent (AHH), where the species is known to occur. Further n. at Wierton, another was seen and heard in mid-June (RRc). Rare for both locations were the single Virginia Rail in Q.P.P., June 13 (DE, SP) and Sora in Algonquin P.P. (hereafter, A.P.P.) all summer (RT). A Yellow Rail was heard calling in Cranberry Marsh June 16 & July 3 (J & NL) and the Com. Gallinule at Gravenhurst June 16 (MCI, RB) was at the edge of its range.

SHOREBIRDS — For Am. Golden Plovers remained at Blenheim until June 26 (PAW) while southbound Black-bellieds appeared July 14 at Tiny Marsh (WZ, Ll) and July 26 at Cranberry Marsh (MB). Late Whimbrel were two at Manitoulin I., June 2 (JCN) and Ottawa June 6 (BMD). Southbound were singles at Mallorytown Landing June 26, their second-ever (TH), Ottawa July 19 & 27 (RP et al.), Rondeau July 21, their second July record (EC) and two at Port Erie July 29 (fide RFA). The pair of Upland Sandpipers with three young at Windermere provided the first nesting for Muskoka (RB) while farther s. at Port Hope, 10 nests were successful (ERM). Breeding by Solitary Sandpipers has been confirmed at last for the Sudbury area with the finding of an adult with a one-day old chick June 26 (CB). A possible breeder was seen in Q.P.P., June 24 (SP) and early migrants appeared in the s., July 4 in Hamilton, July 8 in Bruce and July 14 in Simcoe (RC, JJ, AD). The lone Solitary at Smithville June 12-13 fits the in-between dates (KMcL, RC). Unusual and very early were the three Willets at Kettle Pt., July 7 (AR) and the single at Long Pt., on the same day (OL). The last of the spring Red Knot were 25 at Oakville June 5 (KMcL).

Late White-rumped Sandpipers were seen June 13 at Smithville (RC) and on the e. Headland, Toronto (HE), but 11 spent all of June at Blenheim (PAW). Six Baird’s were still at Whity June 7 (MB, DB) and five fall migrants were noted at Wierton July 21 (TM, FD) along with singles in Ottawa (BMD) and Pembroke (JB) July 25. At Hamilton 14 Short-billed Dowitchers appeared June 26 (KMcL) about a week prior to their arrival throughout s. Ontario. One Long-billed was found at the Rainy R. sewage lagoon July 1 (RT). Very rare away from the Hudson Bay coast, in June was the Stilt Sandpiper at Smithville June 12 (KMcL) and fall migrants included an adult at Ottawa July 12 (BMD) and three near Sudbury July 14 (JCN). Blenheim’s first June record of Marbled Godwit occurred June 26 (fide PAW). The 50 Wilson’s Phalaropes at Rainy R. sewage lagoon June 1 could not be found June 26 (RT), but the 25 pairs on Amherst I., remained, where 2 nests with young were discovered (FA et al.) and the other territories left undisturbed. Elsewhere, there were 4 sightings of single birds throughout the summer.

JAEGERS THROUGH TERNS — The ad. Long-tailed Jaeger at Cranberry Marsh July 6 was well seen and described (JF). A second-year Glaucous Gull was at Port Stanley July 10 (RK et al.) and an adult at Pickerling July 21 (MB, MMcE). An Iceland joined the gulls at Port Stanley July 11 (JL), the same day 25 Great Black-backed of various ages were at Long Pt. (RC et al.). On Little Galano I., noted above (CW), there were 6 Great Black-backed herring gulls nesting. Herring Gull nesting sites included Pigeon I., held steady at 52, but problems have been noted with their reproductive success on several islands in L. Superior where production is below 0.33 young/pair. Adults were seen eating their own and other young, but whether food shortage is a factor in these colonies is so far unknown (CW). At Toronto, the California Gull reappeared for the second successive summer. She laid eggs that never hatched and a male of the species was never seen (fide CEG). Single Laughing Gulls were at Whity June 2 (MMcE), Rondeau June 20 (PAW) and Winona June 27 (KMcL). A Franklin’s Gull in second-year plumage was near Hamilton June 26 (KMcL) and large numbers were at Lake of the Woods June 27-29 (PE). For the second successive year, no Little Gull nests were reported, but immatures were seen at Ottawa June 2 (FG), Burlington June 13 (KMcL), Rondeau June 29 (PAW) and Cranberry Marsh July 15 (MB). The largest flock was at Long Pt., July 11 consisting of nine adults, three immatures and no birds of the year (RC et al.).

The news of Forster’s Tern is encouraging. At Rondeau, there were 58 nests (cf. 17 in 1981—PAW). However, high water and poor June weather caused the loss of many nests at Long Pt. (GMcK), but nevertheless 50 birds were seen there July 11 and many were juveniles (RC et al.). Other reports included three at Aldershot June 6 (RC) and singles at Ottawa June 13 (BMD) and Whity July 15 (DRu). Common Terns have apparently re-established a nesting colony in Hamilton Bay abandoned 10 years ago (RC). Black Terns were reported scarce in Kent and Essex (AHH), in very low numbers at Long Pt., and Hamilton, where only a few nesting pairs are left in sharp contrast to their abundance 15 years ago (RC et al.). At the e. end of L. Ontario at Kingston, the species is doing very well (K.F.N.).

CUCKOOS THROUGH NIGHTHAWKS — In contrast to 1981, Yellow-billed Cuckoos were entirely absent or in very low numbers throughout s. Ontario with the exception of the St. Catharines area (RRw), Pt. Pelee, and Pelee I. (CA et al.). Black-billeds were reported widely and very numerous in P.P. (RT). Eleven juvenile Screech Owls were brought to The Owl Rehabilitation and Research Foundation of which eight have been rehabilitated for release (KMcK). The only nest reported was at Kingston June 28 with three young (FA). An ad. Great Gray Owl was hit by a car at Kapuskasing and died June 7 (KMcK). The Long-eared Owl nest on Manitoulin I., containing two young June 5 was the area’s first (JCN et al.). At least seven Church-will’s widows were at Rondeau all summer, but no nest was found (PAW). Single was heard at Kitchener in June (DF) and Kingston June 9 (RDW). Common Nighthawks were very scarce at Barrie (CJM), Virginiatown (PR) and Hamilton (RC).
been confirmed for Simcoe at Fesserton (PV). The species is well established n. to Port Elgin (JJ, MP) and e. to Cornwall, where 6 breeding locations are known. Atlas work in e. Ontario shows breeding territories confined to a narrow band along L. Ontario and the St. Lawrence R. (RDW). Numbers of Least Flycatchers were sharply up at Pimisi Bay (LKL). An ad. Olive-sided was feeding young near Prescott July 27 (TH). A pair of Barn Swallows with a flair for non-conformity raised young aboard the M.V. Upper Canada ferrying between Lake Simcoe (PV) and Port Elgin June 24 (PM). A Tufted Titmouse of family six was seen in Kitchener in June 17-28 (RWK). Yellow-throated numbers were up sharply on the Bruce pen (JJ) and one in A.P.P., July 21-22 was only their second-ever (RWK). Solitary Vireos s. of their "normal" range included a successful nest at Howdenvale and adults scolding at Port Elgin July 7, both in Bruce (JJ), and territorial males in 2 Atlas blocks n.w. of Kincardine on Lake Huron (RDW). Two successful Philadelphia Vireo nests were reported, although that of July 13 Sydney Bay, Bruce involved cowbirds (JJ). The site at Madoc July 25 was far s. of the known breeding limits (RDW). Warbling Vireo was reported as unusually numerous in the Simcoe area (JCN).

WARBLERS — Eleven nests of Prothonotary Warblers were found at Long Pt. (GMK). At Rondeau, the usual number of nests were present (PAW) and at Pinery P.P., a nest held five young (TC). Golden-winged were in notable numbers at Gravenhurst, areas of Simcoe and Sudbury (RB, CJM) and one was along Highway 600, n. of Rainy R., June 2 (RT). Blue-winged nests at St. Catherines (fide RWK) and one was at Wye Marsh June 14-16, the area’s first (JT). A Brewster’s hybrid was paired with a Golden-winged at Long Pt., in a successful nesting June 27 (fide RS) and at Havelock near Peterborough, a pair of Brewer’s fledged young July 6 (AGC, CV). Migration of 75 Yellow Warblers was underway on Amherst I., July 24 (RDW). Black-throated Blue was in above-average numbers in Sudbury through the nesting period (JCN). Along the Huron-Marathon R., a large population of Bachman’s Sparrows was discovered, which was one of the commonest species in that area (RDJ). North of their usual range were a Prairie at Gogama June 1 (AN) and a Kentucky near Rockport June 3 (TH). Connecticut Warblers on territory included three at Q.P.P., June 13 (DE, SP), four at Lake of the Woods P.P., June 27-29 and one at Sibley P.P., July 2 (PE) while the ardent male at Whity July 23 was out of normal breeding range (DRu). At least 29 Mournings were on territory in Q.P.P., June 13 (DE, SP). A Yellow-breasted Chat was on territory near Erinsville June 12 (RDW), well n. of its range, and Hooded Warbler summered at 2 sites near London (fide WRJ).

BLACKBIRDS — One pair of Bobolinks summered at Long Pt., where the species has not been recorded as breeding (DP). Singing D. W. Meadowlarks were noted at Whity June 26 (MB), at 3 sites in Toronto (AD), 4 locations in Bruce (JJ) and at Arthur (CAC) through the summer. One nest was found at Pickering (GB). Two pairs of Orchard Oriole were confirmed breeding at Long Pt. (fide RS) and another at Winona (RC, VE). Up to five summered at Bowmanville (PB) and the most easterly of numerous sightings was near La Rue M.P. on 8/18 (DAS). A pair of Brewer’s were found at 4 from nests in the 6 breeding locations holding 35 adults on the Bruce pen. (JJ). The Breeding Bird Surveys in the Kingston area showed a significant decline in numbers of Brown-headed Cowbird (KFN).

FINCHES, SPARROWS — A pair of Evening Grosbeaks was feeding three young at Owen Sound in mid-June (PM). The dynamic House Finch continues to consolidate and expand its range. A pair summered e. to Cornwall (fide BM) and the first confirmed nesting for Kent occurred at Rondeau (PAW). Multiple nestings were confirmed in Kingston—five, Hamilton and London—three each, Toronto and St. Catherines—several each, Simcoe, Port Dover and Port Hope. Both species of crossbill appeared in early June. Two and ten White-winged were at Hill I., and Whity June 4 & 6 respectively (BF, DB), and 12 Reds were in Ancaster June 12 (RC). Reds were present in small numbers throughout summer in A.P.P. (RT). Grasshopper Sparrows increased their numbers in the Kitchener-Waterloo area (KWFN) and were in good numbers from St. Catherines to Welland (RWWK). In Kingston, Atlas activity has resulted in the finding of more nests, suggesting a status of fairly common in the downtown (RDW). The story of Henslow’s sparrow is much different and quite discouraging. Only 5 reports were received, one of which noted its absence from Tiny Marsh (CJM). The male seen and heard near Chatsworth vanished in early June (PM) and one singing male was heard at the Luther Marsh (CAC), Amherst I. (RDW), and Cornwall July 2 (BM). Hopefully, the atlas work not yet reported will show additional sites. Two sightings of Sharp-tailed Sparrows were very

Barn Swallow adult feeding young on the M.V. Upper Canada, Lake Erie, Ontario, July 13, 1982, Photo/Marvin S. Smout.
interesting and serve to emphasize their late spring migration. A male was heard and seen at close range at Big marsh, Prince Edward (TS, LL, PT) and the second was at Long Pt., June 16 (PC, DP). A Dark-eyed Junco was out of place at Rondo P. on July 16 (PAW). It is difficult to assess whether the 8 territories reported containing one or more pairs of Clay-colored Sparrow represent continued range expansion. These included sites in Sudbury, Long Pt., Muskoka, Simcoe, Bruce, Prince Edward as well as s.e. of A.P.P. In A.P.P., Field Sparrow fledged young for the park's first confirmed nesting (GH et al.). On June 2 a late White-crowned Sparrow was in Kingston, Bruce, Prince Edward, and even more remarkable was the Snow Bunting, a summer-al.). On June 2 a late White-crowned Sparrow was in Kingston, Bruce, Prince Edward, and even more remarkable was the Snow Bunting, a summer-al.). 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Upland Sandpiper, one of the few regionally breeding shorebirds to receive much attention from observers this summer, was generally well reported. Shorebird movements were, as usual, difficult to follow north into n. and southbound components. For the sake of argument anything seen after mid-June was treated as a nonbreeder or early (southbound) migrant. Best Vermont sightings included 185 Lesser Yellowlegs at Dead Creek W.M.A., July 25 (LN), surely a Vermont High count; a Willet there July 23 (JD) plus a Wilson's Phalarope July 30 (LN); and a White-rumped at Herrick's Cove July 15 (WN). Notables in New York included 12 Whimbrels at Pt. Breeze July 14 plus singles at Braddock Bay June 13 and July 4 & 17 (R A., G.O.S.), three early W. Sandpipers near Rochester July 9, and a misguided Willet (believed to be of the w. race) on a sandbar in the e. branch of the Ausable R., July 7 & 8 (GC et al.). The latter species was also found in early July at Eldorado Shores (GS, fide Q A.S.) where its appearance was less startling. An Am. Avocet and Wilson's Phalarope were found at Carlton Station June 4 (WS et al.) and July 26 (MD, WS) respectively while a N. Phalarope was present on Pt. Breeze June 5 (MD et al.).

GULLS THROUGH WRENS — A laggard Iceland Gull was present in the Rochester area through at least June 23 (sev. ob.), and an ad and two imm. Franklin's Gulls were seen there intermittently through most of June (MD). Two ad. Laughing Gulls on Canadaway Cr., June 2 (B.O.S.) continue a recent pattern of annual regional appearances. Two Caspian Terns, relatively rare in Vermont, spent the fourth of July at Dead Creek W.M.A. (DC, LMC). A single Forster's Tern at Braddock Bay June 25 (MD) was the only sighting for the summer.

Thanks to widespread infestations of gypsy moths and forest tent caterpillars Black-billed Cuckoos were much in evidence. Yellow-billed Cuckoos were relatively scarce, however, perhaps having been shortstopped by caterpillar outbreaks farther s.

Judging from the number of reports received, owls have been virtually eliminated from the Region, or evening television viewing has improved dramatically. Barn Owls, extremely rare in Vermont, were discovered nesting at New Haven (JA). Ruby-throated Hummingbirds were termed very, very common in n. New York (LC).

Experience from breeding bird atlasting in Vermont and New York indicates that pairs can be located almost invariably in the vicinity of sapsucker feeding trees. Red-bellied Woodpeckers maintained their population. The Pt. Breeze pair successfully fledged only one young the fourth of July at Dead Creek W.M.A. (DC, LMC). A single Forster's Tern at Braddock Bay June 25 (MD) was the only sighting for the summer.

THRUSSHS THROUGH WARBLERS — A dramatic increase in Hermit Thrushes noted, at least locally, in the Adirondacks (TS) may reflect recovery at last from depressed population levels of the past several years. The 29 E. Bluebirds found at Avon, N.Y. (CC et al.) and 27 nestings (with at least 77 fledglings) documented in Allegany County (VP) give some indication of how well this species has responded to nest box projects throughout the Region. Unfortunately little hope remains for the Region's diminutive Loggerhead Shrike population. The Pt. Breeze pair successfully fledged only one young (5-6 eggs constitute a normal clutch) and a single bird at Dead Creek W M A. (LN) was Vermont's first in 2 years.

New York atlassers found a White-eyed Vireo in s.e. Hamilton County (H.R.A.S.) and two were discovered near Allegany Res (RAS et al.). Worm-eating Warblers were unreported and Prothonotary Warblers were found at only 3 sites. The latter were, however, confirmed breeding at Delta R. (DC, RK, m.ob.), a new nesting site for New York.

Extensive field work in Otsego County confirmed earlier convictions frequently stated in this summary in the past: Blue-winged Warblers (and hybrids) have virtually supplanted Golden-winged Warblers from this portion of their breeding range. Golden-winged Warblers are still frequently reported in the Region and Golden-winged type songs were frequently heard in Otsego County. In all instances but two, however, the latter birds proved to be "Brewster's" or "Lawrence's" (or intergrades). Consequently, observers are requested to note, in future reports to the editors, whether or not "winged warblers" were identified to "species" by sight or sound.

Vermont's colony of Cerulean Warblers continues to hold its own at Sandbar W.M.A. Reports of Prairie Warblers continue to increase in New York, probably as a result of the better coverage of the atlas project. A Kentucky Warbler at Hamlin S.P., June 3 (WS) was the only southern warbler to be spotted within our borders.

ICTERIDS THROUGH SPARROWS — A decline in E. Meadowlarks in n. New York (LC) may be another consequence of last April's blizzard. The Pt. Breeze W. Meadowlark remained through the summer (m.ob.) and one was discovered on territory at the Chautauqua County airport (RAS, fide VP). Orchard Orioles seem to be increasing slightly in c. and w. New York. An "orange variant" Scarlet Tanager was noted June 4 in Ferrisburg, Vt. Observers should be aware that a wide variety of plumage aberrations including brightly colored wingbars and yellow-orange patches occur in this species leading to frequent misidentification as W. Tanagers.

Pine Siskins lingered (and breeding was suspected) at many localities into the summer. It would be interesting (though probably impossible) to document the influence of feeders on this species' breeding distribution. Given the dearth of adequately documented records, attempts should always be made to confirm suspected nesting. Only 3 localities reported Henslow's Sparrows and Grasshopper Sparrows were only slightly more numerous although 14+ at Avon (CC et al.) were encouraging. In July two Clay-colored Sparrows were found at a historic nesting site near Alfred (EB) and singles were singing near Redfield (FS) and at the Dunkirk-Fredonia airport (m.ob., fide VP).

Correction: The Monk Parakeet referred to in recent seasonal summaries was in Elmira Heights, not Ithaca.

The Great Blue Heron continues to do well as a nesting species. A new heronry of 40 nests was found near Lander, Pa. (WH), nesting was observed near Leeper, Clarion Co., Pa. (LC) and a colony of 44 nests was found in Clinton County, Pa. (PS). There were too many late July reports of Great Egret to detail separately, but the record July 31 at Erie N.W.R., Pa. (JH), was noteworthy (RFL). Unusual shorebird records were Snowy Egret, Elizabethton, Tenn., June 1 (GW); Little Blue Heron, Salem, Va., July 7 (NM), Louisiana Heron, Roanoke, Va., June 25 (TK) and Cattle Egret, Wooster, O., June 14 (JBr). Yellow-crowned Night Herons nested near Salem, Va. (NM & MP), and near Elizabethton, Tenn. (GE).

WATERFOWL — The Canada Goose had a good breeding season in Crawford County, Pa. (RFL) and introductions by state game agencies have now brought breeding populations of the species to many parts of the Region. This species should almost be considered as semi-domestic. Wood Ducks had a banner nesting season throughout the Region. Common Mergansers nested in Warren County, Pa. (WH), and Hooded Mergansers nested at Erie N.W.R., Pa. (RFL).

There were many reports of out-of-season waterfowl. Whistling Swans were reported from Potter County, Pa., July 20 (DB) and from near State College, Pa., July 25 (CS)—possibly the same individual. A Lesser Scap was at Kingston, Tenn., July 2-3+ (MA) and a Buffalohead apparently spent the whole summer at Wilber L., Tenn. (RFL). Common Mergansers were near Rensselaer, Pa. in late June (RFL & DB), and at Cross Fork, Pa., June 9 (PS), while one or two Red-breasted Mergansers stayed at Presque Isle S.P., Pa. (hereafter, P.I.S.P.—JIM).

RAPTORS — Turkey Vultures are increasing to the n., being present all summer at Leeper, Pa. (LC), but at Lewisburg, W. Va., they were in below-average numbers (CH). Summer records for the Sharp-shinned Hawk came from Leeper, Pa. (LC), Sheffield, Pa. (JD), Warren, Pa. (TG), Wytheville, Va. (TF), Allegany County, Va. (RP) and Watauga County, N.C. (CH). Cooper’s Hawk was increasing in the Ligonier Valley, Pa. (RCL), but there were no nesting reports of the Pantanal Hawk, which had been breeding in increasing numbers in this Region. There were very mixed reports of Red-tailed and Red-shouldered hawks as well as Am. Kestrels. The Bald Eagle was reported more commonly than usual in the summer. As reported earlier the Pymatuning L. eagles raised four young (RFL) and the pair nesting in West Virginia’s South Branch Valley for the second year had two well-grown in the nest in mid-June (B.B.C.F.). Other reports came from Bald Eagle S.P., Pa., June 4 & 20 (two different marked immatures—MW), Kinzua Res., Pa., July 14 (CP), Butler County, Pa., June 14 (RBy), Stuart’s Draft, Va., June 14 (THu), an injured immature in Botetourt County, Va. (BO), and 4 reports of immatures in various lakes near Knoxville (CN). There were no summer reports of Golden Eagles this year. Immatures were seen on June 12 at Edinboro, Pa., and Albion, Pa. (RFL & ML). The raptor records of the season were of a Mississippi Kite seen in Bath County, Va., June 9 (BK et al) followed by one seen in Augusta County, Va., from the Blue Ridge Parkway June 13 (RA).

GALLINACEOUS BIRDS — The Bobwhite was doing well in the e. part of the Region, but in n. West Virginia it was still very low. Introduced Turkeys were doing well near Wooster, O. (JBr).

SHOREBIRDS — A few shorebirds were still present in early June and the first southbound migrants appeared in mid-to-late July. There were few unusual species reported and by the end of the period the general migration had been rather on the light side. A Piping Plover was seen at P.I.S.P., July 20 (PH). Ruddy Turnstones were at P.I.S.P., June 3 (RW), and Sayers Dam, Pa., June 2 (MW) and then later at P.I.S.P., in late July (JM). Sanderling were at P.I.S.P., June 3 (50—MW), Saltville, Va., July 31 (first local record—TF) and Kings ton, Va., July 31 (2nd record—TF). Other notable shorebird detections were: Short-billed Dowitchers at Erie N.W.R., Pa., July 28 (RFL), Saltville, Va., July 31 (TF) and Roanoke, Va., July 10-31 (BK et al.); W. Sandpiper, P.I.S.P., July 17 (JM) & July 20 (PH); White-rumped Sandpiper, P.I.S.P., June 3 (RW); Baird’s Sandpiper, Roanoke July 31 (MP); Stilt Sandpiper, Saltville, Va., July 31 (2nd local record—TF) and Stokes County July 30 (MP), and Kingston, Tenn., July 22 & 23 (MA); and Wilson’s Phalarope, P.I.S.P., July 31 (JH).

 broods of the periodical cicada held forth in southwest Pennsylvania, eastern Ohio and most of West Virginia until late June. These did supply an abundance of nesting food for those species able to utilize them. East in Pennsylvania the gypsy moth outbreak continues to play havoc with the vegetation, although defoliation was perhaps not as complete as last year. On the other hand the tent caterpillar infestation present in part of the Region in recent years has abated, as complete as last year. On the other hand the tent caterpillar infestation present in part of the Region in recent years has abated, as complete as last year. On the other hand the tent caterpillar infestation present in part of the Region in recent years has abated, as complete as last year. On the other hand the tent caterpillar infestation present in part of the Region in recent years has abated, as complete as last year.
GULLS AND TERNs — A Herring Gull at Princeton, W Va., June 29 was most unusual (JP), but an ad. Laughing Gull at P.I.S.P., June 20 & July 19 (JM, PH), was even more so. Bonaparte’s Gulls were seen in Huntingdon County, Pa. Ring-billed Gulls are now apparently resident at Bald Eagle S.P., Pa. (PS). Any summer tern report away from L. Erie is unusual. This summer there were 12 Com. Terns in Allegheny County, Pa., June 5 (DS), Caspian Terns at State College, Pa., June 12 (CHa), and Kingston, Tenn., July 20 (MA), and Forster’s Terns at Sayers Dam, Pa., in early June (DB), P.I.S.P., July 10 (JBa), and Saltville, Va., July 31 (TF).

DOVES THROUGH GOATSSUCKERS — The Mourning Dove continues to increase in population almost everywhere. Yellow-billed Cuckoos were in good numbers in the n.e. where the gypsy moth outbreak has been heavier elsewhere. Numbers were low and Black-billed Cuckoos were scarce everywhere. A Barn Owl nested near Rote, Pa. (CHa), and three successful and one unsuccessful nestings were reported from Rockingham County, Va. (R.B.C.). Barn Owls were thought to be increasing there and in the Elizabethton, Tenn. region (GE). There were two sightings from w. Pennsylvania, Armstrong County June 6 (RH) and Allegheny County July 23 (DF). A Long-eared Owl in Butler County, Pa., July 25 (DF) was noteworthy. In a census of Saw-whet Owls along a North Carolina section of the Blue Ridge Parkway conducted Mar. 15 to mid-May up to six individuals were seen or heard (RY).

Of major interest in recent years has been the N expansion of the Chuck-will’s-widow. It is now regular in Botetourt County, Va. (BK), several have been heard in the Lyndhurst-Stuart’s Draft area of Augusta County, Va. (RS); one was heard in Berkeley County, W Va., where it had occurred last year (BD); and several were heard in the South Branch of the Potomac Valley near Romney, W.Va. (B B C.F.).

WOODPECKERS, FLYCATCHERS AND SWALLOWS — In w Pennsylvania and n. West Virginia Com. Flickers were unusually scarce. Did they suffer heavy mortality when the freezing weather extended S in the wintering grounds? The expansion N of the Red-bellied Woodpecker seems to have leveled off, with no reports from Crawford County, Pa. (RFL) but it was present again in Allegheny County, Pa. (PH). Nesting numbers of Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers at Crawford County, Pa., June 12 (RFL) (late stragglers)? The E. Wood Pewee was in good numbers in the neighborhood of Kinzua Dam, Pa. Swallows are doing well in the neighborhood of Kinzua Dam, Pa.

THRUSHES, KINGLETS AND SHRIKES — Hermit Thrushes were in above-normal numbers in the West Virginia spruce belt (GAH), and on Laurel Summit Glade, Pa. (RCL). Out-of-normal range records came from Powdermill Nature Reserve, Pa., at 1700 ft (RCL), Black Moshannon S.P., Pa., June 26 (RW), and Shenandoah Mt., Va., July 19 (LT). They did not return this year to the Mohican Gorge, O., where they summered last year (JBr). A Gray-cheeked Thrush singing in late June at State College, Pa., was another late straggler (HH). The several bluebird nesting box projects in this area all showed very fine nesting success for the E. Bluebird. One reporter (TD) commented on there being more bluebirds to be seen along roads now since most of the box projects are along roads. This reporter also noted that some persons were plugging up natural cavities so that the bluebirds would use their boxes, certainly an action to be deplored.

A Golden-crowned Kinglet nest on Roan Mt., Tenn., was apparently only the second for the Tennessee-North Carolina region (RKL). Kinglets were also found at State College, Pa. (HH) and Washington County, Pa. (R & MH), both locations out of the normal range.

Loggerhead Shrikes nested at Athens, W Va. (JP), but the only other reports came from the Great Valley, from Washington County, Md. (T & LD), Rockingham County, Va. (R.B.C.), Saltville, Va. (TF), Rockbridge County, Va. (nested—RP). There were 3-5 reports from the Elizabethton, Tenn. area (GE) and 3 from the Knoxville area (CN).

VIREOS AND WARBLERS — The White-eyed Vireo expansion N continues and it was the “best year ever” at P.N.R. (RCL). Yellow-throated Vireo is in a serious decline in this Region, and there were few reports.

Do early June dates for warblers represent possible range expansions or are they simply late stragglers? Similarly do late July records represent summering birds or early migrants? The Yellow-throated Warbler continues its range expansion N and there are numerous records in w. Pennsylvania (PH). Prairie Warblers were found in more locations than usual in the Lock Haven, Pa. area (PS). A family group of Pine Warblers was found at Laurel Glade Summit, Pa. (RCL), RM, a new bird for the area. A Kentucky Warbler, unusual so far n., was seen in Crawford County, Pa., July 5 (RFL &ML).

There were no reports of northern species moving S. There is now a good population of Yellow-rumped Warblers on Spruce Knob, W Va., where they were unknown until last year (GAH). Northern Waterthrushes were present in Morgan County, W Va., in June (BD) and at Bluestone S.P., W Va. (JP) which places well out of the normal breeding territory. However, it is likely that records from Allegheny County July 24 (DF), and Powdermill Nature Reserve, Pa., July 23 (RCL) were migrants of this early migrating species and this may also have been true for Bath County, Va. records July 12 & 13, although the birds were reported to have been there last year at the same time (R.B.C.). The Northern Parula was a new addition to the summer birds in the Mohican Gorge, O. (JBr). Golden-winged Warblers nested on Roan Mt., Tenn. (GE) and Canada Warblers were seen on Big South Fork Mt., Tenn., and in the Tennessee River gorge. The Kentucky Warbler in Allegheny County, Pa., July 25 (DF) was an extremely early migrant, but what can be made of the singing 3 Bay-breasted Warbler present for several days in the spruce belt of West Virginia in mid-June?

CORVIDS THROUGH WRENS — The Corn. Raven continues to do well to the n. and it was reported from Big Black Mt., Ky., July 3 (LR) Fish Crows which have been sparingly reported farther and farther to the N., in recent years. Were found in the South Branch Valley this June (B.B.C.F.) and were seen at Bald Eagle S.P., Pa., June 12 (CHa). Many of the Red-breasted Nuthatches that had been so common in the winter lingered into early June but records at Leeper, Pa., July 4-5 (LC), State College, Pa. (HH), Mohican S.F., O., June 24 (JBr) and Big Black Mt., Ky., July 3 (LR) indicate possible out-of-range nesting. Brown Creepers are more prone to do this, and a nesting along the Potomac R., in Washington County, Md. (T & LD), while interesting, was not the first for that valley.

The winter Wren did not return to the Mohican Gorge, O., this year (JBr), but one was heard singing at an elevation of 2300 ft, near Blacksburg, Va. (TF). Winter Wrens were quite common in the Cheat Mts. of West Virginia but seemed well below normal on nearby Spruce Mt., at the same elevation (GAH). The reports of Carolina Wrens were mixed, with good comeback at places, but still uncommon at others.

THE WINTER BIRD CONVENTION will be held at the National University, Washington, D.C., Dec. 28-30, 1977. All papers published in this year’s Wilson Bulletin will be available at the meeting. The program will be planned and the arrangements made at a meeting of the Convention Committee, which will be held in early November. Any members interested in participating in this meeting should contact either the Chairman or the Executive Secretary of the Convention Committee. The Chairman is Dr. Jonathan M. Lavan, New York Zoological Society, 2300 New York Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20008, and the Executive Secretary is Dr. Venanzio Rocchi, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. 20560.
a "Brewster's" Warbler at North Park June 12 (DF). The "Sutton's" Warbler reported at Pine Grove Furnace S.P., Pa., in the spring report, turned out to be as mysterious as have been most recent reports of this form. The bird sang the songs of both the Yellow-throated Warbler and the N. Parula and combinations of both. The plumage seemed almost identical with a Yellow-throated but descriptions differed. The bird, which usually stayed too high in the pines to be seen well, was present through June and July (SS). There is much resemblance between this report and one from Raleigh County, W. Va. several years ago.

FRINGILLIDAE — Rose-breasted Grosbeaks nested at Pine Grove Mills, Pa. (KK) and they were present all summer at Clarksville, Pa. (RB), both places out of the usual range. One was also seen at Knoxville June 22 (BL). A Blue Grosbeak was seen in Mason County, W. Va., July 17 (GB), and there were 8 locations for this species in the South Branch Valley near Romney, W. Va. (B.B.C.F.). Other records came from Washington County, Md. (I & LD), Waynesboro, Va. (RS) and Asheville, N.C., July 30 (RY). Two pairs of Dickcissels were reported from Holmes County, O., through June (DK).

Pine Siskins remained at scattered places all through the summer. Young birds were seen in Allegheny County, Pa. (DP) and adults feeding young were in Great Smoky Mountains N.P. (A & Rh). An Evening Grosbeak remained at State College, Pa., until June 8 (DB), but two at Lewisburg, W. Va., July 4 (CH) were noteworthy. Besides the nesting area on Shenandoah Mt., Va., Red Crossbills were reported from 2 locations near Blacksburg, Va., July 17 (TF & CK), and from Botetourt County, Va. (first summer record—BK). House Finches nested for the first time (known) at Dalton, Ga. (AH), and have now become quite common almost everywhere.

Most remarkable was the belated but convincing report of a Lark Bunting near Tallulah Falls, Ga., May 28 (HM). Henslow's Sparrow seems to have started an upswing after having been nearly absent from the Region for several years, and there were reports of some good sized colonies at several places. The Grasshopper Sparrow also is doing somewhat better. Dark-eyed Juncos were at Pittsboro, Pa., July 11 and represent a slight range extension (RFL). Bachman's Sparrow had not been reported from this Region for many years, so a record on a Breeding Bird Survey Route in Chatooga County, Ga., was most encouraging. Lark Sparrows have also been nearly absent as breeding birds, but the B.B.C.F. turned up 2 locations in Hampshire County, W. Va. Another puzzling species was the White-throated Sparrow seen at Black Moshannon S.P., Pa., July 3 (HH) and near Elizabeth Township, Centre County, Pa. July 18 (GE). Finally, as one last example of a puzzling record, what are we to make of a Fox Sparrow in the Centre County, Pa. barrens Aug. 1 (KJ)?

CONTRIBUTORS — Robert Ake (RA), Richard Almy, Marc Armstrong, Jim Barker (JBA), Jim Baxter (JB), Ralph Bell (RB), Chuck Bernstein, Dorothy Bordner, George Breiding, Brooks Bird Club Foray, Jim Bruce (JBr), Richard Byers (RBy), Lois Callahan, Bob Dean, Martha Dillenbeck, John Dorio, Leontine Doyle, Truman Doyle, Glen Eller, Tad Fennell, David Freeland, Alice Fuller, Norris Gluck, Ted Grize, Tom Haggerty (TH), Anne Hamilton (AH), Charles Handley (CH), Cecil Hazlett (Ch), Harry Henderson, Mozelle Henkel (MHe), Paul Hess, Margaret Higbee (MH), Roger Higbee (RHi), William Hightower, Audrey Hoff (AhO), Ron Hoff (RhO), Joyce Hoffman (JH), Joe Howell (JH), Ted Hughes (Thu), Roger Hummel (RH), Katherine Jones, Mark Kalbach, Daniel Kears, Clyde Kessler, Barry Kinzie, Rick Knight, D. Kline (DK), Tom Koella (Tko), Tom Krakauer (TK), Beth Lacy, Nevada Laitisch, Mary Leberman, Robert C. Leberman (RCL), Ronald F. Leberman (RFL), Richard Lewis, Hue MacKenzie, Jerry W. Walliams (JM), Norwood Middleton, Robert Mulvihill, John Murray, Charles Nicholas, Bill Opgenorth, Robert Paxton, Jim Phillips, Mike Purdy, Chase Putnam, Lene Rauth, Rockingham Bird Club, Conrad Schmidt, Paul Schwabale (PS), Paul Shoepman, Dennis Smeltzer, Ruth Snyder, Stanley Stahl, Anne Stamm, Leonard Teuber, Gary Wallace, Rick Wiltrout, Cora Williams, William Young—GEORGE A. HALL, Division of Forestry (Mail Address: Department of Chemistry), West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV 26506.

WESTERN GREAT LAKES REGION
/Daryl D. Tessen

June was characterized by unusually cool and wet weather. Frost was still occurring in the northern areas during the early part of the month. July proved to be mainly hot, humid and wet. Frequent temperatures in the mid-90's - low 100's were recorded, often accompanied with 70%-90% humidity. Heavy rains laced the Region, but usually proved very localized. One day totals of 2-4 inches were frequent with several 6-10 inch rainfalls also recorded. Only extreme northwestern and to a lesser extent western Wisconsin and southeastern and west-central Minnesota had below-normal precipitation. Despite the late, cool spring and cooler-than-normal June, the nesting season, generally was considered to be very successful. After the outstanding spring migration, this summer, as expected, paled in comparison. In fact many observers commented on the season's quietness. However as readers digest the following summary they may be surprised at the number of outstanding finds. Contesting for top honors were the Snowy Plover, Chuck-will's-widow, Great-tailed Grackle and McCown's Longspur in Minnesota, the Ruff, Black-headed Gull, Arctic Tern and Scissor-tailed Flycatcher in Michigan, and the Swallow-tailed Kite, Great Black-bucked Gull, Arctic and Least terns and Baird's Sparrow in Wisconsin. [In the text below italicized names are counties.]

LOONS THROUGH IBISES — Wandering Com. Loons included one June 26 at L. Geneva, Minn. (KL) and another July 25 at LaCrosse, Wis. (FL). A breeding-plumaged Arctic Loon that appeared at Upper Rice L., Minn. June 5 represented only the third summer and ninth state record (BF et al.). A family group of Red-necked Grebes on Oak Glen L., July 10 was farther s. than normal in Wisconsin (RJ). Wisconsin's breeding Red-necked Grebes included the usual sites of Oakridge L., several pairs (JE), Rush L., where Ziebell's count tallied 48 birds and 40 eggs June 11, Grassy L. (one pair) and a new nesting site at Grand River Marsh, where two nesting pairs were discovered by Idzikowski. The Eared Grebe that appeared at Wisconsin's Goose Pond during May was joined by another, both remaining until mid-June (m.ob.). Possibly one of these was the individual seen at Rush L., by Ziebell June 17. Minnesota's L. Geneva had two June 26 & July 10 (KL, RJ). While Grebes were found farther e. in Minnesota than normal, i.e., 12 at 4 s. locations, numbers were down at Agassiz N.W.R., a favorite nesting site. One was present June 11-17 at Rush L., Wis. (TZ). White Pelican numbers were up in s. and w. Minnesota, with many nonbreeding flocks noted. The phenomenal nesting expansion of the Double-crested Cormorant in Wisconsin continued unabated this summer. A Green Heron seen June 29 in Lake was the first found n.e. of Duluth (KL) and the only Little Blue Herons in the Region were found in Minnesota. An adult
was at Moorhead June 7 (KE) and several pairs nested at Big Stone N.W. River, Minn. Cattle Egrets were also found in 3 locales, including Muskegon S.P. (SM), St. Joseph and LaPorte June 29 (JP, FL). An American Avocet was also at Manitowoc June 17 (CS). Two N. American Gulls were found at Manitowoc S.P., an Am. Avocet accompanying two Willets July 29 (CS), an Am. Avocet found in 20 birds at Port Washington, and an Am. Avocet in 14 pairs at Big Stone N.W.R. (JM). The latter furnished the farthest n.w. state record. Michigan's Caribbean Coot successfully nested with an Am. Coot at Big Stone N.W.R. (JM). The latter supplied the farthest n.w. state record.

HAWKS — The Swallow-tailed Kite discovered at May's conclusion in Oconomowoc, Wis., was seen intermittently during the first week of June when it then disappeared (RS et al.). Out-of-range Sharp-shinned Hawks in Michigan included single birds at Lexington June 19 (DM) and Lakeport S.P., July 18 (HD). Unusual was Blanu's observation of a Cooper's Hawk taking a bath in the lake in front of our house in Menomonee Falls, a sighting of a Red-shouldered Hawk far n., near Bagley June 21 (AB). Late migrants included eight Rough-legged Hawks at W.P.B.O., June 1 (DE) and one in Jackson, Wis., June 5 (DT), with a Peregrine Falcon June 6 in Dakota, Minn. (JD). An early migrant was a July 3 Merlin at Knife River, Minn. (KE). Encouraging news about the Bald Eagle came from the w. U.S., with many nests being reported by the A.O.W. Marsh Hawk numbers were up in n. Wisconsin. A late-wandering Osprey was seen June 8 at Rush L. (TZ). Of special interest was a renewed attempt to re-establish the Peregrine Falcon along the Mississippi R. bluffs of Minnesota-Wisconsin. Five birds were released along the bluffs this summer. Hopefully better success will be attained this year than the six unsuccessfully released during the summers of 1976-77.

GROUSE THROUGH RAILS — Spruce Grouse were seen in Forest, Wis. (DT). The Ruffed Grouse continues regionwide at a low point in its 10-year cycle. In n. and n.e. Minnesota the Greater Prairie Chicken continues to spread into marginal habitat. While Sharp-tailed Grouse numbers were down in n.w. Wisconsin, Minnesota's Bobwhite population continues at a very low level as evidenced by the few summer sightings. The King Rail was found only in Wisconsin with birds at Mud Lake W.A., Horicon N.W.R., and Muskegon N.W.R. Wigeon numbers were above average numbers in most of Michigan, in n.w. Minnesota and many Wisconsin sites. The one major exception was in the W. Upper Peninsula (hereafter, U.P.). A Glossy Ibises was observed June 17-18 by the Horicon N.W.R. staff. One was seen June 26 at Pt. Mouillee (EO).
observers. A June 30 Semipalmated Plover at Lake of the Woods (TW) was probably an unusually early fall migrant. Wiens’ D.N.R. study of the Piping Plover on Pine and Curry Is., tallied 40 birds and 24 nests with half successfully hatching. Failures were caused by storms, waves or avian predators—gulls and crows, not by humans. Wiens had a Black-bellied Plover at this locale June 30 and July 27. Encouraging is the report that Upland Sandpiper numbers were up in the state. A pair of Solitary Sandpipers with a chick in late June off the Lima Mountain Rd., near the Gunflint Trail represented only the second Minnesota nesting record (K & MH). Another Solitary and a Lesser Yellowlegs were found June 20 at Marshall, probably representing wanderers (HK). One Willet was in Martin June 20 (RJ). A Red Knot and Buff-breasted Sandpiper were seen July 24 in Polk (S & DL). Wiens had Sanderlings in Lake of the Woods June 25 and July 10. Marbled Godwit numbers were down in the n.w. region. A Hudsonian Godwit was seen June 5 at Duluth (KE). A family of Am. Avocets (one adult, two young) July 18 at E. Grand Forks (S & DL) represented one of the state’s few nesting records.

**JAEGERS THROUGH TERNs** — An ad. Parasitic Jaeger at Milwaukee’s Coast Guard Impoundment July 19 represented only the second summer record. Watched by Cowart, it was initially seen being harassed by three Caspian Terns. It later returned, slowly circling over the area, affording Cowart an excellent study. Glaucous Gulls summered at Manitowoc (CS), with one in Milwaukee July 30 (DG). Most unexpected were 1-2 immature Great Black-backed Gulls seen intermittently between June 18-July 10 at Manitowoc-Two Rivers (m.o.b.). They were photographed June 19 by Steffen. Exceptional was the sighting of a Black-headed Gull at W.P.B.O., Mich., June 4 (DE). A Laughing Gull was found during mid-June at St. Joseph (WB) and July 24-31 at New Buffalo (RS, WB, LS). The Franklin’s Gull has been absent/scare during the past summers at Agassiz N.W.R., Minn., so the estimated 50,000 pairs nesting this summer was most encouraging (AC). In Wisconsin two were at Monroe June 12 (EE), at LaCrosse 1-3 June 8 & 29 (FL) and at Manitowoc it was present during June with a maximum of 20 on June 16 (DT, SR). Minnesota had many reports of nonbreeding Bonaparte’s Gulls during the summer. Little Gulls were again at Two Rivers with a maximum of three. No nesting could be found. As usual during July birds commenced appearing at Milwaukee’s Coast Guard Impoundment, with a maximum of five. Carefully studied Arctic Terns were seen at Pt. Mouillee, Mich., July 5 (RA, TS) and in Wisconsin at Ashland July 21 (DV) and Manitowoc July 25 (CS). Only the fifth Wisconsin record for the Least Tern occurred with the discovery of one by Woodmansee at Milwaukee July 8. It was also located the following day until in the evening it flew N along the lakeshore (MB, JF, BC, MD). Minnesota had many sightings of nonbreeding Caspian Terns with the Black Tern encouragingly reported up in numbers.

**CUCKOOS THROUGH OWLS** — Again this summer numbers for both cuckoo species were unusually low throughout the Region. The Grantsburg, Wis., Great Gray Owl that was discovered in late May was seen until early July (JH, DF). Another was seen by Klugow in Douglas. There were additional unconfirmed Wisconsin reports. A Boreal Owl was heard July 1 in s. Itasca, Minn. (RJ, RG). This site is 150 mi. s. of where it nested in Cook. When a tree was cut down near Pembine, Mich. four young Saw-whet Owls were discovered in the nest hole (PK).

**GOATSUCKERS THROUGH STARLINGS** — Minnesota had its first Chuck-will’s widow with one calling in June at the Gunderson residence in c. Sherburne. It was heard by many and also taped. Interestingly this species was heard by the Gundersons during June, 1981 but they did not know its identity. In Michigan it was found June 1 in Kalamazoo (RA, DP) as usual. Minnesota had two out-of-range woodpeckers. A Red-headed’s nest was found near Isabella (SW & MS) and Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers were in Mower (RJ) and Lyon (EB). Black-backed Three-toed Woodpeckers nested in all 3 states. At least 4 nests were found in Cass Co. Leach in. Wisconsin had sightings in Ashland, Vilas, Oneida and Forest, with nesting confirmed in at least 2 of these. For Michigan a pair nested in Luce. A pair of N. Three-toed Woodpeckers was seen July 11-21 in Cook near last year’s nesting site (K & MH). However no nest could be located this year. Michigan also had one additional sighting July 3 in Lake (fide SM & MS). Wisconsin reportedly had one at Fuller’s feeder July 5 in Polk. Wisconsin had late migrating W. Kingbirds in Ashland June 4 (ECz) and Richland June 6 (BD). One was near Duluth June 12 (RJ). An ad. Scissor-tailed Flycatcher was seen flying near Ann Arbor by Kiels July 17. The Black-billed Magpie continues to increase in n.w. Minnesota. Red-breasted Nuthatches summered in Milwaukee (WW). No Carolina Wrens were reported in the Region! Michigan had 6 different observations of Mockingbirds including successful nesting in Traverse City (FKc). Wisconsin commented on decreased numbers of Gray Catbirds and Brown Thrashers. A similar situation for the latter species was noted in the Detroit area. The Wood Thrush is believed to be spreading into the n.e. portion. A Swainson’s Thrush in July 26 (MP) was early. Encouraging was the increased numbers of E. Bluebirds found for the second consecutive year in Minnesota. A tardy Water Pipit was at W.P.B.O., June 8 (DE). Most encouraging was the Loggerhead Shrike picture in the Region. Michigan had six fledged in Allegan S. Game Area (TS), with a single singing in Delta (CT). There were three breeding pairs in Wisconsin, including Fish Lake W.A. (JF), Eau Claire (four fledged—JP), and Neikimi (two fledged, fide TZ). Additional sightings included Oneida (P & LE), Douglas (three—RJo), Door (R & CL), and Albion (MD). Numbers were markedly up in Minnesota with 13 (!) reports from the s. and w. areas.

**VIREOS THROUGH WARBLERS** — In Michigan White-eyed Vireos nested at the Port Huron Game Area (AC) and Metrobeach (RL). Additional sightings included two until mid-July at Niles (RS, TW) and singles at New Buffalo (WB) and Kalamazoo (RB) during early-mid-June. In Wisconsin it was found during June at Cadiz Springs S.P. (MP, RH) and at Madison’s Arboretum (ST, DC). While Wisconsin observers commented on the difficulty in locating Bell’s Vireos, sightings still came from 6 different locales. A Solitary Vireo summered in Kellogg Forest, Mich. (RA). Minnesota found both the Red-eyed and Warbling vireo numbers down while Wisconsin made similar comments for the latter species. Minnesota Warblers were found to be quite numerous along the Wisconsin side of the St. Croix R. on a June B.B.S. (JHU). This is at the n. edge of its range. In Michigan’s Ottawa Marsh 67 singing males were counted (BM, DVa). Nesting Worm-eating Warblers were again found in Wisconsin’s Sauk. Tardy Tennessee Warblers were found in Chio, Mich.. June 6 (JHU) and Appleton, Wis., June 17 (SR). Fall migrants were found in Eau Claire July 22 (JP) and Appleton July 26 (DT). South of its normal range was a Nashville Warbler June 27-July 4 at Afton S.P., Minn. (DZ). A tardy N. Parula was found at Milwaukee’s Schlitz Aud. Center June 13 (MB, WW) with an early fall migrant at Berrien Springs, Mich., July 18-20 (LC). Late Magnolias and Black-throated Green warblers were also seen at the Schlitz Center, the former June 10-14 and the latter June 13 (MB, WW). Magnolias nested for the first time at the Port Huron Game Area (AC). Two Yellow-rumped Warblers were seen in Manitowoc June 14 (CS). Exceptionally far n. was a Cerulean Warbler July 14 in Vilas, Wis. (J & SB). A Yellow-throated Warbler nest was found June 29 in the Port Huron Game Area (JBE, ECa, AC, PY). One was present until July 18 in Berrien (TW). A late Bay-breasted Warbler was in Lake, Mich., June 8 (LC). A breeding-plumaged 3 Blackpoll Warbler was also found in Michigan July 20 in Otsego (DMc). Michigan’s D.N.R. survey of the Kirtland’s Warbler censused 200 singing males this summer, down from the 232 in 1981.

Prairie Warblers were found in Michigan with single birds June 15 in Jackson (AC), June 19 and July 17 in Kalamazoo (CB). The Louisiana Waterthrush continues scarce in Minnesota with only 3 early June reports in Washington and Chisago, along the St. Croix R. The Kentucky Warbler was found in one Michigan and 4 Wisconsin
The House Finch continues its expansion in s.e. Michigan. In Oak-Baird’s Sparrow when one was discovered by Brouchoud June 16 in July 4 in Yellow Medicine (KL). Wisconsin had its first documented Prairie (KE) and a female at Moorhead (L & CF). A male was seen Buntings were sighted June 7 in Minnesota—a male on the Felton Green Bay and Manitowoc. White-winged Crossbills coming to Boot-Pine Grosbeak June 21 in Barry, Mich. (HB). Pine Siskins nested at tions, with single nests located in Oakland and Detroit. Unusual was a unbanded. Adults feeding young were observed at 6 different sta-

tions near Burnsville by Egeland June 19. This represented Minnesota’s first record. Dickcissels proved very scarce throughout the Region. One of the finds this summer was an ad. c Great-tailed Grackle seen near Burnsville by Egeland June 19. This represented Minnesota’s first record. Dickcissels proved very scarce throughout the Region. The House Finch continues its expansion in s.e. Michigan. In Oak-Wayne and Macomb 27 were banded with an additional 28 unbanded. Adults feeding young were observed at 6 different sta-
tions, with single nests located in Oakland and Detroit. Unusual was a Pine Grosbeak June 21 in Barry, Mich. (HB). Pine Siskins nested at Green Bay and Manitowoc. White-winged Crossbills coming to Bont-
ly’s feeder in Milwaukee until June 9 were unusual. Two Lark Buntings were sighted June 7 in Minnesota—a male on the Felton Prairie (KE) and a female at Moorhead (L. & CF). A male was seen July 4 in Yellow Medicine (KL). Wisconsin had its first documented Baird’s Sparrow when one was discovered by Brouchoud June 16 in Manitowoc. A wave of Wisconsin birders saw the cooperative bird in the ensuing days during which time it was photographed and banded. It remained until late July. For the third consecutive summer, Hens-low’s Sparrows were found in n.w. Minnesota, 300 mi away from the traditional s.e. range. More Sharp-tailed Sparrow reports occurred in n.w. and n.c. Minnesota, with the species possibly being more widespread than originally believed. One was at W.P.B.O., June 4 (DE). The tardy Tree Sparrow at Ashland was seen June 7 (LL). A White-crowned Sparrow in Kent, Mich., June 14-21 was banded (A & MH). Last and certainly not least was the discovery of a breeding-plumaged McCown’s Longspur by Brown (BBr) and Ware at Grand Marais June 11. It was seen and photographed by 20 additional birders that day but could not be relocated the following day. This represents Minnesota’s first 20th century record. CONTRIBUTORS — Ray Adams, Ellen & Steve Alkema, Joan Bartell (JBa), H. Batts, Jeff & Scott Baughman, Craig Bennett, Jo Blanich, Al Bolduc, Marilyn Bontly, Walter Booth, Bill Bouton, John & Susan Braastad, Ed Brekke-Kramer, Richard Brewer, B. Brown (BBr), Jeff Buecking (JBu), Elizabeth Campbell, E. Carhart (ECa), David Cedarstrom, A. Chartier, Ed Cleary (ECI), Brother Columban (BCo), Bill Cowart, Ellie Cox (ECo), Linda Cox, Ed Czapeta (ECz), H. Davidson, Joanne Dempsey, Mary Donald, Barbara Duerson, Kim Eckert (Mina.), P. Egeland, Paul & Louise Engberg, Eric Epstein, Jim Evard, David Ewert, Lawrence & Carol Falk, B. Fall, Don Follen, Jim Frank, John Frenz (JFr), Pepper Fuller, R. Glassel, Mr. & Mrs. Gunderson, Dennis Gustafson, James Hoeffer, Ken & Molly Hoffman, Randy Hoffman, Alex & Mabel Hook, Horicon N.W.R. staff, Joe Hudick (JHu), John Idzikowski, Robert Janssen, Robbye Johnson (RJo), Frank Kangas, Alice Kelley, Ford Kellum (FKKe), M. Kielb, Bernie Klugow, Henry Kyllingstad, Ken LaFond, Sharon & David Lambeth, Tim Lany, Larry Leach, R. Leasure, Fred Lesher, Roy & Charlotte Lukes, Bill Martinus, Jim Mattsson, Joseph McDonnell (JMc), Doug McWhirter (DMc), Steve & Diane Millard, Dan Miller, Steve Minard, Mark Peterson, Janine Polk, James Ponschair (JPo), Dave Powell (Mich.), Sam Robbins, Tom Schultz (TSc), Jeri Schwerin, Dick Sharp, Ellen Slater, Lorraine Smith, Roy Smith, Tom Smythe, Charles Sontag, Jim Steffen, Keith & Shelley Steva, Charlotte Taylor, Daryl Tessen (Wis.), Steven Thiessen, Dar Tiede (DTi), Dave VanAppledoorn (DVA), Dick Verch, J. Ware, George Wickstrom, Steve Wilson & Mary Shield, Terry Wiens, Tom Will (TWi), Truman Wolford (TWO), Winnie Woodmansee, Paul Young, Tom Ziebell, Dave Zumeta—DARYL D. TESSEN, 2 Pioneer Park Place, Elgin, Ill. 60120.

MIDDLEWESTERN PRAIRIE REGION
/ Bruce G. Peterjohn

Climatic conditions and bird observations were unremarkable this season. June was noticeably cooler than normal while July was hot and sultry. Precipitation varied considerably across the Region with many locally severe storms. Rainfall was generally greatest in Iowa, Missouri and Illinois but deficient in Ohio. These weather conditions had little effect on bird populations. Most species had a successful breeding season although some marsh nesters were detrimentally affected by high water levels. Established range expansions by Tree Swallow, Veary, White-eyed Vireo, Yellow-throated and Kentucky warblers, Orchard Oriole, Rose-breasted and Blue grosbeaks continued. Most noteworthy events were the first House Finch sightings in Iowa and first Illinois breeding record while nesting Golden-crowned Kinglets at Indianapolis were without precedent for the Region.
A number of special studies provided valuable information for this summary. In Missouri, surveys of the state's heronries and its marsh-nesting birds provided many noteworthy observations. Similar information resulted from surveys of various Illinois conservation areas as well as from the fledging efforts of the Ohio Breeding Bird Atlas. Only the highlights of these surveys could be included below.

As usual, all extraordinary sight records must be thoroughly documented at the time of observation. All documented records have been denoted by a dagger (†).


**LOONS THROUGH CORMORANTS** — Nonbreeding Com. Loons lingered through mid-June at several locations and summated at times to several hundred. At Red Rock Res., Alum Creek Res. (O.), and Summit Res. (B., Ind.). Eared Grebes did not successfully nest at Riverdale, Ill., this year (JL). In Iowa, as many as 18 summering grebes were reported from 4 s.w. lakes. Pied-billed Grebes were reasonably successful. Five Illinois breeding reports included immatures at Union County Conservation Area (PK) and Champaign County (Rch). In Missouri, nesting was attempted at Ted Shanks W.M.A. (JW, MN), Clarence Cannon N.W.R. (GW) and Springfield (MG) while at least 20 young were observed at Big Island W.M.A., O. (J). White Pelicans summated at 2 Iowa locations including 8-200 in Dickinson County (DH) and appeared in Ohio with one at Oregon June 21-July 31 (m.o.b., ph.) and three at Winnos Pt., Ottawa Co., July 20 (JF, ph.). The Thomson’s Double-crested Cormorant colony almost doubled with 194 young raised in 84 nests (SS). Summing birds were reported from 21 locations, mostly in Illinois, Iowa and along Lake Erie where additional nesting colonies may soon be discovered.

**HERONS** — Missouri’s herony survey uncovered 103 Great Blue Heron colonies with 5-140 nests. Only 4 of these colonies are located n. of the Missouri R. (JW). Green Herons received mixed reports although some local populations appear to be stable. Little Blue Herons may be increasing slightly with 450 nests near Minor, Mo. (FH, JW) and 250 in Madison County, Ill. (K et al.). Nonbreeders were reported from conservation areas in Ohio and Iowa. Breeding Snowy Egrets included 1000 + nests near Minor, Mo. (PH, JW) and 250 nests in Madison County, Ill. (K et al.), 6 + nests at O.W.R. (EP) and eight juveniles at L. Renwick, Ill. (JL, JM). Nonbreeders were found at 7 Iowa locations while 150 were observed near Lexington, Mo., in early June (NJ). The Missouri herony survey also discovered 4 Great Egret colonies (JW) while 5 colonies with 2-61 nests were reported from Illinois. The only known Snowy Egret colony contained 7 nests near Minor, Mo., and 3 nests at Madison County, Ill. Seventeen Snowy Egrets at M.M.W.A., July 17 (JF) may indicate a small colony exists in n. Ohio. Single egrets also appeared at Illinois Beach Sp., Ill., June 30 (JW, KK) and Atterbury W.M.A., Ind., July 8 (BG, GB). Large numbers of Herons were noted at Horaceheath, Ill., through June 1 (BR) and intermittently at M.M.W.A., through July 17 (JF). Black-crowned Night Herons remain stable with approximately 1300 nests at O.W.R. (EP), 500 + nests at Madison County, Ill., 400 + young in Sandusky Bay, O. (JF) and 1-4 smaller colonies in Illinois, Iowa and Missouri. Concentrations of 35-100 + night herons were also reported from Indiana and Kentucky. Yellow-crowned Night Herons were discovered at 17 locations. Seven at Union County Conservation Area, Ill. (PK) comprised the largest reported concentration while a nest with 4 young at Cleveland was locally unusual (M). Least Bitterns were present in all n. Missouri marshes and were widely reported from Iowa, Ohio and Illinois with nesting s. to L. Mermet Conservation Area, Ill. (MSW). A maximum of 20 was found at Marais Temps Clair W.M.A., Mo. (BR et al.). The Am. Bittern decline continued with nesting only at Lake County, Ill. (SH) and Marais Temps Clair W.M.A., Mo. (FR) plus singles at 3 other locations. Three Glossy Ibis were well described at Little Bean Marsh, Mo., June 10 (JW, MN) while unidentified Plegadis ibises were reported from 2 single sites in Iowa and Ohio. A White Ibis was briefly observed in n. Indiana July 27 (JF).

**WATERFOWL** — Nonbreeding waterfowl provided the more unusual records. Noteworthy summering reports included two White-fronted Geese in Story Co., Ia., July 31 (HZ) Black Ducks at Union County Conservation Area, Ill., June 15 (PK) and Springfield, Mo., July 28 (GD, MG) a Cinnamon Teal at area W. Cannon N.W.R., Mo., through June 15 (GW, m.o.b.), Ring-necked Ducks at Louisville July 5-7 (SF, FS) and Big Piney Res., Mo. June 15 (JW), a Ring-necked Duck x Lesser Scaup hybrid at New L., Woodburn Co., Ia., June 26 (JF), two Greater Scaup and at Little N., Ia., June 6 (FS) and one at Chicago Aug. 1 (JL), single Com. Goldeneyes at Davenport, Ia., June 16-July 17 (P et al.) and Roscoe, Ill., June 4 (DW) and a Surf Scoter at Oregon, O., June 29 (JP).

It was a good season for breeding waterfowl. Only one Gadwall brood was located at Oregon, O. (LV) while Blue-winged Teal nested s. to Shadwell County, Ill. (KEv, WH) and (HF) and 1000 Redheaded brood was reported from Erie County, O. (TL). Ruddy Ducks nested at Riverdale, Ill. (JL) and Erie County, O (TL) Breeding Hooded Merganser reports included 3 broods at Louisa Preserve, Ia. (P et al.) and single broods at Mississippi R., Lock 9, Ia (T et al.), Union County Conservation Area (PK) and Spfd. (H). A solitary two-thirds grown Red-breasted Merganser was discovered along the Rocky R., in Cleveland June 10; it was later observed approaching adult size (M). How this solitary young bird appeared in Cleveland remains a mystery.

**DIURNAL RAPTORS** — Black Vultures again nested at Mingo N.W.R., Mo, while one wandered to Marshall County Conservation Area, Ill., June 22 (MSW). Mississippi Kites were reported from traditional sites in s. Illinois and s.e. Missouri including 27 at Union County Conservation Area (PK). Extralimital kites appeared in Pike County, Mo., June 6 (JW, JF) and six at Clarence Cannon N. W. R., Mo., June 21 (GW). Three Sharp-shinned Hawk nests were reported from n.e. Ohio (fide LR) while a few singles were observed elsewhere. A small number of Cooper’s Hawks were reported although only 5 nests were discovered. Red-shouldered Hawks were reported in normal numbers for recent years. The most stable populations appear to occur in s. Missouri. Small numbers of Broad-winged Hawks were scattered across all states and Swainson’s Hawks summated at 2 sites in Iowa and one in Missouri. A Rough-legged Hawk in Pocahontas Co., Ia., June 13 was late (RBC, WJ).

Bald Eagles had another successful year. Ohio’s seven pairs raised nine young (six natural, three foster—LV). Elsewhere, two young fledged at Crab Orchard N.W.R., Ill. (MSW), one young fledged in n.e. Illinois (fide BH) and Missouri’s two pairs produced one young although this eagle was orphaned and had to be raised in a hacking tower (fide JW). Marsh Hawks were reported in slightly improved numbers. Missouri nests were located in Clay County (CMi), Prarie S.P. (MS) and Whetstone W.M.A. (TH). Summering pairs and singles were found at 4 additional sites in Missouri, 4 Iowa counties, 2 sites in s. Indiana, n. Ohio and Illinois and in Muhlenberg County, Ky. (AB, BP). Summering Ospreys were noted at 10 locations in Ohio and Indiana. An unexpected Osprey was found injured near Conway, Mo., July 22 and died the next day (DT, EN). This specimen provided the first summer record for Missouri American Kestrels remain abundant, exhibiting a 120% increase over 1981 levels on Illinois game surveys (JED).

**GROUSE THROUGH COOTS** — The Missouri Greater Prairie Chicken population was estimated at 7000-8000 birds this spring. Bobwhite experienced a local recovery in s. areas as exemplified by 58 at Sycamore S.P., O., June 12 (BC & CB). Numbers in n. areas were sharply reduced as a result of last winter’s severe weather. Sandhill Cranes nested at Chain O’Lakes S.P., Ill., for the second year in a row (JN). King Rails were discovered at 9 sites in all states except Indiana. Nesting was reported from Ted Shanks W.M.A., Mo. (JW, FR), L. Elsea, Mo. (MN), Chain O’Lakes S.P., Ill. (SH, JN) and 5 locations in Goose Lake Prairie S.P., Ill. (DB). Virginia Rails were widely reported in n. Illinois including 16 pairs at Chain O’Lakes S.P. (SH, JN). A young Virginia Rail at Spring Valley W.M.A., O. was locally unusual (BT). Sixteen pairs of Soras were estimated at Chain O’Lakes S.P. while an immature at Marais Temps Clair W.M.A., Mo., June 26 was unusually far s. (BR). Common Gallinules were widespread in n. Illinois but scarce in the w. Lake Erie marshes. Scattered reports from other states included a nest at Clarence Cannon N.W.R., Mo. (GW). Normal numbers of Am. Coots were found in n. marshes but a nest at Marais Temps Clair W.M.A., Mo., was unusual far s. (MN et al.). Summer reports from Hopkins County, Ky. (JH), Danville, Ky. (FL) and Wabash County, Ill. (LH) were unexpected.

**SHOREBIRDS** — The usual assortment of late spring migrants or
nonbreeders lingered well into June. Small numbers of fall migrants were widely reported by late June and early July. The July movement was heaviest along L. Erie where numbers peaked in mid-July but declined considerably by month's end.

Two Piping Plovers in Monona County, Ia., June 4-19 "could have nested" (JS et al.). Fall migrants were limited to 2-3 in Pottawattamie County, Ia., July 10-18 (B & LP) and one at Lorain, O., July 12 (TLT). Small numbers of Am. Golden Plovers were reported from 4 states after July 17. Russet Plovers were not mentioned after June 11 at Michigan City, Ind. (SJ) and Killdeer Plains W.M.A., O. (JMc). Breeding Com. Snape were only found at Goose Lake Prairie S.P., Ill., during June (DB). Whimbrels were reported along L. Erie with a late spring migrant June 2 and singles at 2 locations July 23-26. Normal numbers of Upland Sandpipers were reported from Iowa, Ohio and Illinois while increases were indicated from w. and s.c. Missouri. Willets appeared at 19 locations beginning June 25 with six at Willow Slough, Ia (BW) and one at Michigan City, Ind. (SJ). Largest flocks consisted of 20 at Colo, Ia., July 5 (HZ) and 17 at Cleveland July 7. A concentration of 1700 Lesser Yellowlegs at Winous Pt., Ont., were reported from marshes in n.w. Indiana and n.w. Ohio. A few noted at inland sites and along the Great Lakes where the movement was heaviest along L. Erie through June 22 (SJ). Summering Caspian Terns were widely reported by late June and early July. The July movement was heaviest along L. Erie where numbers peaked in mid-July but declined considerably by month's end.

A Long-billed Dowitcher at Riverton W.M.A., Ia., June 11 (RS) was unexpected; small numbers were noted along L. Erie during July. Stilt Sandpipers were widely reported during July with a maximum of 13 at Winous Pt., July 20 (LP). Important reports included four Sandpipers lingered through June 12 at Illinois Beach S.P., Ill. (JL). July migrants were sprinkled across the Great Lakes including six at Hammond, Ind., July 18 (KB). Two summering Marbled Godwits at M.M.W.A., exhibited territorial behavior and could have nested (JP, LP). Single Red Knots were reported from 3 L. Erie sites during the period. Short-billed Dowitchers were particularly numerous along L. Erie with 6400 at Winous Pt., July 20 (JP, LP).

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CUCKOOS THROUGH WOODPECKERS — Yellow-billed Cuckoos were widespread although numbers were down at some localities. Few Black-billed Cuckoos were reported. A Barn Owl nest in Illinois was reported on June 6 at Crawford County, Ill., but w. and n.c. Missouri were not reported. Schell-Osage W.M.A., O., was unsuccessful. Additional reports included single owls at Rebel's Cove W.M.A., Mo., June 12 (MN, JF) and Lawrence County, Ind., July 12 plus a road-killed bird near Bloomington, Ind. (fide JL). In n.w. Ohio, Screech Owl breeding success was similar to last year with 50 young produced in 16 nests (LJ). A few Barred Owls were reported from the near vicinity of Bloomington, Ind. (fide JL). A Burrowing Owl was present in Monona County, Ia., June 3-July 20 (BH) while the only Short-eared Owl was noted from Chicago, Ill. (fide JL). Saw-whet Owls nested in Illinois for the first time since 1966 with a juvenile in s. Cook County June 12 (PD) and another at Joliet July 1 (SM). A few "awkward" Saw-whet captured in Bay Village, O., June 26 indicated probable nesting there (SA). Summering Chick-will-sidows were reported from traditional sites in all n. states although nesting was only confirmed at Eddyville, Ia., where one young was observed (TS, TD). Local declines in Com. Nighthawks continued to be reported. Ruby-throated Hummingbirds received mixed reports from "local increases" in Kentucky to "normal" in Iowa. Generally none were reported in Illinois while 3 pairs were doing well and do not deserve Blue-listed status in this Region.

FLYCATCHERS THROUGH CREEPERS — Western Kingbirds were expanding E in Missouri. They were "almost common" at Kansas City and appeared e. to Thomas Hill Res. (MR). They were also fairly numerous in extreme w. Iowa. An extralimital bird wandered to Union County Conservation Area June 10 (PKR). Scissor-tailed Flycatchers are also expanding NE in Missouri with birds to Macon County (PR) and near Belgrade (BL et al.). A male wandered to Argenta, Ill., July 4 (TM et al.). A late Yellow-bellied Flycatcher was noted at Chicago June 12 (UL). Acadian Flycatchers may be increasing in Iowa and Illinois. Ring-billed Woodpeckers were widely resident in n. areas but rather local in the s. A summering bird at Elk Creek, Ky., was unusual (JH). Summering Alder Flycatchers were discovered at 2 sites in n.w. Indiana and 3 in n. Ohio with maxima of 10 at Beverly Shores, Ind. (SJ et al.) and Streetsboro, O. (LR). As many as six pairs of Least Flycatchers were reported from 6 n. Illinois locations while smaller numbers were scattered across other n. states. Unusual summering records included singles in Clinton County, Ia. (CDR, J.FH) and a sedge warbler at Monona County, Ind. (CDR). A Burrowing Owl was present in Monona County, Ia., June 10 (CM, JF). A Yellow-bellied Sapsucker were regular in n.e. Iowa where 17 were observed in Allamakee and Clayton Counties June 12-19 including one pair with young (DK, ET et al.). One near Keosauqua June 4 was unusual in s.e. Iowa (JH).
VIREOS, WARBLERS — White-eyed Vireos continued to increase in n. states, especially Illinois. Bell’s Vireos were not detected at any new locations but increased numbers in Illinois included 20 at Goose Lake Prairie S.P. (DB) and 14 at Des Plaines Conservation Area (JM, JO). As many as 12 Solitary Vireos were found at scattered sites in e. Ohio where they locally nest. Single vireos at Marshall County Conservation Area, Ill., June 17 (MSn) and Michigan City County Conservation Area, June 23 (TKB) were probably nonbreeders.

Black-and-white Warblers increased in s. Missouri where 21 were counted in Barry County June 18-19 (MM). They were also reported from 3 sites in c. and n. Illinois and 2 in n. Iowa. Noteworthy Prothonotary Warbler observations included w. Iowa reports from Riverton W.M.A. (PC, HR) while two were present at Urbana and Spfld. Nesting was confirmed at Louisville Robinson July 18-20 (TFW) and 1-2 birds were also reported from Urbana and Spfld. In Illinois, summering Savannah Sparrows at Spfld. (H) and Butler County, June 4-12 (tDJ) and one at Perry during mid-July (tEA, f ob., ph.)...
Jan. 6, 1982 (AB 36: 301). This winter record is now considered acceptable.


CENTRAL SOUTHERN REGION
/ Jerome A. Jackson

It was a comparatively cool summer across the Midsouth with a relatively dry June but a very wet July along the Gulf Coast. Greg Jackson commented that it seemed to be raining or threatening to rain all the time in Mobile, and Judy Toups noted that Gulfport had more than 12 inches of rain in July. Seabirds seemed to hold their own this year, although populations were drastically down on the spoil island west of Petit Bois Island, Mississippi. Catastrophe at the human-bird interface along the Mississippi coast was averted this year over the busy Fourth of July holiday by the hiring of off-duty policemen to patrol colony sites. Hats off to the Gulf Coast Audubon Society!

With the Dauphin Island bridge open once again, birders have easy access to one of the best birding areas in the nation. Unfortunately there are no stopping areas to allow views of Little Dauphin Island, although it continues to be quite a productive area. I do not recommend summer weekends for visiting Dauphin Island unless you are interested in experiencing why barrier islands should not be developed.

It has been three years since a spring flood destroyed the dam at Bluff Lake, Noxubee National Wildlife Refuge, and almost a year since the new dam was completed. Since the flood, no power boats and no fishing have been allowed on the lake and the birds have responded dramatically. This year the cypress swamp at the west end of the lake supported nesting Anhingas, Great Egrets, Yellow-crowned Night Herons, and Great Blue Herons where none has previously nested. Current plans are to reopen the lake to motorboats and fishermen in a year or two. After three years of no fishing, now would be a good time to establish a policy that favors wildlife—elimination of motors from the lake and closing of nesting areas might be a good compromise.

Best birds of the season have to be the nesting Swallow-tailed Kites included Anhinga, Black-necked Stilt, Horned Lark, Tree Swallow, Barn Swallow, Gray Catbird, and Great-tailed Grackle. Species in type; contributors are requested to send their reports to these

LOONS THROUGH IBISES — Common Loons were notably absent from n. Gulf Coast reports this summer, although one was seen at Wheeler N.W.R., in n. Alabama July 28 (RB). An adult and two downy young Fled-billed Grebes at the Pascagoula River marsh (hereafter, P.R.M.) June 19 provided possibly a first breeding record for the Mississippi Gulf Coast (JT, CR); two juveniles there July 17 suggested they were successful (JS, BS, OD, JT). Up to six (including one adult) Brown Pelicans were along the Gulf Coast in Jackson County, Miss., May 29-June 6 (JT, CR). Although there was only one report of White Pelicans this season, the 1500+ at Grand I., La., June 20 (JR, DM, MM, DP) perhaps compensated for their absence elsewhere! A sick first-year? Masked Booby was picked up by oil rig workers ca 100 mi s. of Cameron, La., June 30 or July 1 and ultimately ended up as a specimen at L.S.U. Anhinga records from Mississippi suggested they had a good year: one was seen over I-H, Harrison Co., July 24 (JT), another at Hillside N.W.R., Holmes Co., Aug. 2 (JM, HM), and 6 nests at Bluff L., Noxubee N.W.R., were the first nest records for that area (JM, MD).

A Great Blue Heron colony west of Tontitown, Benton Co., Ark., was successful this year after having been "shot-up" in 1981 (JM); one pair nested at Bluff L., Noxubee N.W.R. (JM). The Green Heron colony on an island in the Tennessee R., at Decatur, Ala., was active again this year, with numbers approximating those of the past 2 years (DC, SH); there were at least 8 Green Heron nests at P.R.M., June 6 (JT). A Reddish Egret was on Horn I., Miss., June 1 (JT et al.), two were seen July 18 and one July 27 at Gulf Shores, Ala. (D & GJ). A Snowy Egret in the company of 11 Little Blue Herons was an uncommon sight at L. Sequoyah, Washington Co., Ark., June 2 (JN, BSa). An imm. Louisiana Heron appeared at Blount Pond near Hickory, Miss., July 29-Aug. 1 (JM). It seems that everywhere I travelled in Mississippi this summer I found Yellow-crowned Night Herons: feeding in a muddy plowed field along the Natchez Trace near Jackson, stealing bait at a dock in Gulfport, perched on a service station sign in West Point, and ever present at Bluff L., Noxubee N.W.R. A lone Least Bittern was found June 9 at Faulkner L.,
Faulkner Co., Ark. (RC et al.) After a few years with no Wood Stork records, scattered individuals appeared around Mississippi this summer. In early July, there were near-record numbers of White Ibis at Gulf Breeze, Fla., July 23 (B. L. & SD, P & BT), and an imm. White Ibis July 27 was reported as a first for Memphis (JS).

WATERFOWL — Years ago Canada Geese from the Midwest were established as a pinioned breeding flock at Noxubee N.W.R. The pinioned birds were eventually sent to another refuge and their descendants at Noxubee have prospered. So much so that they now regularly leave the refuge and have taken advantage of local crops to the extent that this year refuge personnel had to trap geese to ship records, scattered individuals appeared around Mississippi this summer. A Glossy Ibis was a rare find at Gulf Breeze, Fla., July 25 (B. L. & SD, P & BT), and an imm. White Ibis July 27 was reported as a first for Memphis (JS).

A late migrant Ruddy Turnstone in breeding plumage stopped by Centerton, Ark., June 4, a first for the area (JS, BA); and an additional turnstone posed for viewers at Grand I., June 20 (JR, DM, MM, DP). Whimbrels are always an exciting find, but they seem to be regular summer visitors to Dauphin I., where one was seen July 27 (G & DJ). The Upland Sandpiper at New Orleans July 24 was a good find (JR). At least eight Spotted Sandpipers at P.R.M., July 17 showed signs of heavy molt from their breeding plumage (JJ, BS, OD, JT). The dikes at P.R.M. continue to be a good nesting area for Willets at least eight adults and 10 young were there June 6 (JJ). Greater Yellowlegs turned up at the shore of the common stock pond at Long Bayou, Miss., June 19 (JS, BSa); 15 on June 20 at Grand I. (JR, DM, MM, DP); July 10 at Bonnet Carre spillway (MW); and 20-25 on July 10-24 at P.R.M. (JT, m.ob.). But Lesser Yellowlegs turned up in greater numbers 120+ July 10 and 200+ July 21-24 at P.R.M. (JT, m.ob.). Early Lesser Yellowlegs included one at the Morgenza, La. spillway June 18 (JJ); and two at Grand I., June 20 (JR, MM, DP). JT and m.ob. found three Red Knots on the spoil island w. of Petit Bois I., Miss., June 1; and 15 Red Knots were at Grand I., June 20 (JR et al.)

The annual late summer convention of Pectoral Sandpipers in the Midsouth got off to an early start, or was it a straggler who didn’t leave, that appeared at Centerton, Ark., June 16 (JJ, JS, RS). Elsewhere these birds were less on show this summer, one at Lake shore, Hancock Co., Miss., June 12 (JR); and one June 17 at the Morganza spillway (DG).

About 15 Short-billed Dowitchers in winter plumage were at P.R.M., June 6 (JT) and 300+ dowitcher spp. were at Grand I., June 20 (JR et al.). A Long-billed Dowitcher at Pt. Pickens, Escambia Co., Fla., July 11, was considered to furnish the first summer record for the area (PT); at least one of four dowitchers at Loneoke County, Ark., July 12 was a Long-billed, as judged by its breeding plumage (JJ). A lone Long-billed Dowitcher was present in New Orleans July 25 (JR). Late and early records of Stilt Sandpipers were of single birds in Cameron Par., June 2 (MR, VR, SL) and at Pensacola July 16 (PT). Seven additional Stilt Sandpiper records included singles at Santa Rosa Island July 10; June 26 (PT, CM) and Alabama Pt., Baldwin Co., Ala., July 8 (G & DJ); 20+ July 21, and 100+ July 24 at P.R.M. (JJ, CM, CR, JD), one at New Orleans July 11 (JR) And Dunlins, too, made the June scene: 20 (two in breeding plumage) at P.R.M., June 6; four (non-breeding plumage) at Lakeshore, Hancock Co., Miss., June 12 (JT); and one June 17 at the Morganza spillway (DG).

Three Broad-winged Hawks were reported in Jackson (May 29, JT, CR) and Rankin (July 7, 3M) cos., Miss., and at Wheeler N.W.R., July 21 (AM).

A δ Marsh Hawk s. of Trenton, Tenn., June 19 provided a first June record for the area (Do & GM); a tragic Marsh Hawk record is that of a nest with four nearly grown young destroyed by a combine June 24 near Alma, Crawford Co., Ark. (DoW, fide BB). Ospreys June 6 at Beaver L., Benton Co., Ark. (BSa), and June 18 at Chalmette, St. Bernard Par. (P & NN) were considered late for those areas. Two Peregrine Falcons graced our skies this summer: one near Oxford, Miss., May 1 (MD), and a male at Baton Rouge June 19 (JNe, fide JR)—both represented quite unusual records for the season and places. The status of Am. Kestrels seems to vary locally around the state. A female at Jackson, Miss., May 29 (JT, CR); one at Baton Rouge June 14 (VR); one adult and one immature in Washington County, Ark., July 8; two at the Bonnet Carre Spillway near New Orleans July 10 (MW); one at Hillside N.W.R., Aug. 2 (JM, HMO); and one in Scott County, Miss., Aug. 12 (JM). Some of the most observed Red-tailed were a pair that fledged two young from a backyard nest in Starkville, Miss., late May (JJ, m.ob.). Red-shouldered Hawks were reported to be scarce in the Tennessee Valley of Alabama (TA), but holding their own in c. Alabama (TI). One Red-shouldered was seen in Jackson County, Miss., May 29 (JT, CR), and three were seen June 1 in Washington County, Ark.—one of which was attacked by a Broad-winged Hawk (BSa). Other Broad-wingeds were reported in Jackson (May 29, JT, CR) and Rankin (July 7, 3M) cos., Miss., and at Wheeler N.W.R., July 21 (AM).

RAILS THROUGH SHOREBIRDS — Adult and imm. Purple Gallinules and a lone Com. Gallinule were found June 8-15 at Faulkner Co., Ark. (RC et al.), and both species were found with young at Pace, Fla., June 15 (BS, OD, JT). Only nesting Com. Gallinules were found at P.R.M., June 6 (JT).

Snowy Plovers nested successfully on Horn and West Ship Is., and in the Least Tern colony at Gulfport (JJ, BS, OD, JT), and seven were counted on Santa Rosa I., Fla., June 26 (PT, CM). Wilson’s Plovers had young at P.R.M., June 6-9 (JT, CR), and a high of ten was reported from Dauphin I. July 27 (G & DJ) and the new School of Veterinary Medicine at Mississippi St. Univ. has an enormous complex of gravelled rooftops (7+ acres) which has proven too attractive for Killdeer. More than a dozen nests of at least 4 pairs (color-banded) were found this summer and on hatching, their young were moved to the ground: all young were “found” by their parents (BS, JJ). Two Blind-bladdled Plovers at Grand I., June 20 were unusual for the season (JR, DM, MM, DP).
LC, m ob.], on Aug 1, young storks were found in the area (JW, m ob.). Two storks were also seen at Pace, Fla., June 9 (BM). The first Wilson’s Phalarope of the season was at P.R.M., July 21 (JT, GM). A Red Phalarope in heavy molt stayed at Alabama Pt., Baldwin Co., Ala., July 7-9 to become the first summer record for Alabama (OF, MLM, m ob.).

The appearance of a Pomarine Jaeger at Cape San Blas, Gulf Co., Fla., June 19 can only be considered accidental and marked a first June record. At least seven Ring-billed Gulls summered at P.R.M. (JT, m ob.), and four stayed at Sardis Dam through May 22 (MD). A single Ring-billed was at L. Pontchartrain, Jefferson Par., July 4 (NN) Perhaps the best bird of the season was a Black-legged Kittiwake near Holly Beach, Cameron Par., June 19 (VR, MR, SL); the sight record file for this Region contains no records from late May (Fla.) to early August (Fla.). There were at least 16 ad. Gull-billed Terns that summered at P.R.M., and at least some nested; up to 12 immatures were present July 21 (JT, m ob.). Two ad. Forster’s Terns at a pond near Clermont Harbor, Hancock Co., Miss., may have nested—an adult and two immature-plumaged birds were present June 12 (JT). Five Forster’s at Centerton, Ark., July 23 were early for the Ozarks (JN, RS). Common Terns nested again at P.R.M., with up to seven dependent young seen July 10 (JT) and one fledged young still being fed July 17 (JJ, JT, BS, OD). Elsewhere, one C. Tern apparently summered at Wheeler N.W.R. (DC); 15 were at Grand I., June 20 (IR et al.); eight at Diamond Lake, July 20 (JT); and one at Centerton, Ark., July 29: a rare record (JN). Least Terns nested again on the “usual” Gulfport beaches and on the roof of the Singing River Inn, Gautier, Miss. In general it was a routine season with moderate successes. A Least Tern at Centerton, Ark., July 29 was unusual (JJ). JT visited the island w. of Petit Bois L., in early June and found some evidence of nesting seagulls. On July 19 I flew over the island and observed what appeared to be at least three congregations of Royal and Sandwich terns, probably not totaling over 100 nests—certainly a drastic change from the 6000+ pairs nesting last year. An itinerant Caspian Tern visited Anderson’s Minnow Farm, Lonoke Co., Ark., July 23 (H & MP). Black Skimmers were common as usual along the Midsouth Coast (JJ, JT, JR) and three put in an appearance at Centerton, Ark., June 16 (JN, RS). Black Skimmers had a good year at Gulfport with ca. 400 young produced on the beach in front of the L.S.U. campus, Baton Rouge, was observed July 4-19 (VR); a single sw. bird near the n. end of Mud I., near Memphis was not occupied this year, although a new colony was found 15 mi. at the n. end of Shelby Forest S.P. (B & LC).

Additional nesting sites of Barn Swallows were discovered as far as 40 mi inland from traditional nesting sites on the coastal islands of Escambia and Santa Rosa cos., Fla. (CK, FW). Are these birds from the s. population or from rapidly expanding breeding areas in the n.? Of 100 Cliff Swallows were at Wheeler N.W.R., June 24 (RR) and a group of 35+ birds nested under the old White R. bridge at L. Sequestah, Washington Co., Ark. (JN, CW). Purple Martins seemed to have a good year in c. Mississippi; there were no extended cool wet or extremely hot dry spells and nesting success was much higher than in recent years (JJ). At Wheeler N.W.R., 500+ martins filled the air June 24 (RR).

DOVES THROUGH WOODPECKERS — At Choctaw, Bolivar Co., Miss., a pair of Mourning Doves nested the ideal old oak. Robins used the nest last year (NH). Yellow-billed Cuckoos seem down in Evangeline Par. (BO), but in good numbers in Jackson County, Miss. (JT, CR). Roadrunners at L. Charles (CT), DeQuincy (DG), and Ruston (WD, MvB) further document the establishment of this species in Louisiana. Sightings of Great Horned Owls are exciting, but common in this MidSouth resident; perhaps I so common was the sighting of one in Malvern, Ark., June 25 (RiC, EL). Several Com Nighthawks records from Mississippi tell us that the species is still around, but numbers were certainly down from previous years at Starkville (JJ). Ruby-throated Hummingbirds were exceptionally common in s.e. Louisiana this summer with 100-200 reported for several feeders. NN banded 78 Ruby-throats May 1 at Reserve, La., and another 55 June 26 at Baton Rouge. Ti also reported a good flight of Ruby-throats at Birmingham beginning about Aug. 5. In Washington County, Ark., JN et al. reported three Ruby-throated nests, one under construction in an oak June 20, one with a female on the nest in a sycamore July 8, and one in an elm July 28. A female flew to the latter nest and sat briefly, but the nest seemed abandoned.

A Com. Flicker nest with young about to fledge was found June 7 on the Univ. of Arkansas campus in a dead ash stub (JN, KS). Red-bellied and Red-headed woodpeckers seemed to be down in numbers this year in Jackson County, Miss., with only eight and five heard on the D’Iberville B.B.S. route (JT, CR). It was a fair year for Red-cockaded Woodpeckers and N. W.R. (BM). A White-bellied Woodpecker (CMc) in the n.w. Florida (BM). While Loggerhead Shrikes are considered hopelessly low in numbers in c. Alabama (TI), their populations in c. Mississippi seemed higher than usual this year; it was possible to find a shrike on almost any trip afield (JJ). A pair of shrikes with two dependent young were found on the D’Iberville B.B.S. route May 29 (JT, CR). On June 12, JT logged a total of 55 singing White-eyed Vireos in Hancock County, Miss.—42 in L. Logtown. A singing ad. Bell’s Vireo was feeding a recent fledgling July 26 at L. Fayetteville, Washington Co., Ark. (JN). Singing Yellow-throated Vireos in Cameron Par., June 2 (VR) and at Gulfport June 17 (JT) were strangely out of place since this species is not known to breed near the immediate coast.

CROWs THROUGH WARBLERS — As many as seven Fish Crows were at the Clear Cr. Landing, Sardis Res., Lafayette Co., Mt. in June. House Wrens were seen at least once or twice a week throughout the county this year to within a mile of the Mississippi border at North L., near Memphis, where there were 6 nests in cavities in willows May 18 (B & LC). Perhaps a sign of things to come, one Tree Swallow was at Pace, Santa Rosa Co., Fla., June 9-13 (BM). Bank Swallows seem obviously more limited in distribution because of the lack of suitable banks for nesting in the coastal plain, but four were still present at Pace, Fla., June 11 (BM). Nearer the limits of their known breeding range, 40+ were present June 24 at Wheeler N.W.R. (RR), and a knobby eyewax on the n. end of Mud I., near Memphis was not occupied this year, although a new colony was found 15 mi. at the n. end of Shelby Forest S.P. (B & LC). Additional nesting sites of Barn Swallows were discovered as far as 40 mi inland from traditional nesting sites on the coastal islands of Escambia and Santa Rosa cos., Fla. (CK, FW). Are these birds from the s. population or from rapidly expanding breeding areas in the n.? Of 100 Cliff Swallows were at Wheeler N.W.R., June 24 (RR) and a group of 35+ birds nested under the old White R. bridge at L. Sequestah, Washington Co., Ark. (JN, CW). Purple Martins seemed to have a good year in c. Mississippi; there were no extended cool wet or extremely hot dry spells and nesting success was much higher than in recent years (JJ). At Wheeler N.W.R., 500+ martins filled the air June 24 (RR).
week in June (MF, fide JN), and in a small snag near Goschen July 8 (JN). Well-grown juv. Worm-eating Warblers were being fed by adults at White Rock Mt., Franklin Co., Ark., June 27 (JN, BSa, NE). Northern Parulas were also attending fledglings in Washington County, Ark., at L. Wilson June 20 (JN, BSa) and near Goschen July 8 (JN). A late spring record for Louisiana was of a δ Yellow Warbler in Cameron Par., June 2 (VR); two at Bellefontaine Beach, Jackson Co., Miss., July 21 were early southbound migrants (JT, GM). In Alabama a Black-throated Green Warbler was singing at the Skyline W.M.A., Jackson Co., June 9, and TI reported at least three singing males in w. Jefferson Co., Near Ponca, Newton Co., Ark., a Yellow-throated Warbler was feeding a fledged juvenile June 17 (JN). Two Prairie Warblers were at Ft. Pickens, Escambia Co., Fla., July 10 (FW, T & AZ). While at least one Ovenbird was still on the coast in Cameron Par., June 2 (MR), in Arkansas one pair had a fledged juvenile and another had a nest with 3 eggs June 12 near Boxley, Newton Co. (BSa). A Kentucky Warbler nest with four feathered young was found June 9 in Washington County, Ark. (JN). In Evangeline Par., BO felt that Com. Yellowthroats were down this summer. On the Mississippi coast JT considered Yellow-breasted Chats up over recent years. A δ Canada Warbler passing through Oxford, Miss., May 25 was a bit late (M & SD).

ORIOLES THROUGH FINCHES — Orchard Orioles in Washington County, Ark. had young in the nest June 4 and another pair was feeding fledged young July 26; a nest near Ponca held young June 17 (JN). The first Great-tailed Grackles fledged in Little River County, Ark. were found June 20 near Ashdown (CH, CMA). A ♀ Bronzed Cowbird with 2 large eggs in her oviduct was collected near Erath, Vermilion Par., July 15 (BoB); at Reserve, La., a young Bronzed Cowbird was being fed by Orchard Orioles June 12, and the species was regular at feeders April-July 25 (MW). Scarlet Tanagers had a nest on Cave Mt., near Baxley, Newton Co., Ark., June 12 (BSa). Two δ Painted Buntings were singing, apparently on territories June 4-July 13, at Face, Fl., although neither females nor a nest could be located (BM, m.ob.). Mississippi records of Painted Buntings came from Magnolia, Pike Co., June 21, and Rolling Fork, Sharkey Co., Miss., June 18 (CMc, JRE). A fledgling Dickcissel was being fed by a female near Centerton, Ark., June 30, and a nest with four newly-hatched young was found at the Fayetteville airport July 25 (JN). Dickcissels were common in alfalfa fields around Oktibbeha County, Miss., but nesting success was probably low because of harvesting activities (JJ). A δ Am. Goldfinch was feeding one well-grown nestling at Fayetteville, Ark., July 25 (JN). At Fayetteville June 7, JN watched a fledgling ♀ Rufous-sided Towhee as it was fed by a Brown Thrasher and later by a δ towhee!

Grasshopper Sparrows commonly perched on the runway lights at the Golden Triangle Airport, Lowndes Co., Miss., even as planes taxied by (JJ). The only other Grasshopper Sparrow report was of a lone bird June 22 s.w. of Rossville, Fayette Co., Tenn. (LC) Lark Sparrows also were uncommon this season with reports of single birds coming only from Washington County, Ark., June 9 (JN), and Chester County, Tenn., June 24 (B & LC). Two singing Bachman’s Sparrows were present all summer 1 mi s.e. of Mooresville, Lime-stone Co., Ala., where they were found in 1981 (DC, SG, MB, CB, FH). Bachman’s Sparrow populations seemed consistently high in Jackson County, Miss., but rather local in Hancock and Harrison cos. (JT, CR). In Arkansas one Bachman’s Sparrow was found in Garland County June 6 and another in Hot Springs County June 24, nine were found in Dallas County July 10 (H & MP). All-day searches for Bachman’s Sparrows in Tennessee resulted in tallies of one each for Fayette and Hardeman cos. June 22, and Chester County June 24 (B & LC). Chipping Sparrows had fledged young June 17 in Newton County, Ark., and hatchings at Fayetteville June 28 (JN) And finally, another summering White-throated Sparrow was seen at a Memphis feeder July 2, the third such for Shelby County and fourth for w. Tennessee (CFM, B & LC).

CONTRIBUTORS — Tom Atkeson, R.M. Bays, Bill Beall, Bonnis Broussard (BoB), Craig Brown, D. Mark Brown (MB), Ben Coffey (West Tennessee), Lula Coffey, Richard Coles, C. Dwight Cooley (DC), Roberta Crabtree, Opal Dakin, W. Marvin Davis (MD), Sandra Davis, Walter Dimmick, Jan Dubuission, Bob, Lucy & Scot Duncan, N. Edelman, Owen Fang, Mayme Ferguson, Jenny Fort, Scott Gravette, Dan Guruviah (DGiu), Dale Gustin, Donald Hale, Sam Hamilton, Nona Herbert, Fred Hopf, Tom Imhoff (Alabama), John Izral, Debra & Greg Jackson, Jerome Jackson (Mississippi), Curtis Kingsbery (n.w. Florida), Scott Lanyon, Eugenia Larson, Mr. & Mrs. C.F. Mann (CFM), Don and Gina Manning (Do & GM), Clyde Massey (CMa), Mary Lou Mattis (MLM), Charles McElwee (CMc), Hilda McEwan, Joe McGee (JM), Charles Merritt, Ann Miller, Charles Mills (ChM) (Arkansas), Bill Milmore, Mrs. Dwight Moore (DwM), Henry Moreau (HMo), Gerry Morgan, Dave Muth, Mac Myers, J. Neal, Paul & Nancy Newfield, Robert Newman (Louisiana), John Newsome (JNE), Brent Ortego, Helen & Max Parker, Steve Provenza, Dan Purrington, Judee Reeves (JRE), Robert & Elberta Reid, Jack Reinoehl, Van Remsen, Mark Robbins, Charlene Roemer, Bernard Rowe, Bob Sanger (BSa), Bette Schardien, Cheryl Sharp, K. Smith, P. Stauffacher, James Stiegall (JaS), James M Stevenson (JMS), John Stokes, Phil & Betsy Telow, Judy Toupys, Charlotte Tucker, Marike vandenBol (MBv), Melvin Weber, Larry White, Fred Wicke, Jeff Wilson, C. Wooten, Tony & Ann Ziccardi (T & AZ).—JEROME A. JACKSON, Dept. of Biological Sciences, Mississippi State Univ., Mississippi State, Miss. 39762.

PRAIRIE PROVINCES REGION
/J. Bernard Gollop

Mean temperatures in June ranged from 2.5°C above normal in central Alberta to 3°C below average at Churchill and Winnipeg. July temperatures were near normal across the Region. Precipitation was scanty everywhere in June. Edmonton reported its second-driest June on record and many locations in Saskatchewan were the driest in more than 20 years. Cochrane, Alta., had four inches of snow June 5-6. July precipitation was almost normal in Saskatchewan and up to twice normal west of Edmonton and north of Winnipeg. Lethbridge, Alta., had 63 mm of rain in less than one hour and Emerson, Man., had 63 mm of rain in less than one hour and Emerson, Man., had 63 mm of rain in less than one hour and Emerson, Man., had 63 mm of rain in less than one hour. In the Cypress Hills area drifts in inches) of snow around Saskatoon with average winds of 38km/hour and a temperature range of 0ø-2.6øC. In the Cypress Hills area drifts in inches) of snow around Saskatoon with average winds of 38km/hour and a temperature range of 0ø-2.6øC. In the Cypress Hills area drifts in inches) of snow around Saskatoon with average winds of 38km/hour and a temperature range of 0ø-2.6øC. In the Cypress Hills area drifts in inches) of snow around Saskatoon with average winds of 38km/hour and a temperature range of 0ø-2.6øC. In the Cypress Hills area drifts in inches) of snow around Saskatoon with average winds of 38km/hour and a temperature range of 0ø-2.6øC.
birds. Barn Swallows, Least Flycatchers, House Wrens and Clay-colored Sparrows decreased significantly after the storm around Swift Current (CH). See also Tree Swallow and Mountain Bluebird accounts below.

**LOONS THROUGH WATERFOWL** — Thirty Com. Loons had congregated on Waskesiu L., Prince Albert N.P., by June 25 (S. Ross). A Red-necked Grebe June 5 was a first for Churchill (S. Shadick) while a Pied-billed Grebe June 30 was an accidental there (BC). There were good indications of a Great Blue Heron colony at Ft. McMurray, n. of the published breeding range (FG). An ad. Snowy Egret June 19 at Ninette was a Manitoba rarity (ph., DF, HL). A Least Bittern June 30 was another first for Churchill (BC). Five Brant June 7 and three June 12 were accidentals there (BC). A Garganey was photographed near Strathmore June 12 for Alberta’s third record (ML). Two J Eurasian Wigeons were studied at Echo L., Apr. 25 (M. Callin, J. Nelson); there are fewer than 10 Saskatchewan records.

Another accidental at Churchill was a Harlequin Duck June 24 (BC), while the first Ruddy Duck for the area was a male June 3 (K. John).

**HAWKS THROUGH COOTS** — Sharp-shinned Hawks were noticeably down in Saskatchewan’s boreal forest (WH) while one wandered to Churchill June 15 (V. Charters, D. Paulson). In Saskatchewan, Swanison’s Hawfn had more failures than usual; 35 of 71 nests in 3 areas produced 68 young. The late May snowstorm apparently caused 6 Golden Eagle nests to slum down clay cliffs. Prairie Falcons had average success and Merlins continued to reoccupy sites in the Kindersley-Kerrobert area, deserted during the heavy dielrin period of the mid 1960s. A flock of 20+ Swainson’s Hawks was found, one of the former held two young near Priddis, Alta., July 11 (AW, KJ, GS); one of the latter had two young near Fridids, Alta., July 11 (AW, KJ, GS); one of the latter had two young near Fridids, Alta., July 11 (AW, KJ, GS).

**SHOREBIRDS** — On July 14 Chris Adam (ph.) discovered two ad. Piping Plovers (plus Semipalmateds) with four downy young on the s. shore of Lake Athabasca—a N extension of its published Saskatchewan breeding range by more than 400 mi. He had seen an adult in the shore of Lake Athabasca—a N extension of its published Saskatche- was found regularly s. of Water Valley, Alta., from late May through June 5, 60+ mi s. of their published breeding range (L. Gibb, JP, LO, SJ). A white Am. Coot was seen with normally plumaged birds at Moose Jaw July 15 (S. & G. Wait, C. Lettkeman).


**WOODPECKERS THROUGH BLUEBIRDS** — A Lewis’ Woodpecker strayed to Calgary July 17 (RBA). With about 15 Manitoba reports to date, a Scissor-tailed Flycatcher was a rarity at Oak Hammock June 5 (ph., DF). A Say’s Phoebe June 18 provided the first record for Churchill (K. Kaufman). Four species, recently common at Ft. McMurray, increased significantly over 1981: Tree and Barn swallows more than doubled and Black-billed Magpies and Corn. Crows increased fourfold (JG). Tree Swallow nesting around Saska- toon was delayed until after the May storm, and was thus more uniform than usual; occupancy and success were down modestly with 91 successful and 21 unsuccessful nesting attempts. Nevertheless, the usually evident surplus of swallows seemed not to be present; it may be that half the swallow population perished during the storm (MH). The first summer record of a Black-capped Chickadee for Churchill was established June 11 (BC). A breeding record for White- breastfed Nuthatch was a rarity for Calgary (AS). The first recent breeding record for Sage Thrashers in Saskatchewan was of a flight- less young caught July 8 n.w. of Govenlock (ph., WH). Two Hermit Thrushes singing July 17-23 near Dundurn, Sask., were s. of their published breeding range (BG). At Saskatoon the 240 boxes checked regularly in this portion of the Prairie Bluebird House Trail had much the poorest success in the 14 years of operation, excluding 1969, when the boxes were first put out. Overall occupancy rate, normally 90 to 99%, was only 76%. Only one brood of Mountain Bluebirds survived the May 29 storm; only 56 pairs of bluebirds attempted nesting, the lowest number since 1973. Thirty of 56 nesting pairs were successful; only 4 boxes raised two bluebird broods successfully, whereas some others raised 5-10 nests successfully. Pledged young totalled 132, just under half the 1981 total (MH).

**WARBLERS THROUGH FINCHES** — A Magnolia Warbler singing in Calgary June 30 was apparently out of its breeding range (JP) as were a June 12 Chestnut-sided, also singing (RBA), and a Cape May in the foothills w. of Calgary July 18 (AW, C. & M. Wershler).
Connecticut Warblers apparently on territory were n. of their published breeding range at Ft. McMurray in June (one bird; JG) and s. of it near Fridhills July 11 (two males; AW, KJ, GS) and near Bottrel, Alta., (at least five males; SJ). Brewer's Blackbird, another common bird at Ft. McMurray, quadrupled this summer (JG). A pair of Scarlet Tanagers nesting at Dauphin, Man., was n. of the previously known breeding range (B. Walley). In Calgary three singing Rose-breasted Grosbeaks June 20 hinted at breeding s. of their normal range (AS).

NORTHERN GREAT PLAINS REGION
/Craig A. Faanes

The general weather pattern across the Northern Great Plains was of unseasonably cool temperatures and below-normal rainfall during June, while July was typified by near-normal temperatures and precipitation.

Because of timely snowstorms in late March and April, wetlands remained filled across much of the Missouri Coteau and Drift Plain physiographic regions during late spring and summer. Aerial surveys of eastern South Dakota showed that the number of basins holding water in 1982 was 148% greater than in 1981, and 11% greater than the 1959-81 average. Conditions were similar in eastern North Dakota, where basins holding water were 131% greater than in 1981, and 25% greater than the 1958-81 average.

Corresponding to favorable water levels during spring, prairie grasslands and croplands were in excellent condition. The alfalfa crop in North Dakota was in the record-breaking category and much of the hay crop was first cut in early June; up to two weeks earlier than normal. These activities can pose problems for many early-nesting bird species.

Although the weather generally was agreeable throughout, it did not stimulate observers to explore much of the Region this summer (or report what they saw). Nonetheless, some important new data were gathered on a number of species, especially colonial waterbirds.

PELICANS THROUGH HERONS — About 5500 White Pelican nests were at the Chase Lake N.W.R., N.D., colony (PA, JS), and 75 adults were observed at Willow Lake N.W.R., in the Turtle Mts., June 19 (RCR), where 100+ active nests were found in 1980. Sloan (Am. Birds 36:250-254, 1982) incorrectly attributed nesting White Pelicans at Willow L., to J.C. Salyer N.W.R.—a location where the species is not known to have ever nested. White Pelicans were reported from 3 South Dakota colonies that have been active since 1962, but were unreported in Sloan’s paper. These included 742 at Pyas L., Marshall Co., 545 nests at Drywood L., Roberts Co., and 152 nests at Grass L., Coddington Co. (BH, KH, LH).

One pair of Little Blue Herons was at Whitewood L., Kingsbury County, S.D., June 7. Little Blues were present there in 1981, and nesting was probable in 1982. Forty-three Cattle Egret nests were found at Whitewood L., June 7, and 18 nests were at Rush L., June 15. The first record of Cattle Egret for Grand Forks County, N.D., was obtained June 4 (JK). A colony of more than 200 Great Egrets (nests present but not counted) was found near Aberdeen, Brown Co., S.D. (PC, DT). The Whitewood L. heronry hosted 30+ Snowy Egrets June 7, and eight adults were at Rush L., Day Co., S.D., June 15. One Yellow-crowned Night Heron was at the Brown County, S.D. colony July 9 (PC) and July 10 (DT). Four White-faced Ibis and nests with eggs were at Whitewood L., June 7. A nest with five young was photographed there June 28.

WATERFOWL — At least seven Snow Geese were observed in e. North and South Dakota June 9-26; six of these were in apparently good health. Aerial breeding waterfowl surveys were conducted during

Moose Jaw June 21 (M. Ritchie). A Field Sparrow showed up again this year near Beausejour through June and July (P. Taylor). Clay-colored Starling numbers more than doubled at Ft. McMurray, possibly because of increasing habitat (JG). An undocumented Brewer’s Sparrow was reported at Churchill June 20, far from its closest range in s.w. Saskatchewan (DM, J. Skykoff, TS).

clines, except for Ruffed Grouse, were attributed to mortality during
the severe winter of 1981-82. Production by Sage Grouse in e
Montana appeared to be high. Many broods of 4-6 young were found,
and many road-kills were noted (CC).
A Virginia Rail near Lonedan, Shannon Co., provided one of few
records for s.w. South Dakota. At least six Yellow Rails were
reported from e. North Dakota, including singles n.w. of Dawson,
Kidder Co., June 1; Regan, Burleigh Co., June 18-19; Salyer N.W.R.,
July 17; and 3-4 in native prairie near the Grand Forks airport July 31.

SHOREBIRDS — Piping Plovers were reported as nesting regularly
at 12-15 areas along the Missouri R., between Sioux City, Ia.,
and Gavin’s Pt. Dam at Yankton, S.D. (fide Bh). Single broods of 10-
12 day-old chicks, and 2-3 day-old chicks were found at Ft. Peck July
10 (CC). Ten or more Am. Golden Plovers were observed at Fargo on
7 days June 16-July 20 (MB), suggesting that this species can be
observed throughout the summer in e. North Dakota. The same
statement probably holds for several other Arctic-nesting shorebird
species, especially now that sufficient time is being spent by ob-
servers at good shorebird locations during the summer months (cf.
AB 35 953, 1981). Summer and fall observations of Hudsonian God-
wit are at a premium, thus the two at Fargo June 12, and one at Minot
July 21 were especially noteworthy. A Red Phalarope in winter plumage
was at Grand Forks June 23 (GL, tDL). This individual, which represented the fifth state record, was compared with nearby
Wilson’s and N. phalaropes. American Woodcock were reported
from 3 e. South Dakota locales: Roberts County June 13; Grant
County June 14; and Sica Hollow S.P., June 26 (fide BH). ACom.
Snipe flushed from a nest July 9 provided the first breeding record for
Grand Forks County. One W. Sandpiper was at Fargo July 9 (MB, CS)
A well-described dr Ruff in breeding plumage was found July 7 at
the Fargo sewage lagoons (1MB et al.). This was the third North
Dakota record of a Ruff in breeding plumage. The date is especially
important was the observation of 5 Caspian Tern nests on Gull I., in
Goodland R.W., until June 25 (FB). One Least Tern along the Missouri R., at Culbertson, Mont., July 2
was recording. At least of this species in recent years have been
made in plowed fields, and the peak of the observation is usually during the last week of July and first 10 days of August.
This summer, GL reported 32 Buff-breasted Sandpipers July
27, and DL found 130 July 31, on a fallow field near the Grand Forks sewage lagoons. After early August, when most of the
grain harvest has been completed, farmers conduct their fall
plowing activities, thereby increasing the amount of available
plowed ground. DL questions whether the peak of migration is
actually compacted during the above period, or if the apparent
reduction in numbers of Buff-breasted seen is related to the
marked increase in available habitat after the fall plowing of
grain fields begins, making the birds more difficult to find.
PL maps observers in the Canadian Prairie Provinces and the
Southern Great Plains could contribute to efforts in the North-
ern Great Plains to answer these intriguing questions.

GULLS THROUGH TERNs — About 50 adult and several young
California Gulls were found at L. Laretta, Nelson Co., N.D., June 19
(DL) Up to three California Gulls were at Fargo June 16-29. This
species was apparently unknown from that locale in previous years.
One Least Tern at Cross Ranch, Oliver Co., throughout the season. An ad. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher was found June 3 at Newton Hills S.P. This is the same
location where found in 1981 (BH) and represents the second summer
record for South Dakota. Thirty-eight Loggerhead Shrikes were
observed in 185 road m in s.w. North Dakota July 24 (RM). BH reported from e. South Dakota that there were “more [shrikes] than in
any years for this area of the state.” One Loggerhead Shrike pair
fledged 4 or 5 young July 7 near Grand Forks and another pair fledged young in s.e. Grand Forks County in mid-July. These may be the first
definite breeding records of this species in the Agassiz Lake Plain in
many years (DL, JK). Three Bell’s Vireos were in Davison County,
S.D., July 3 (RGR, JM). One Solitary Vireo was in the Missouri R.
breaks along the Musselshell R., July 13 (SG).

S.A. — Among the most intriguing breeding species of the prairie
region is Sprague’s Pipit. Although one of the true characteristic
prairie species, probably less is known about Sprague’s Pipit than any other grassland bird. Stewart (1975, Breeding
Birds of North Dakota) suggested that breeding pips go
through 2 periods of active singing each year, primarily May to
early June, and mid-July to late August. Again this year, this
pattern was evident. DL reported that the limited population
hanging on in Grand Forks County was not heard until early July.
An e. bird tour group, directed to a consistent Sprague’s Pipit spot in Kidder County in late June failed to observe this
species. However, another group in the same area July 10
heard six males from one spot. More knowledge of these
apparent activity periods is necessary in order to adequately
study Sprague’s Pipit breeding populations, and also to
optimize observation opportunities for visiting birders.

WARBLERS THROUGH FINCHES — One d Golden-winged
Warbler was heard July 15 in the same area of the Pembina Hills,
Cavalier Co., first D, where the first state nesting record was
counted last year. One singing d Tennessee Warbler was at Straw-
berry L., Bottineau Co., June 20 (RCR), and another male was in

CUCKOOs THROUGH WOODPECKERS — A Yellow-billed
Cuckoo at the Spotted Eagle Recreation Area near Miles City June 18
and July 6 represented the 18th Montana record (SG). Six Poor-wills
in the N. Unit of Roosevelt N.P., June 4 established a new locale
for the state, and also extended the known range of this species about 100
km n. (CF). Five singing Poor-wills were heard in the S. Unit of
Roosevelt N.P., June 24 (RCR). One Poor-will was in the Pine Hills
s.e. of Miles City through the period. This bird was flushed from its
nest which contained one egg. Two other Poor-wills were heard on
the Missouri R. breaks n. of Ft. Peck (CC). Ruby-throated Hummingbirds were found June 10 in Dewel County, and July 23 in
Roberts County, S.D. There are still no known breeding records for
this state (BH). One Red-headed Woodpecker was at Chester,
Mont., June 18 (MK), and three pairs nested at Ft. Peck (CC). Possibly the most n. nesting location of Red-bellied Woodpecker
in South Dakota was found June 26 at Hartford Beach S.P. (DS).
A single Red-bellied Woodpecker was in the Grand Forks cemetery
June 3. DL reported a nesting density of 4-5 pairs of Yellow-bellied
Sapsuckers/river mi along the upper Turtle R., in e. North Dakota.

FLYCATCHERS THROUGH WRENS — The most e. record of
Say’s Phoebe was of a pair feeding three fledging young July 27 near
Northwood, Grand Forks Co. (JK). Important new data on Alder
Flycatcher distribution in North Dakota included one in late June
near Orr, Grand Forks Co., and one at LaMoure Co., in s.e. North
Dakota June 26. Five W. Wood Pewee pairs at The Nature Conser-
vancy’s new Cross Ranch Preserve, Oliver Co., N.D., represented a
new e. extension of this species in the state (GB). Single W. Wood
Peees were also found near Parshall, Mountrail Co., June 13 and
near Sawyer, N.D., June 11 and July 23 (RM). Short-billed Marsh
Wrens moved into the prairie region in excellent numbers this year;
there was a noticeable increase in numbers from 1981 in the
Minot area (RM). However, this species was not recorded at Lastwood
N.W.R., until June 25 (FB).

MIMIDS THROUGH VIREOS — A singing d Mockingbird was at
Zap, Mercer Co., N.D., July 22 (CF). Three Mockingbirds were at
n. Jordon, Mont., June 24 providing new records for Latitons L 22
and possibly L 21 (SG). Berkey estimated 30-60 pairs of E. Bluebirds at Cross Ranch, Oliver Co., throughout the season. An ad. Blue-gray
Gnatcatcher was found June 3 at Newton Hills S.P. This is the same
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study Sprague’s Pipit breeding populations, and also to
optimize observation opportunities for visiting birders.
Grand Forks June 22. Stewart listed this warbler as a suspected breeder, based on several early July records. The 1982 records reinforce the question—"Does the Tennessee Warbler nest in North Dakota?" A Myrtle Warbler in Grand Forks June 2 was undoubtedly a late migrant, but one male in the Int'l Peace Gardens July 10 might possibly have been nesting. Only Audubon's Warbler is known to nest in North Dakota. A very late Blackpoll Warbler was singing June 9 at the Spotted Eagle Recreation Area near Miles City (SG). A ♂ MacGillivray's Warbler in McKenzie County, N.D., June 3 was probably a late migrant.

Seven Scarlet Tanagers were reported from s. South Dakota, and one male was on territory in Oliver County June 17 (RM, GB). A singing ♂ Rose-breasted Grosbeak near Parshall, Mountrail Co., June 13, was among the most w. records for the state. Blue Grosbeaks were reported from 6 s. South Dakota counties. One pair n.w. of Bismarck, Burleigh Co., July 19 (CF) was in the same locale where the species nested in 1979 and 1980. BI found this year's nest July 30. Dickcissel numbers were much reduced from 1981; only five were reported from e. North Dakota. A visiting Georgia birder reported that during 9 days of intensive birding over 3200 mi extending from Atlanta to the U.P. of Michigan, w. to Jamestown, and return to Atlanta, he recorded no Dickcissels and only one Loggerhead Shrike (M. Oberle)! A pair of House Finches in Edgemont, Fall River Co., June 11, probably represented the only known site for this species in South Dakota. Over 100 White-winged Crossbills were in the Sylvan L. campground, Black Hills June 1 (NH, DH). Whitney et al. (1975) reported the White-winged Crossbills are possible summer residents at that location.

SPARROWS — A single, agitated Le Conte's Sparrow was in the White Rock area, Roberts Co., June 13. Two birds (a pair?) were at that location June 26 (BH). Although no nests were found, the observers were confident that nesting was in progress. The last confirmed nesting in South Dakota was in 1955. Swamp Sparrows were in 3 McHenry County, N.D., locations, one was at Salvy N.W.R., July 18, and 3-5 pairs were at Verendrye, N.D., through the period. This species is uncommon and highly local, largely occurring only in the e. and s.-c. portions of North Dakota. Very late Dark-eyed Juncos were at Grand Forks June 3, and at Cross Ranch June 5 (DL, RM, GB).


SOHWARD FOR PLAINS
/Frances Williams

Abundant rains brought lush vegetative growth and hordes of insects, but the usualear heat of a plains summer did not develop until late July. Conditions were right for bounteous production of insects, but the usual searing heat of a plains summer did not develop until late July. Conditions were right for bounteous production of

ITALIZED place names in the following report are counties.

LOONS THROUGH FRIGATEBIRDS — An excellent description was submitted of an Arctic Loon on L. Ogalalla, Keith Co., Neb., on the late date of June 10 (DTW). At Quivira N.W.R., Kans., 106 Eared Grebes nests were destroyed by a storm July 13 (RB). On Merritt Res., Cherry Co., Neb., 150 W. Grebes were counted July 6 (ID). Pied-billed Grebes summered in McLenann, Tex. (LB). Unusual summer records were provided by White Pelicans in McLenann June 27 (JO) and Tulsa June 15-29 (AH, m.ob.). An Anhinga was discovered in Linn, Kans., July 24 (LM, RP). A Magnificent Frigatebird which remained at Meade County State L., Kans., from mid-June to mid-July, was the first seen in the state since 1880 (MG, m.ob.).

HERONS THROUGH IBISES — Little Blue Herons nested successfully in Johnson, Tex., for the first time (CE). Many thousands of Cattle Egrets inhabited heronries in Muskogee (JH) and Pittsburg (CSG), Okla. The species summered in Douglas, Kans., but no nests were seen (TAB). At least 150 were counted during Breeding Bird Surveys (hereafter, B.B.S.) in Limestone and Robertson, Tex. (L.B).
WATERFOWL — In Rush, Kans., Mallards nested successfully, taking advantage of the wet spring and early summer (SS). A Mottled Duck was present in Clark, Kans., July 16 (J & ES). In Crosby, Tex., a Green-winged Teal nest with 8 eggs was destroyed by hail and flood June 18 (ML). The nest represented one of the very few breeding records of the species in the state. A Gadwall followed by ducklings was seen in Hutchinson July 5. Redhead was the most common summering duck in Castro and Midland, Tex., but no young were seen. A Ruddy Duck at Fredericksburg, Tex., July 29 may have been a very early fall migrant (E & KM). A Hooded Merganser was seen at Omaha July 1 (RC).

VULTURES THROUGH FALCONS — In Crosby, A Turkey Vulture roost used by 20-50 birds from 1973 to 1978 was used by only 6-12 birds this year (KH).

QUAIL THROUGH GALLINULES — Those who have searched in vain for Montezuma Quail will envy the observers who saw a pair with nine young cross the highway between Balmorhea and Ft. Davis, Tex. (SW). Another pair was seen on the road shoulder of highway 1703 near Alpine (GW). Six young wild Turkeys were present in one of Tulsa’s River Parks July 24 (FP). Two ad. Sandhill Cranes remained at Quivira N.W.R., July 6-26 (RBr et al.). Several Virginia Rails summered in the marsh below the dam at L. Meredith, Hutchinson Co., Tex. (KS). A Sora was discovered in Meade June 13 and four Black Rails were calling in Stafford June 3 (J & ES). Common Gallinules nested at Dallas and Quivira N.W.R., and were present at Hutchinson, McLenman and Ft. Worth, Tex. One was found dead on a street in Muskogee, Okla., June 8 (JN).

SHOREBIRDS — Owing to high water in the Platte R., Piping Plovers nested successfully at only one of 6 sites along the lower river (JD). Piping Plovers were observed at Hagerman N.W.R., July 17 & 22 (KHa, JHB). Snowy Plover numbers were about the same as last year at Quivira N.W.R., and Cheyenne Bottoms W.M.A., Kans., but success was low because of periodic heavy rains and hail (RB). In Norton, Kans., a 3-day-old Upland Sandpiper chick was photographed June 25. On July 30, four fledglings were in the same area (SS). Six Upland Sandpipers in Hansford, Tex., June 10 were unusual for the date (KS). A Ruff was found June 21 at Cheyenne Bottoms W.M.A., Kans. (RB, BS, * to Ft. Hays State Univ.). American Avocets and Black-necked Stilts nested at El Paso, the first time breeding has been confirmed there (JSp). Black-necked Stilts also nested young at Quivira N.W.R. An observer accustomed to shorebird congregations on the Texas coast marveled at the astounding assemblage of 200,000 shorebirds, including 2000 Black-necked Stilts, at Cheyenne Bottoms July 14 (CC). There were many Wilson’s Phalaropes at Quivira N.W.R., but nesting success was low due to periodic high water (RB). A pair of Wilson’s Phalaropes was on a playa in Carson, Tex., June 20, just e. of the spot the first Texas breeding record was established in 1980 (KS).

TERNS — A Com. Tern was sighted at Quivira N.W.R., June 4 (J & ES). A Caspian Tern was observed in Linn, Kans., July 18 and at least two were present at Cheyenne Bottoms June 1-July 21 (JN).

Three studies of Least Tern colonies were received. Jim Ducey wrote that an aerial survey of the lower Platte R., by the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission revealed 6 Least Tern colonies in the 100 km stretch of the Platte from the Missouri upstream to the w. boundary of Dodge and Saunders. A ground count of these sites

White-tailed Kite, s.e. Oklahoma, July 20, 1982. Photo/John Shackford.

In an experimental program in Kansas, 2 eggs of a Swallow-tailed Kite were blown from Florida and placed in a Mississippi Kite nest near Meade. Both eggs hatched and the foster parents began feeding the nestlings as their own. One chick died, cause unknown. The other fledged about July 25. It is hoped the young one will migrate with its "parents" and return next year, demonstrating that it might be possible to re-establish Swallow-tailed Kites in an area where they have not bred since 1914.

A Cooper’s Hawk at Buffalo Lake N.W.R., Tex., July 11 represented a first midsummer record there, and one at El Paso July 21 was also noteworthy. Broad-winged Hawks were seen near Keene, Tex., June 9-July 3, Dallas June 19, July 3 and in Washington, Okla. (no date given). Although above-average numbers of Swainson’s Hawks were seen in w. Texas, most were sub-ad., non-breeding birds. In Rush and Pawnee, Kans., 2 nests produced just one fledgling Swainson’s Hawk each. During June, Ferruginous Hawks were located in Hartley, Ochiltree and Dallam, Tex., but no nests were seen (KS). The Black Hawks found near Lubbock in the spring remained through July 31 (KH, m.o.b.). A young Golden Eagle seen July 2 at a cliffside nest in Sheridan, Neb., provided a first breeding record there (RC). A Marsh Hawk family with three young was present in Stafford June 2-July 19 (J & ES). In Pawnee, Kans., a Marsh Hawk nest which contained 4 eggs July 6 held 3 cold eggs July 26 and the adults were absent (SS). Marsh Hawks in Oldham and Dallam, Tex., in June represented rare summer records (KS). An Aplomado Falcon chick was hatched in captivity at the Chihuahuan Desert Research Institute, Alpine, Tex. A Merlin in Zippo, Kans., July 30 provided an unusual summer record. At Buffalo Lake N.W.R., a pair of Am. Kestrels raised young in one of the hollow cinder blocks of a comfort station. In downtown Bartlesville, Okla., an Am. Kestrel carried food to an unused (by people) building. Three pairs of kestrels nested in the Ottawa, Okla., chat piles, each in a different pile. The holes they occupied were probably dug originally by Bank or Rough-winged swallows (PWW).

Sand dredging on the Platte R., Neb. This dredging provides nesting habitat for Least and other tern species. Photo/Jim Ducey.
revealed a total of 78 adult birds and 31 nests July 1-2. The sites were
visited again July 28-30, when 17 fledgled young were seen. High
water reduced the size of sandbars and flooded nesting sites, but at least
one case the high water also reduced recreational activity on the
sandbars, thus permitting the terns to nest undisturbed. The most
successful colony was a private sand and gravel operation in
Saunders, where the owner was interested in the success of the terns
and limited human access during the breeding season. Sand dredging
operations benefit the terns by creating new sand areas free of
vegetation. Activities associated with hauling sand did not bother the
terns, as one incubating bird did not leave its scrape within 5m of the
road even when large trucks roared by. In Tulsa, Fred Pianalto reported
that high water at the usual nesting area at 45th Street and the
Arkansas R., caused the Least Terns to move to 41st Street and the
nesting area one week later than last year. The first nest was found
June 10 and by July 1 three nests were reported. Three of five nests,
one of which contained a chick. By July 8, there were 15 nestlings. A later nest with 3
eggs was located July 25. The Schultenbosch and Roger Boyd found 37
brooding pairs of Least Terns in Kansas, in Meade, Stafford and
Clark. The success rate was low, but better than last year. Boyd also
reported 30 pairs of Least Terns on the Cimarron R., in n. w. Woods,
Okla.

CUCKOOS THROUGH GOAT-SUCKERS — It was a banner
year for Black-billed Cuckoos. In n. w. Nebraska, many were noted in
cities and towns and in all riperian growth. In Kansas, individuals
were seen in Barber, Phillips and Pawnee. In Washington, Okla., one
was feeding a nestling July 30. It was a good year for Roadrunners at
Hagerman N.W.R., where as many as eight could be found during
one field trip.

Near Valentine, Tex., 4 Barn Owl eggs were discovered May 15 in
the bottom of a 20 ft high unused water tank. The tank was located
between ranch house, working pens and vegetable garden—right in
the center of ranch activity. Two eggs hatched, then it rained, leaving
3 in of water in the tank. The owlets survived. After the water
evaporated, the adult fed innocently the 2 remaining eggs. By Aug. 4,
one owl had flown, but the other was still in the tank (JM). Barn
Owls fledged young at Muleshoe N.W.R. Four young Elf Owls appeared at dusk on a ranch road in Presidio, Tex., July 17-18 (JM).
At least 2 families of Burrowing Owls resided in Canadian, Okla.
In Meade, Kans., a pair of Burrowing Owls with three young were
observed July 31. Short-eared Owls were reported in Pawnee, Kans.,
during early June. Whip-poor-wills called all summer in Sarpy, Neb.
(MW).

HUMMINGBIRDS THROUGH WOODPECKERS — A dr
Lucifer Hummingbird visited a Ft. Davis, Tex., feeder June 22-30 and
a female came periodically July 18-31 (PE). In Presidio, a Lucifer fed in a flower garden May 28 (JM). Broad-tailed Hummingbirds in El
Paso June 29-30 were noteworthy at that date (SW, JDO). A dr Black-chinned Hummingbird enjoyed a Lawton, Okla., feeder June 15-31
(JMM). A Rufous Hummingbird arrived at Kerrville July 22, an early date for this species (JJ). Callipepla inexspensa was noted at Alpine, Tex., July 31 (GW). Rivelio’s Hummingbirds visit the Dog
Canyon ranger station in Guadalupe Mts. n., each July 29 (GW) and
they are observed almost every summer in the Davis Mts. (fide GW).
A Broad-tailed Hummingbird visited a feeder in Presidio July 4-15
(JM). A Green Kingfisher in Coryell, Tex., June 9 provided a new
county record (LB, JSW). A pair of Golden-fronted Woodpeckers
nesting in Big Bend N.P., constituting a first record there (AB). In
Lincoln’s Chet Ager Nature Center, a pair of Red-bellied Woodpeckers
nested, also a first record (MO). Two Ladder-backed Woodpecker nests were found in Kingfisher, Okla. (JRSK), and a pair was
sighted in Alabaster Caverns S.P., Woodward, Okla. (RB). In Texas, the species can now be found as far e. as Johnson (CE).

FLYCATCHERS THROUGH SWALLOW — Two juv.
Scissor-tailed Flycatchers were seen in Alpine indicating a probable nesting
(GW). The mesquite grassland area in Kingfisher was the habitat of a
pair of nesting Ash-throated Flycatchers, the easternmost recorded in
At least 2 pairs (JJ, RS). A pair of Phoebes fledged young in Rush (SS) and
Meade, Kans. (JP). A Least Flycatcher was seen and heard in Osage, Kans., June 19 (SK). The pair of Vermilion Flycatchers in Cimarron,
Okla., noted in the spring report, had fledged young and built a second
test by June 11 (JSSK). Most of the nest burrows in a Rough-winged Swallow colony in Lancaster, Neb., were destroyed when the bank
of the creek collapsed. Instead of 40 burrows, 10 ± remained and only
one appeared to be occupied (JD). A Barn Swallow nest with 3 eggs
provided a first, but not unexpected, breeding record for Lubbock, Tex. (KH, DS). Cave Swallows were sighted in Ward, Tex., under an
18 20 bridge over a dry wash 680 yds e. of the Pecos R. (GWA) A pair of Cave Swallows again nested at Balmoreaux S.P., Tex.

MAGPIES THROUGH WRENS — Two Black-billed Magpies were seen in Stafford June 1 (J & ES). In Robertson, Tex., Bush tits
were seen June 2 (LB, JO). White-breasted Nuthatches were found in
Philpot and Norton, Kans., during the B.B.S. (SS). A pair of Red-
breasted Nuthatches nested successfully in Wichita, apparently only
the second Kansas nesting on record (F & EL, fide DV). A Red-
breasted Nuthatch in Lubbock June 6 (RE) was a very late spring
migrant, while early fall migrants were noted in Chadron, Neb. July
30 (CRCR) and the Guadalupe Mountains N.P., July 31 (CC). A Brown
Cuckoo present at Burning’s Wrens nest at Palo Alto. Black & white
Wrens were present at Chadron, Kans., the first time in many years (RB)
and a female in May was found in Comanche, Kans. (SS). A Cactus Wren
in suburban Midland discovered that a martin house is a good place to
raise a family, safe from Roadrunners and snakes. Three Long-billed Marsh Wrens were heard in appropriate habitat in Linn, Kans., July
11 (MC, KHO). Short-billed Marsh Wrens were believed to be nesting
near Lawrence, Kans., in July (CC).

MIMICS THROUGH TANAGERS — In Nebraska, Mocking-
birds and Meadowlarks were seen in Red Willow July 15 (BJR) and at Ash Hollow S.P., July 26 (PDS). Late Gray Catbirds were located at Dallas June 9 (BV) and Midland June 11-13 (JME). A Servant Thrush at Midland July 26 provided an unusual date for this species. A dr Aztec Thrush in Big
Bend N.P., July 31 (CSE), Aug. 7 (ML) was a second record for this
species (PS). A pair of Broad-tailed Hummingbirds visited a Ft. Davis, Tex., feeder June 22-30 and a Black-throated Green Hummingbird
was found in Guadalupe Mountains N.P., July 31 (CC). Black-capped
Vireos continue to decline in c. Oklahoma, but the Texas population
is apparently stable. An easily accessible spot to see this species is
at the Greenhills Environmental Center near Dallas. All contributors
continue to report a decline in numbers of Bell’s Vireos. A Red-eyed
Vireo at Midland was a late migrant (JME). A Black-and-white
Warbler was seen in Omaha on the usual date of July 5. Two N
Witterthrunbirds were banded in Fontenelle Forest, Sarpy, Neb., July
16, 18 (RG). Two Bobolink nests with eggs and young were found
near Quivira N.W.R., June 10 (RB). A new colony of Bobolinks was
located in Sarpy (PS, AS). Both Eastern and W. Meadowlarks were
common near Alpine (GW). In Allen, Kans., a W. Meadowlark was
heard June 18 (SK). Yellow-headed Blackbirds were feeding young in
Castro, Tex., July 4 (KS, PA). A pair of Hooded Orioles was present at
Lost Maples S.P., Tex., June 10 (E & KM). A dozen Great-tailed Grackles were n. of w. as late as July 5 (J & ES). The alarming spread of
Bronze Cowbirds in c. and n. Texas continued, as the rapid increase in numbers was noted in the Kerrville area and first sightings were made at
Alpine and El Paso. No Summer Tanagers were seen on heard during 3 B.B.S. on the s. edge of the Edwards Plateau in Texas

FRINGILLIDS — Three Rose-breasted Grosbeaks at Tulsa July
1 were late. Blue Grosbeaks were numerous along the Cimarron R.,
from Freedom, Okla., to Liberal, Kans., and were seen at 2 localities in
Sarpy. Late Indigo Buntings were seen in Texas in Big Bend N P, June
21, Kerr June 10, Oldham June 6. A dr Painted Bunting brightened
Comanche, Kans., June 12 and a nest was found in Clark, Kans., June 18. The Dickcissel population burgeoned in Lubbock and
Crosby, Tex., and Pawnee, Kans. House Finches were present in
Chadron, Neb., all summer and two juveniles were seen July 28 (DJR). On a Sheridan, Neb., B.B.S., only 20 singing dr Lark Buntings
were heard, in contrast to a high in 1977 of 214 individuals (RRCR) A dr
Lark Bunting in Sarpy June 10 was far e. of the usual range of this
species (PS). Lark Buntings summered in Stafford, Clark and Meade,
Kans., Bailey and Yoakum, Tex., and nesting was likely in each area
There were large breeding populations of Grasshopper Sparrows in
w.-c. Kansas and the Texas Panhandle. Cassin’s Sparrows were
abundant from the Oklahoma Panhandle s. to Alpine, Tex. Nesting
began early and many pairs must have nested twice, as singing and
skylarking increased in July although many fledglings were in
evidence. Black-chinned Sparrow was the most common bird in Dog
Canyon, Guadalupe Mountains N.P., July 15 (SW). Of at least 100 males were singing in the Franklin Mts., near El Paso June 30 (JDO)
A new nesting site of Swamp Sparrows was discovered in Sheridan
June 4 (RCR).
In most areas of the Region, birds responded to favorable conditions with successful nesting efforts. The season was unmarred by major disasters and only a few of a local nature. Rainfall of late April and of May was to prove crucial in supplying fresh water and stimulating vegetation for June and July, months when very little precipitation occurred except on the upper coast. Sunny skies contributed to temperatures averaging slightly above normal. By the end of the season most of South Texas was on the verge of drought; the lily-covered rain pools which dotted the coastal plain from Corpus Christi to the Rio Grande Delta were drying up, grass was browning, and some trees were succumbing to drought stress. It should be noted that nesting activity for landbirds is well under way—in some cases completed—by June 1, so that dwindling water and food supplies should not be a limiting factor to production.

**SOUTH TEXAS REGION**

/Fred S. Webster, Jr.

In most areas of the Region, birds responded to favorable conditions with successful nesting efforts. The season was unmarred by major disasters and only a few of a local nature. Rainfall of late April and of May was to prove crucial in supplying fresh water and stimulating vegetation for June and July, months when very little precipitation occurred except on the upper coast. Sunny skies contributed to temperatures averaging slightly above normal. By the end of the season most of South Texas was on the verge of drought; the lily-covered rain pools which dotted the coastal plain from Corpus Christi to the Rio Grande Delta were drying up, grass was browning, and some trees were succumbing to drought stress. It should be noted that nesting activity for landbirds is well under way—in some cases completed—by June 1, so that dwindling water and food supplies should not be a limiting factor to production.

**GREBES, PELICANS — Least Grebe production was good from the Rio Grande Delta n. to Welder Ref. where 6 pairs were noted—the first breeders there in several years (GWB). A large number of nests was reported in the Falflurrias area, Brooks Co., where young were in the nest into late July (AWO). Heavy infestation of lice in the pouches and on the bodies of young White Pelicans during the past 2 seasons, with subsequent die-offs, probably caused the colony to abandon South Bird I., in favor of spoil banks farther s. on the Laguna Madre. This year’s young appeared healthy (RW). Brown Pelicans have made a dramatic comeback since the nearly total decline of the 1990s. Even now few are seen on the upper coast, but 2 breeding colonies have been established on the c. coast, and visitors from Mexico, thought to number at least 400 this season, were regular on the lower coast northward. This was the best comeback season to date. The Pelican I. (an old spoil island) in Corpus Christi Bay had about 80 nests and 147 young. The other site, Carroll I., on the s. shore of San Antonio Bay had 16 nests and 23 young. Aerial surveys showed 245 birds between Port Mansfield and Port Isabel (lower coast) July 1, and 557 birds between San Antonio Bay and Corpus Christi July 14, of which were unfledged young on Pelican I. Young pelicans are reported to be healthy, food sources were good, and parasites were much fewer than in the 2 previous wet years (DB, EP).

**HERONS, IBISES, SPOONBILLS — The long Texas coastline with its barrier islands and backside sand flats, bays with natural and spoil islands, salt marshes, and mud flats, host myriad waterbird nesting colonies which in 1982 were relatively undisturbed by natural phenomena. High tides did inundate some Galveston Bay colonies but nesting was successful. Fire ants attacked nesting herons on Lone Oak Spoil I., in Galveston Bay, killing about 50% the young birds, but this was not a large colony. Preliminary reports indicate generally good production for all colonial waterbird species; unfortunately, final figures are neither available until well after this report is due. About 700 pairs of Reddish Egrets nested successfully in the large colony on Green I. in lower Laguna Madre. This figure represents a slight drop in numbers from recent years. That there were many individuals not occupied with nesting is suggested by flights of up to 1500 Reddish Egrets approaching or leaving the island in the heat of the day. The assumption is that not so many birds would leave the nests at one time. Good production was noted for the much smaller populations in at least 2 c. coast colonies, Second Chain of Islands in San Antonio Bay and Long Reef in Aransas Bay. Roseate Spoonbills had a good season at the important colonies of Vingt-et-un I., in Galveston Bay with 250+ pairs nesting, and at Green I. Spoonbill nestlings were not molested by fire ants that attacked other species on Lone Oak Spoil I., thanks, perhaps, to some "built-in repellant" (JW). Perhaps the distinctive odor of the spoonbill? (ed.)

**WATERFOWL — Good production was indicated for Black-bellied Whistling Ducks. Dr. O’Neil, longtime observer at Falflurrias, Brooks Co., reported the largest hatch he had ever seen. Two pairs of Masked Ducks were seen in a flooded field w. of Falflurrias June 20, but could not be located subsequently (AWO). Water hyacinths and other aquatic plants typically clog such shallow intermittent lakes which are favored by Masked Ducks and render sighting of them difficult.

**HAWKS — Hawks are not readily seen from interstate highways in summer and not many birders search the back roads, hence an accurate assessment of hawk production from the vast, but ever dwindling, thorny brush forest of South Texas is unavailable. An exception has been the few birders at Falflurrias who through the years have contributed valuable observations concerning brush country raptors. This season in s. Brooks County, Red-tailed Hawks were fledged June 29 from a nest atop a 20-ft pole surrounded by flood lights; Swainson’s Hawks fledged two young about May 1 (AWO); also, good numbers of Harris’ Hawks and Caracaras were noted (JB, AWO). An imm. Zone-tailed Hawk at Laguna Atascosa N.W.R. July 27, was unusual; this species is considered to be a rare winter visitor (SI, AS). Also unexpected was an ad. Bald Eagle flying over the Oso at Corpus Christi July 23 (MSI), and an ad. Peregrine Falcon at a farm pond in n. Hays County June 23 (BH). Based on sightings of 3 Am. Kestrels along a 10-mi stretch of high power lines in n. Webb County June 9, Arvin suspected a small breeding population from Zapata County n. into Dimmit County. A single bird was seen 30 mi n. of San Antonio June 29 (BB). This common winter resident does not normally breed in South Texas.
GALLINULES, SHOREBIRDS — Purple Gallinules nested successfully at several sites on the c. coast, while the Com. Gallinule took advantage of well vegetated rain lakes throughout the coastal area to produce a good crop of young. The latter species nested on an overgrown island, along with vegetation in large sewage ponds at Austin; ten healthy young were counted in this odorous environment July 31 (J & BR). Along with other beach, island and marsh nesters, shorebirds had a successful season.

TERNS, SKIMMERS — After many years of persecution by humans, the Least Terns along Rockport Beach have been fenced in; nesting results were reported after a slow start (C & HK). A fence was installed again along the Padre I. causeway by the Nueces County Commissioner to protect nesting Black Skimmers (KM).

DOVES — Surveys by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department biologists indicated 487,000 White-winged Doves nesting in the 4 counties comprising the Lower Rio Grande Valley (Rio Grande Delta). This is a very slight decrease from 1981. About 58% of the birds utilized native brush, the remainder nested in citrus groves. For a number of years these doves roosted in Texas but fed in Mexico in great numbers. Since waste grain is an important food item, doves were attracted to extensive new plantings in n.e. Mexico. To lure the birds back into Texas for hunting purposes, landowners started planting sunflowers. The plan worked, and for several years most doves have remained in Texas to feed. Beyond the Rio Grande Delta, the most stable and significant White-winged Dove colony is in the vicinity of L. Corpus Christi. About 51,800 birds nested here in 1982, an 8% increase over 1981 (fide RG). The Mourning Dove breeding population in South Texas increased an estimated 18% over last year and production appeared good (fide RG).

ANIS THROUGH KINGFISHERS — Groove-billed Anis disappeared from the Pearsall area of Frio County where they were widespread nesters a year ago (DS). This may have been a local shift as anis were found elsewhere in Frio County and in adjacent Zavala County (CS). They nested in good numbers in the Falfurrias area (AWO). At least 20 young Barn Owls were brought to Corpus Christi for rehabilitation, displaced from hunting blinds when the owners did their fall “housecleaning” (KM). A Chuck-will’s-widow was singing vigorously amid the Pauraque chorus at Bentsen-Rio Grande Valley S.P., July 11 (CS). This species has not been known to nest in deep South Texas and the date is extremely early for migration.

BUFF-BELLIED HUMMINGBIRDS are increasingly common in summer at Rancho Santa Margarita, Starr Co. (CS). Two singing Am. Robins were noted in Falfurrias May 25, nesting was suspected but no evidence found (AWO). Breeding is not known to occur this far s in Texas.

VIREOS, WARBLERS — Black-capped Vireo habitat on the w edge of Austin is being destroyed systematically by developers but the bird is easily found in remaining pockets (CS). Now that the species status of the Yellow-green Vireo is in terminal jeopardy the bird has made a comeback in the Rio Grande Delta! Conclusive evidence confirmed breeding for the first time since 1974. A pair near the manager’s residence at Santa Ana N. W. R., fledged at least two young. August observations here and at Bentsen-Rio Grande Valley S.P., suggested the possibility of more than one pair (J & BR). Typical Red-eyed Vireos were observed at s. extremities of the range, a pair on territory in riparian habitat below the dam at L. Corpus Christi and two pairs in the San Antonio R. valley in Goliad County (GWB). The Golden-cheeked Warbler population at L. Corpus Christi is undergoing a serious decline, with the fates of the Black-capped Vireo and the future appears grim with the allocation of water to huge subdivisions planned in w. Travis County. The warblers are still common and easy to find, although this year they seemed more scattered. Hard winter freezes apparently reduced the prospective caterpillar population, as evidenced by the lack of the usual defoliation of deciduous oaks and elms, and reduced thereby a normal food source (CS).

ORIOLES THROUGH SPARROWS — Hooded Orioles were scarce or absent from the Rio Grande Delta and upstream, but reportedly more regular along the s. edge (escarpment) of the c. Texas hill country. Parasitism by the Bronzed Cowbird is a suspected major cause of the oriole’s departure from its former range to areas where this parasite is less common (CS). Parasitism by both cowbird species was noted at Laguna Atascosa N. W. R., during July. Cardinals and Long-billed Thrashers appeared to be the most common hosts, and the Bronzed Cowbird was predominant in most cases (SJ). The Bronzed Cowbird reached Austin some years ago but is still rare and localized.

Painted Buntings had an excellent year at Falfurrias after a 4-year decline (AWO). Dickcissels found habitat to their liking and, predictably, remained to nest in many localities throughout the Region. Olive Sparrows fared well at Falfurrias (AWO). A nesting population of Grasshopper Sparrows w. of Falfurrias increased over last year (AWO). This species continued to invade coastal bermuda pastures in Wilson County, joining E. Meadowlarks in this restricted habitat Cassin’s Sparrows were unaccountably absent from Wilson County (WS).


NORTHWESTERN CANADA REGION

/Helmut Grünberg/

June was a very dry month in many parts of the Region while July was more favorable in that respect although precipitation did not nearly reach the long-term averages. Temperatures were close to normal. Low precipitation, combined with a late spring, should have had a negative effect on the breeding birds. This could indeed be observed in isolated instances, but even in these cases other reasons for unsuccessful breeding attempts could not be ruled out. The total number of observed species reported was 216, which is close to last summer’s record high of 223.

GEESE THROUGH RAILS — Snow Geese were observed at Inuvik, N.W.T., May 18 (+ MBen). The third or fourth record of a d
Gadwall was received from Inuvik, MacKenzie Delta June 9-13 (MBen). Interestingly, on June 13, this bird seemed to have been paired with a Mallard. A similar observation was made independently May 29, 1982 near Pelly Crossing, Yukon (see AB: 36, 873). A pair of Sora was noted at Moose Jaw, May 29, 1982 near Pelly Crossing, Yukon (see AB: 36, 873). A breeding record for the MacKenzie Delta in late June or early July (MBen). Hammond’s Flycatchers were identified in several locations from n. British Columbia to c. Yukon June 16-July 9 (SC). Two Rough-winged Swallows were observed at a beaver pond on McIntyre Cr., Whitehorse June 3 (HG, WH). Mountain Chickadees continue to appear at a specific location in Whitehorse (DS). Two Wheatear nests with well-feathered young were found within 0.8 km of each other in rock crevices in the roadbed of the Dempster Hwy., at the Yukon/N.W.T border June 5-6 (RF). Two singing Veeries were observed near F.S.J., for the first record of the area (CBu, JJ, CS). Two Cedar Waxwings were noted as far n. as Liard Hot springs, B.C., in the same area as Bohemian Waxwings June 16-17 (SC). Starlings with at least two fledged young were seen near km 1 Dempster Hwy., July 9 (RF, SC).

VIARES THROUGH SPARROWS — A rare Philadelphia Vireo was seen near Mayo, c. Yukon June 18 (RF) and one as far n. as the MacKenzie Delta in late June or early July (MBen). Hammond’s Flycatchers were identified in several locations from n. British Columbia to c. Yukon June 16-July 9 (SC). Two Rough-winged Swallows were observed at a beaver pond on McIntyre Cr., Whitehorse June 3 (HG, WH). Mountain Chickadees continue to appear at a specific location in Whitehorse (DS). Two Wheatear nests with well-feathered young were found within 0.8 km of each other in rock crevices in the roadbed of the Dempster Hwy., at the Yukon/N.W.T border June 5-6 (RF). Two singing Veeries were observed near F.S.J., for the first record of the area (CBu, JJ, CS). Two Cedar Waxwings were noted as far n. as Liard Hot springs, B.C., in the same area as Bohemian Waxwings June 16-17 (SC). Starlings with at least two fledged young were seen near km 1 Dempster Hwy., July 9 (RF, SC).

SHOREBIRDS — Two Black-bellied Plovers were seen at Inuvik June 5 (MBen), and two were noted near Pine L., Haines Jct., Yukon July 1 (KP). An estimated 8-10 pairs of Surfbirds were displaying in an area of about 50km² between Klaza and Apex Mts., Dawson Range, s.w. Yukon June 2-10 (RF). Three new Surfbird sites were also found in the Ogilvie Mts. (RF). The northernmost observation of two Surfbirds was made in the Richardson Mts., at 68°26’N, 137°27’W July 12. The behavior of the birds suggested that young were nearby (JG, DW). The above observations indicate that the Surfbird is a regular nesting bird in mountains throughout the Yukon. Four Ruddy Turnstones were observed at Wood Buffalo N.P., June 7 (MBo). A few positive identifications of Greater Yellowlegs in the Yukon and n. British Columbia are noteworthy: one near Whitehorse June 12 (JL, PW), at least one near the British Columbia/Yukon border along the Hanes Rd., June 28-30 (KSt), two at Bighorn Cr., s.w. Yukon July 1-5 (RCam), two at Log Cabin, B.C., km 46 Skagway Rd., July 13 (SC) and 1-4 near F.S.J., July 10-13 (CS). Twenty Short-billed Dowitchers were seen at Swan L., near Whitehorse June 6 (HG, WH). A young common Stilt Sandpiper was reported from sewage lagoons at F.S.J., July 14 (CS). Three W. Sandpipers were detected at Swan L., near Whitehorse July 30 (HG). A Buff-breasted Sandpiper was noted near Inuvik June 9 (MBen). Eighteen Hudsonian Godwits were counted at sewage lagoons near F.S.J., July 14, and 1-2 were noted here July 15-27 (CS). Eleven Sanderlings were observed near Inuvik June 4 (MBen). Up to 13 Wilson’s Phalaropes were seen at Swan L., throughout the summer at their usual location (HG et al.).

JAEGERS THROUGH HUMMINGBIRDS — A Parasitic Jaeger was observed at Yellowknife July 1 (KSo), and the first report of this species for the Peace R. area, B.C., was received as one was seen at Charlie L., July 22 (CS). A Glaucous Gull was observed in Whitehorse June 22 (SC). A single Sabine’s Gull was noted at the Inuvik municipal dump June 4-5 (MBen). One vagrant Mourning Dove appeared near F.S.J., July 18 (JJ, GS, CS), and a Barred Owl called in the same area June 5 (CS). A Rufous Hummingbird was noted at Graham Inlet, n. B.C., July 14 and one July 30 (MBr). Four sightings in the s. Yukon by 3 observers were reported (fide RCar). A "probable" Rufous Hummingbird was seen near F.S.J., July 15 (CS)

KINGBIRDS THROUGH STARLINGS — An E. Kingbird was observed near Mayo, c. Yukon June 18 (RF) and one as far n. as the MacKenzie Delta in late June or early July (MBen). Hammond’s Flycatchers were identified in several locations from n. British Columbia to c. Yukon June 16-July 9 (SC). Two Rough-winged Swallows were observed at a beaver pond on McIntyre Cr., Whitehorse June 3 (HG, WH). Mountain Chickadees continue to appear at a specific location in Whitehorse (DS). Two Wheatear nests with well-feathered young were found within 0.8 km of each other in rock crevices in the roadbed of the Dempster Hwy., at the Yukon/N.W.T border June 5-6 (RF). Two singing Veeries were observed near F.S.J., for the first record of the area (CBu, JJ, CS). Two Cedar Waxwings were noted as far n. as Liard Hot springs, B.C., in the same area as Bohemian Waxwings June 16-17 (SC). Starlings with at least two fledged young were seen near km 1 Dempster Hwy., July 9 (RF, SC).

NORTHERN ROCKY MOUNTAIN—
INTERMOUNTAIN REGION
/Thomas H. Rogers

The western part of the Region in general experienced a hot, dry June until the last week when conditions became unseasonably wet and cool. Western Montana, however, had a cool, wet June except for Bozeman, where conditions were dry. July was in general wet and cool over the Region except for Bozeman, during the first half, after which the weather became almost uniformly hot and dry. Generally speaking, a wet spring and deep snowpacks in the mountains supplied abundant moisture for plant growth. Nesting was somewhat delayed by the weather but this apparently had no serious effect upon birds. High water levels in some areas caused problems for water-related nesters. An extremely severe hailstorm at Helena June 28 killed or injured large numbers of adult birds of many species and destroyed nests.

GREBES — Eared Grebes built 7 nests on a fishless lake near Fortine, Mont., where there is usually only one. All but one nest were abandoned, apparently because ducks perching on them pushed them below the waterline (WW). At least 50 pairs of this species, with young, were at Reardan, Wash., June 28 (FB). Western Grebe pairs at Malheur N.W.R. (hereafter, Malheur), Burns, Ore., totaled 1775, down 39% from last year. Cascade Res., Cascade, Ida., had 700 of the birds June 12 (G.E.A.S., MRC).

PELICANS AND CORMORANTS — White Pelicans concentrated off the refuge at Malheur as water receded in ponds, trapping carp. A flock of 30-40 was on the Snake R., near Clarkston, Wash., May 21 (TS; RN et al.). Up to 13 were on Cascade Res., in June (m.ob.). Sightings of the species were almost nil in c. Washington but 27 were at Naramata, B.C., June 14 (TB) and Summerland, B.C., had 20, June 20 (JB). High water continued to create problems for Double-crested Cormorants at Malheur. Most of their overwater nests became waterlogged and sank and 200 nests in large willow trees there were reduced to 87 by disturbance and raccoon predation. An imm. Double-crested was at the mouth of Alpowa Cr., on the Snake R., Garfield Co., Wash., June 29 (RN, MK) and one was at Kamloops, B.C., June 7 (DL).

HERONS THROUGH IBISES — Total production of Great Blue Herons at Malheur and in the Malheur-Harney Lakes Basin was 1136. A Green Heron at Malheur June 16 provided s.e. Oregon's sixth record (SL, DD) and one was sighted at Mud L., w. of Hamer, Ida., June 24 (CHT).

A pair of Cattle Egrets produced five young at Malheur for the first breeding record for Oregon (CDL). Two Cattle Egrets at L. Walcott were presumed to have nested (CHT) and one stayed in a pasture at Osoyoos, B.C., June 14-26 (M & TC; SC; WCW). A Great Egret was photographed at Ennis, Mont., for the third latilong record (PDS). Snowy Egrets had a bleak outlook except for Malheur with 65 pairs and L. Walcott, Rupert, Ida., where Trost banded 200 young in 2 days. He found thin-shelled eggs in many places in s. Idaho.

Potholes Res., Moses Lake, Wash., had 1000-2000 pairs of Black-crowned Night Herons and 50 pairs were nesting on Goat L., in Moses L. Twenty-eight nests on islands in Wells Pool on the Columbia R., n. of Wenatchee, Wash., all failed. At least five pairs were seen along Banks L., Grant Co., Wash. (RF). A colony at Sylvan L., near Odessa, Wash., had 20 + adults June 21 (JH, SZ). Black-crowneleds appeared to be still in trouble in s. Idaho. Trost banded 395 but 187 were adults at the Pocatello hatchery. He banded only 39 young at Am. Falls Res., and only 70 at L. Walcott in 2 days of intensive banding. A single bird was at Revelstoke, B.C., May 3 (ECs). Three Least Bitterns were heard and seen at Malheur throughout the summer (CDL). White-faced Ibis seemed to be doing well.

WATERFOWL — A Whistling Swan was sighted at Malheur June 24. The July 30 aerial survey there recorded 6 Trumpeter Swan broods totaling 17 cygnets, with two more on private land. Turnbull N.W.R., Cheney, Wash., had two pairs of Trumpeters, one of which had 6 eggs but succeeded in hatching only one. Canada Goose production at Malheur was the highest since 1971, with 2375 goslings; production at Kootenai N.W.R., Bonners Ferry, Ida., was up 25%.

Eight Snow Geese, including one blue-phase were on Malheur's Horseshoe L., June 16.

Duck pairs in the Malheur-Harney Basin continued to decline with just under 15,000, attributable to high water and burgeoning carp numbers. Mallards there were at their lowest since 1959; years of high water there appear to correlate with low Mallard numbers (CDL). Dabbling duck production at Kootenai N.W.R., was down significantly as were nearly all species of ducks in the Fortine vicinity. Malheur had a <i>δ</i> Eur. Wigeon and three Wood Ducks June 24 and Columbia N.W.R., Othello, Wash., had up to 15 of the latter. Three Greater Scaup were at Fairfield, Ida., June 4 (JBA). Common Goldeneye broods at Fortine contained 7-8 goslings; only one Barrow's Goldeneye brood was sighted there (WW). Single White-winged Scoters, rare in s. British Columbia in summer, were at Kamloops June 27 (RH) and in Kootenay N.P., June 2 (LH). Ten males were on Sullivan L., Pend Oreille Co., Wash., July 5 (FB). A pair of Hooded Mergansers apparently was nesting again at Cardwell, Mont.; a female was found in a Wood Duck box with a male nearby (RLE).

HAWKS — A White-tailed Kite was sighted in the Yakima Valley, Wash., in late June (JMH). Golden Eagles in n.e. Washington had 20 successful nests out of 60 ± potential nesting territories (RF). A pair of Bald Eagles reared two young at Otter L., near Armstrong, B.C., for the first breeding record for that locality (UG). An adult was hunting over a shallow lake s. of Silver Lake, Ore., July 8. Possibly this bird was from nearby mountains where a few pairs are known to nest (CDL). A pair near Sycan Marsh s. of Silver L., produced two young (CDL) as did a pair at Pend Oreille L., in n. Idaho (SGS). At Holter L., near Helena, Mont., a Prairie Falcon dived on a yearling Bald Eagle, breaking its neck and killing it (GH). A Marsh Hawk trying to snatch an Am. Coot chick at Reardan was driven into the water by ad. coots. Male Ruddy Ducks and several Eared Grebes surrounded the hawk, which drowned after a 10-min struggle (FB). An Osprey pair was feeding young at a lake near Pilot Rock, Ore., for the second consecutive summer (SM) and a pair was nesting near Buena, Wash. (Y.A.S.). The Osprey nestling attempt at Salmon, Ida., was unsuccessful.

Raptors which feed on jackrabbits nested in larger numbers, compared to 1976 on the Idaho Nat'l Engineering Lab site, Arco, Ida. Successful Ferruginous Hawk nests increased from 2 to 16 there and more nests of Red-tailed Hawks, Golden Eagles and Com. Ravens were also found (TIC). The Region had 5 sightings of Peregrine Falcons and one of a Merlin.

GALLINACEOUS BIRDS — "Mountain" Grouse broods in n.e. Washington were averaging 5-7 young, an improvement over recent
CRANES THROUGH COOTS —

S.A.

Twenty-seven Whooping Crane eggs were placed with Grays L., Ida., Sandhill Crane foster parents and 19 chicks hatched. There has been one known loss but parental behavior indicated they were doing well. The locations of 11 Whooping Cranes that hatched there in recent years have been determined in e. Idaho and w. Wyoming. These birds have not yet reached breeding age (ECB).

Greater Sandhill Cranes had 66% nesting success at Malheur, the highest since 1976. A single Sandhill was sighted at Nile, Wash., June 9 (Y.A.S.) and the species summered near Leadore, Ida. (HBR). Two Yellow Rails were tape-recorded in the Klamath Basin June 19-20 for apparently the second Oregon record (LRH). Malheur’s breeding population of Am. Coot was about 30,000.

SHOREBIRDS — Three Semipalmated Plovers were at Stinking L., Malheur July 10 and two appeared at Blacks Creek Res., s.e. of Bose, Ida., June 6 (MRC). Stinking L. had 27 Snowy Plovers July 12; high water apparently displaced them from their usual nesting area at Harney L. Leadore had Long-billed Curlews June 19 (HBR). The traditional Upland Sandpiper site in the Spokane Valley revealed 3-4 of the birds June 21 and a Whimbrel there was the first for n.e. Washington (BH-T, THR, GW). Five Upland Sandpipers were sighted in Logan Valley near Seneca, Ore., July 22 (CDL) and several were seen in nearby Bear Valley (fide AC). A Baird’s Sandpiper was at Chewelah, Wash., July 15 (JN). Up to 16 Sanderling were near Clarkston, Wash., July 6 & 23 (RN, LL). An Am. Avocet at Revelstoke June 1 was noteworthy (RB). Black-necked Stilt numbers were very low in c. Washington with only two pairs reported. An adult with three young was seen in July at Frenchman Hills Wasteway, s. Grant Co (UL). Thousands of Wilson’s Phalaropes were on Abert L., Lake Co., Ore., July 25 and 25 N. Phalaropes summered at Malheur (CDL).

GULLS AND TERNs — Some 10,000 Ring-billed Gulls were on Abert L., July 25. Cabin I., Priest Rapids Res., Wash., had 25-30 nesting pairs of Forster’s Terns and about 15 pairs were along Winchester Wasteway w. of Moses L. (RF). The Clarkston vicinity nesting pairs of Forster’s Terns and about 15 pairs were along Abert L., July 25. Cabin I., Priest Rapids Res., Wash., had 25-30 nests were found at Banks L. (RF). In s. Idaho a colony of 14 with many young was on Blackfoot Res., where previously there were only two birds. They were also noted at Market L., Roberts, Ida. (CHT). One Caspian was photographed near Clarkston July 3 (RN) and Kamloops, Creston and Nakusp, B.C., each had two birds (JW, KV; GD). Ennis, Mont., had 5-7 from June 22 to about July 9 for the fifth area record (PDS, SCo, ETH). Several Black Tern colonies were located at Malheur and 600 birds were nesting on Sycan Marsh (CDL).

PIGEONS AND CUCKooS — Single Band-tailed Pigeons showed up near Grandview, Ida., (TCo); at Kamiak Butte s.e. of Palouse, Wash. (JW); e. of Pendleton, Ore. (C & MC, Rew); at Malheur (AS, HCl), and near Belgrade, Mont., for the second record there (JS, CVD, LM; PDS, ETH). A Yellow-billed Cuckoo was sighted over the S. Fork of the Payette R., w. of Lowman, Ida., June 19 (MRC). Black-billed Cuckoos were heard at Canyon Ferry Res., July 3 and one was heard at L. Helena July 10, both near Helena (GH). Two were found s. of Revelstoke July 10-12 (ECB) and one was near Kamloops June 27 (RH).

OWLS — Barn Owls appear to be becoming common in the Lewiston, Ida.—Asotin, Wash. vicinity. Included in the observations were two young, one dead, June 6 (fide MK). One spent days in a barn near Armstrong, B.C., June 19-mid-July (FM). A pair was reported at Horn Rapids Park 13 mi n.w. of Richland July 21 & 25 (JEW; Rew) and two were seen in April and May at Watenchee, Wash. (HO). One was found in Bend, Ore., June 22 (TCl). The Pygmy Owl was found in the Pioneer Mts., n.w. of Dillon, Mont., and near Red Lodge, Mont., for the first summer records for the latilongs (PDS, HC) Barred Owls heard in 4 localities in Okanogan County, Wash., in July suggested a substantial population there (RF, Sma, JD). One was found in Pend Oreille County for the only other report (JN). A pair of Spotted Owls in Okanogan County was believed to be the first confirmed for that county. An unidentified Great Gray Owl were seen near Kamloops (GB) and a pair nested near Cranbrook, B.C. (RH). A nest of the species in the Bridger Mts., n. of Bozeman had three young July 11 (JS). A nesting of Long-eared Owls at 5000 ft elevation in Malheur N.F., Ore., was reported (fide AA)

POOR-WILLS THROUGH HUMMINGBIRDS — Poor-wills were heard e. of North, Mont., at a different site from their detection in 1980 and 1981 (SCo, PDS). One was heard the night of June 15 at Calamity Lookout n.e. of Burns, Ore. (MA) and five were seen in Wolverine Canyon s.e. of Idaho Falls, Ida., June 17 (KS). None were noted in the n. Okanogan Valley where they normally breed. Common Nighthawks numbers were down and their distribution spotty on the Malheur-Bend area of Oregon. Cool, wet weather may have short-stopped the birds in Nevada (CDL; TCl). A single Anna’s Hummingbird was noted at Tieton, Wash., June 5 (Y.A.S.) and a male was near Peshastin, Wash., in July (RO). A male Calliope Hummingbird appeared in the Silvies R. canyon n. of Burns, Ore., in July (MA).

WOODECKERS AND FLYCATCHERS — A Piedated Woodpecker, rarely seen in the Helena area, was sighted in Gates of the Mountains Wilderness (JSn; D & LS). Two “Red-breasted” Sapsuckers were spotted at Kamrock L., w. of Yakima June 19 (Y.A.S.) and this race (soon, species) was found on the West Fork of the Sun Pol R., s.w. of Republic, Wash., in late June (N.C.A.S., S.A.S.) A survey of 21 stands of aspen in Malheur N.F., found Williamson’s Sapsuckers nesting in 19 of them. The species was much less difficult to find there than the Yellow-bellied (AA).

An amazing record was of a Scissor-tailed Flycatcher photographed near Grandview, Ida., June 24 (TCO, MB; KBP). An Ash-throated Flycatcher nested in a bird house in Merle Archie’s yard in Burns, Ore., and one was sighted at Tampico, Wash., June 13 (Y.A.S.). At Malheur reduction in cattle grazing in riparian habitat starting in 1973 has resulted in an increase in Willow Flycatchers from zero to 30 (CDL). Breeding Bird Survey (hereafter, B.B.S.) routes Avery and Mivoden in n. Idaho and Keller and Reardan in n.e. Washington (hereafter, A-M-K-R) found this species’ total falling from 17 in 1979 to only seven. An Alder Flycatcher was singing along with Willow Flycatchers at Brookmere, B.C., June 27 for the second record from the Nicola R. drainage basin (WCl). The previous record was of two May 31-June 22, 1980 about 12 mi w. of Merritt (WCl, DK). Two Least Flycatchers were singing just s. of Merritt June 27; they were found there in 1974 (WCl).

Least Flycatchers are apparently expanding their range into e. Oregon. Malheur had one May 29 and up to five were seen and/or heard on territory at Clyde Holiday S.P., near Mt. Vernon May 29-17 (TCN, JGI, HCN, EJ, AC, LT).

The combined Hammond’s-Dusky Flycatcher total for the A-M-K-R B.B.S.s dropped from an average of 38 for 1979-80 to 25 in 1981 and 21 in 1982. Western Flycatcher and W. Wood Pewee numbers also dropped markedly on those surveys but Olive-sided numbers remained nearly constant (THR).

SWALLOWS THROUGH pipits — There were several reports of Tree Swallow nesting mortality during cold, rainy weather at Fortine and in the S. Okanagan. A Bank Swallow colony at Malheur increased from 500 pairs last year to 1000. Barn Swallows nests at an unusually high elevation on a microwave structure at 6200 ft on Chewels Mt., near Kamloops (RH). Second brood Barn Swallows at Fortine had left the nest by July 24 and some pairs apparently were preparing their nests for third broods (WW). A Scrub Jay appeared at Market Lake W.M.A., Roberts (LP) and three Clark’s Nutcrackers at Cranbrook, B.C. provided the first confirmed nest record, the first for July. Of 90 nest boxes in the Ellensburg-Yakima area, 7 were used by Tree Swallows, one by Mountain Chickadees, 27 by House Wrens, 19 by Bluebirds, 15 by Mountain Bluebirds and two by chinmunks (Y.A.S.). Single Mockingbirds were at Oliver, B.C., June 4 (BM) and Osoyoos June 27 (DN) and one sang in Richland late June-July 26 (PW, Rew). Malheur had one also (JSn). Gray Catbirds were unusu-
ally scarce around Vernon, two consecutive abnormally cold springs believed responsible (JG). One appeared at Malheur June 11-13 and three were along the Burnt R., near Unity (MA). A Water Pipit nest with 4 eggs was discovered at 6700 ft elevation on Griffin Mtn., near Malakwa, B.C., July 18 (MCI).

VIREOS AND WARBLERS — A Red-eyed Vireo was at Malheur June 13-15 (DI). Two Tennessee Warblers were reported at Helena in late June and late July (PM). Several observations were made of Magnolia and Blackpoll warblers in the lower Beaver Valley in Glacier N.P., B.C., in June and July (KY; RW). A N. Waterthrush nest was found in a bog about 7 mi s. of Sullivan L. (JN). Two singing Connecticut Warblers were identified by observers very familiar with the species, at Soda L., near 108 Mile House, B.C., June 12 (W & HH). A June record of the species in 1977 at Soda Cr., somewhat farther n., suggested that a few of the birds may breed in this largely unbirded area (WCW). A singing female Hooded Warbler, Oregon's third, was observed s. of John Day July 11-17 (DR, AC, JGi et al.) and a female was sighted about 3 mi away July 25 (HN). Numbers for vireos and warblers as a group were down to about a fourth what they were in 1979-80 on the A-M-K-R B.B.S. (THR).

BLACKBIRDS AND TANAGERS — Up to nine males and several female Bobolinks were seen during the summer near Prairie for a new Idaho locality (MRC, A & HL; KBP). The species was also seen near Leadore where it reputedly has nested in the past (JG); near Tendoy, Ida. (HBR), and at Unity (AC). Common Grackles remained at Salmon during the summer (HBR) and at least two pairs remained at Rexburg, Ida., at least until July 6 (DHu). A Summer Tanager was at Salmon during the summer (HBR) and at least two pairs remained at Malheur (DR, AC, JGi et al.). A female was sighted about 3 mi away July 25 (HN). Numbers for vireos and warblers as a group were down to about a fourth what they were in 1979-80 on the A-M-K-R B.B.S. (THR).

FINCHES — A Rose-breasted Grosbeak was at Helena June 3-6 (WA) and a Blue Grosbeak appeared near Idaho City July 24 (MRC). Lazuli Bunting sightings in the Walla Walla, Wash., area were decidedly up and Calamity Lookout had four pairs where none were found last year. Conversely the species appeared scarce elsewhere. The A-M-K-R B.B.S. had a total of only six after averaging 243 robins, 192 Broad-tailed Hummingbirds, 174 Yellow-rumped Warblers, 178 Gray-headed Juncos, 166 Mountain Chickadees, 166 Brown-capped Rosy Finches, 148 Ruby-crowned Kinglets, 134 Warbling Vireos, 123 White-crowned Sparrows, and 109 Water Pipits (MF).
ABBREVIATIONS — We have previously described the Mountain West latilong recording system (AB 34:294); new breeding species comprise the most significant new records. This summer’s report boldfaces new latilong breeders with the notation: “1st L.” Other abbr.: L/L/B/L: Longmont/Lyons/Berthoud/Loveland area, Colo.; R.M.N.P.: Rocky Mountain N.P., Colo.

SOUTHWEST WYOMING — Last year we reported on 2 confirmed and 4 likely new state breeding species in the jumpers of s.w. Wyoming. This year, data from 5 different observers has added 4 more confirmed. Nine s.w. species are widespread through the jumper habitats, which extends about 100 mi along the s. border E from Flaming Gorge Res., in latilongs 23, 24, and 25 (from w. to c., Green R., Baggs, and Rawlins). This year’s data includes: Ash-throated Flycatcher: found again in the same Powder Rim location (s. of Rawlins) as the first state nest last year (SF); several calling and probably nesting s.w. of Rock Springs June 21 (SFd). Gray Flycatcher: first state nests, in Lats. 24 and 25 (SF); seen regularly in Lat. 23 (FL); also 4-territorial males in Lat. 17 to the n. at Lander (SFd). Scrub Jay: seen at Rock Springs and Flaming Gorge in June (FL, SFD); no nesting confirmed. Plain Titmouse: first nest last year; nests or begging young this year in Lat. 23-25 (SF, SFd); also seen around Rock Springs (FL). Bushtit: 5 nests in several sites in Lat. 23 (SF, FL), first state record. Bewick’s Wren: most common bird in the jumpers; breeding in Lats. 24 and 25 (SF); now confirmed in 4 latilongs. Blue-grey Gnatcatcher: most common in e. Wyoming in 1978; nesting confirmed June 29 (SF). Observations of 1-4 June 5-July 31. In Lat. 23, Wyoming’s only other confirmed breeding latilong (FL). Black-throated Gray Warbler: first state nest, at Powder Rim hosted a cowbird (SF). Seen at Rock Springs; also thought to breed at LaBarge (Lat. 15) after this spring’s first latilong record (JR); a pair gathering nesting material in Lat. 19 May exhibited no further evidence of nesting (JH). Scott’s Oriole: first state record and first nest; see main text. These species (except possibly the oriole) probably have nested in this area all along; bird watchers have not studied the habitat until last year. As we said last year, the Mountain West has a huge potential for new data on distribution.

LOONS TO IBISES — Joining the usual handful of summer Com. Loons was a flock of 150 June 6 at Grand Teton N.P. (DL). A flock of Eared Grebes assembled 10,000 strong at Great Salt L., June 6 (JH). They nested for the first time at Fish Springs N.W.R., Utah, an adult eared Owl produced six young in one brood at Savageton, Wyo. (FL, SFD); no nesting confirmed. Plain Titmouse: first nest last year; nests or begging young this year in Lat. 23-25 (SF, SFd); also seen around Rock Springs (FL). Bushtit: 5 nests in several sites in Lat. 23 (SF, FL), first state record. Bewick’s Wren: most common bird in the jumpers; breeding in Lats. 24 and 25 (SF); now confirmed in 4 latilongs. Blue-grey Gnatcatcher: most common in e. Wyoming in 1978; nesting confirmed June 29 (SF). Observations of 1-4 June 5-July 31. In Lat. 23, Wyoming’s only other confirmed breeding latilong (FL). Black-throated Gray Warbler: first state nest, at Powder Rim hosted a cowbird (SF). Seen at Rock Springs; also thought to breed at LaBarge (Lat. 15) after this spring’s first latilong record (JR); a pair gathering nesting material in Lat. 19 May exhibited no further evidence of nesting (JH). Scott’s Oriole: first state record and first nest; see main text. These species (except possibly the oriole) probably have nested in this area all along; bird watchers have not studied the habitat until last year. As we said last year, the Mountain West has a huge potential for new data on distribution.

CRANES, SHOREBIRDS — Four Whooping Cranes summered in a 125-mi stretch of s.w. Wyoming. During the first week of July various sandpipers (Solitary, Willet, etc.—a new breeding bird this year: a Belted Dowitcher) arrived in the Region. By the end of July, the Region had high counts for fall migrants, including 280 at Loveland, Colo., July 26 (AM, CCu) and 2495 in s.e. Colorado July 30, including 1500 Wilson’s Phalaropes and 400 Stilt Sandpipers (JRE). Counts of Snowy Plovers at the s. end of Great Salt L., dropped from 100-150 last year to five on July 28 this year, as tire tracks replaced bird tracks on the site of a new amusement park (E & RS). At Cheyenne and adjacent Pawnee Nat’l Grassland, Colo., Mound Plovers had delayed but successful breeding (AK, RAR). The Mountain Plover nest found at Armipto, Wyo., June 10 filled in a range gap (JH—1st L) A Ruddy Turnstone found July 31 at Casper multiplied into two on August 1 (JH, JL). A Ruddy Turnstone found July 17 at Casper (HJ, JG), and in Wyoming at Rock Springs and Casper. In Utah only Bear R is known as a nesting site for Caspian Terns; yet they occurred at Faust, Mont., Salt L. City, Logan, Woodruff, and Whitney Res. (E & RS, MT, FL, CK). Wyoming added new latilong records at Cody and Evanston (UK, CK), and they apparently bred at Casper, one of the 3 known Wyoming breeding sites (JH). Mourning Dove’s abundance met mixed appraisals: B.B.S. routes counted more at Pt. Collins, average in c. Utah, and less in Sheridan. Numbers of Yellow-billed Cuckoos in w. Colorado seemed comparable to 1981, but down a little in e. Colorado, few reports from Wyoming, and none from Utah or Nevada. Fort Collins reported two Black-billed June 21 (RAR), and Delta, Colo., had the first w. Colorado record, on July 21 (TM). At Logan a Flammulated Owl nest, discovered June 15 with parents sitting on eggs, fledged young by July 31 (MT, TL). Apparently this report is the second one, and the second in the lower-48 nest (RAR). Nesting Saw-whet Owls showed off at Estes Park (FA, RP). Curtain Night-hawks appear to be rebounding, although reports from 3 observers in Boulder illustrate the problem of subjective assessments: they reported nighthawks variously as “definitely up, especially in daylight hours”, “normal”, and “scarce”.

GULLS TO NIGHTHAWKS — The colony of California Gulls at Antero Res. (Hartsel), Colo., had 600 nests (D.F.O.). Observers found Bonaparte’s Gulls at Denver, Antero, and Walden, Colo., and in Wyoming at Rock Springs and Casper. In Utah only Bear R is known as a nesting site for Caspian Terns; yet they occurred at Faust, Mont., Salt L. City, Logan, Woodruff, and Whitney Res. (E & RS, MT, FL, CK). Wyoming added new latilong records at Cody and Evanston (UK, CK), and they apparently bred at Casper, one of the 3 known Wyoming breeding sites (JH). Mourning Dove’s abundance met mixed appraisals: B.B.S. routes counted more at Pt. Collins, average in c. Utah, and less in Sheridan. Numbers of Yellow-billed Cuckoos in w. Colorado seemed comparable to 1981, but down a little in e. Colorado, few reports from Wyoming, and none from Utah or Nevada. Fort Collins reported two Black-billed June 21 (RAR), and Delta, Colo., had the first w. Colorado record, on July 21 (TM). At Logan a Flammulated Owl nest, discovered June 15 with parents sitting on eggs, fledged young by July 31 (MT, TL). Apparently this report is the second one, and the second in the lower-48 nest (RAR). Nesting Saw-whet Owls showed off at Estes Park (FA, RP). Curtain Night-hawks appear to be rebounding, although reports from 3 observers in Boulder illustrate the problem of subjective assessments: they reported nighthawks variously as “definitely up, especially in daylight hours”, “normal”, and “scarce”.

WATERFOWL — A swan surrendering at Casper presumably was a Whistling, but no one could get close enough to verify it (JH). Ruby L had fewer breeding pairs of Trumpeters (8 vs. 12) and observed only one brood of three young (SB). A Eur. Wigeon was reported at Jackson July 11 (J5B). Three broods of Wood Ducks at Ft. Collins, Colo., and one near Boulders Community (fed breeding—1), the common latilong (RAR, MF—1st L). An actively diving Barrow’s Goldeneye near Grand L., Colo., July 17-18 provided a first Colorado summer record (DJ). A Bufflehead summered at Fish Springs (JGo).

HAWKS, EAGLES — Observers reported 13 Goshawk nests, no doubt a small percentage of those in the Region; of the 3 at Logan, Utah, one failed, falconers raided one, and one fledged one young (MT). At Baggs, Wyo., an imm. Sharp-shinned Hawk brought off two young and a nest from Fort Bridger, Mich. in early August. This year, data from 5 different observers has added 4 new breeding latilong (RAR)
SWIFTS TO WOODPECKERS — Behind Ouzel Falls in R.M.N.P., a Black Swift was found brooding eggs, the third Boulder County nest (MF). Six flew over Fountain, Colo., on the plains, June 17 (*RB). Four Vaux’s Swifts were reported from Logan July 31 (MT). The Region’s first Rufous Hummingbird came to Cody June 25 (KF) and Eldora, Colo., June 26 (LHa). Most Rufous arrived later than usual and most observers report them, and all bird atop, in fewer numbers. The cold summer received blame. Wyoming tallied its first big hummingbird: a Rivoli’s Hummingbird at Wilson which came to a feeder July 2-8 with Rufous and Broad-taileds (*JF, *BR). Feeders have generated a number of rare hummingbird records in Colorado and Utah, particularly of this species. This record extends the records N 300 mi. The range of the Red-headed Woodpecker typically ends at the edge of the foothills of the Rockies (but see the e. Utah report last spring, AB 36:878). This summer, reports came of one at Salt Lake City June 20 (JS, EG), four at Rock Springs in June (FL), one at Jackson June 19 (BR), and birds 5 mi apart in R.M.N.P., June 16 & 25 (SW, JGn). At Sheridan a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker came to excavate a new nest hole after last year’s was appropriated in turn by Red-breasted Nuthatches, Mountain Chickadees, and Tree Swallows (JRM).

FLYCATCHERS TO SWALLOWS — Delta reported an unsuccessful E. Kingbird nest (MJ—1st L), but at Denver a pair fledged their second young from a nest high in dead cottonwoods poking out of 6 ft of water (HEK). One wonders if they survived the bass. An Ash-throated Flycatcher strayed to Sheridan July 16, for the first n.e. Wyoming record (†JRM, HD, ph). They nested at Delta (MJ—1st L). Ash-throateds June 29 and July 14 at Ft. Morgan provided a first Colorado latilong record (JCR) and another wandered to Pawnee N. W., near Muscle Hill (AB & BL lst L). Two well-described Olivaceous Flycatchers were reported far out of range at Ridgway, Colo., June 6-11 (*JRG); Colorado has no accepted records. Nesting of both Ash-throated and Willow flycatchers was confirmed at Delta (MJ—1st L). The proximity of a highway to Wyoming’s Fontanelle Reservoir, combined with a cloudy June 6, resulted in over 200 swallow read/kills (JG). Tree Swallows added another plains nesting site with a successful nesting in downtown Colorado Springs (DA), joining 2 other montane species which nested in parks there this spring (Mountain Chickadee and Red-breasted Nuthatch—AB 36:869). Starlings tore down 6 to 8 Cliff Swallow nests at a Eureka, Nev. ranch; although half rebuilt, they had less than 50% nesting success (JE).

JAYS TO WRENS — A Blue Jay stayed in the Golden foothills May 31-June 12, and one which summered at Laramie had a mate in July and was feeding young in August (DI—1st L). Steller’s Jays nested in the town of Lander, Wyo. (SF—1st L). The high numbers of Red-breasted Nuthatches tapered off along the Colorado Front Range; they dispersed to their more regular subalpine haunts. Pygmy Nuthatches nested in 2 locations in the Casper latilong, their second and third confirmed Wyoming breeding sites (JH, SF—1st L). A Short-billed Marsh Wren chittered in a slough of willows and grass June 1 at Laramie, Wyoming’s first record since one collected 93 years ago (1DF).

THRASHERS TO VIREOS — Casper had 2 nesting pairs of Brown Thrashers; strays visited Eldora and Lyons in July (JH, GS). The 3 pairs of Sage Thrashers at Fountain and one at Pueblo West added a third E. Slope latilong to that species’ Colorado nesting range (RB, VT—1st L). Swainson’s Thrushes stayed at lower elevations at least until June 10 (MT, JD, D.F.O.) and their nest layed one month behind in c. Utah (JB). Water Pipits remained below tree line throughout the summer at Jackson—so did the snow line (BR). At Sheridan they nested at snow line under similar circumstances (CG). Although in Colorado pipits breed only above timberline, in Wyoming they nest in some mountain parks below tree line (BO). Cedar Waxwings nested at Loveland and Denver, the latter a first latilong (AB & BL—1st L). Loggerhead Shrikes had a good year in Wyoming, with nests reported from Rock Springs, Cody, and Sheridan. (FL, UK, HD). The Gray Vireo described from Green R., June 26-27 was the first reported in Wyoming (1SF, TF).

WARBLERS — Observers found territorial, singing males of 4 warblers which have never nested in the Region: N. Parula, Magnolia, Prairie, and Hooded. Casper had a Black-and-white Warbler June 1 and a Tennessee June 3 (*JH). Most remarkable nesting record this year came from Golden, Colo., where Schottler found a 2 Northern Parula building a nest in scrub (Gamble’s) oak June 11-16. On June 20, after 2 days of very heavy rain, the nest was abandoned and the bird gone. He never saw a male. This extends the possible nesting range of the species westerly 525 mi. (Last year singing males were observed 5 and 17 mi n of this nest site—AB 35:965). Another N Parula sang at Colorado Springs June 29, also in scrub oak (E & MC). Las Vegas had its first nesting at Las Vegas (GMa, *VM, J & MC) and June 21-July 12 at Boulder, unfortunately not seen by any other observers (*, ph., MK). Mt. Charleston had Nevada’s third Canada Warbler June 19. (*VM, J & MC). Three Am. Redstarts stopped in w. Wyoming in early June: one June 3 at Jackson (HW), a male June 7 and a female June 8 at Dubois (PA).

BLACKBIRDS TO TANAGERS — Western Meadowlarks maintained average numbers on B.B.S. routes near Ft. Collins (124 birds) and Sheridan (167), although Sheridan’s count does represent a drop from the levels of 6-8 years ago. On June 19 one strayed above timberline in R.M.N.P. (*JG). A Hooded Oriole visited Zion July 23-24, the fourth record there (JG).

**S.A.**

Scott’s Orioles apparently staged a major incursion. From s.w. Colorado came a report of three along the Mancos R., at Towaoc (JRG), and from w.e. Colorado, of a male June 6 at Fruitia (MJ), plus the May observations of six in 3 different locations at Grand Jct. (AB 36:879). Wyoming had its first record of Scott’s Oriole—a singing male June 10 in juniper/sagebrush/greasewood habitat near Flaming Gorge (1SFd). It also had its first nesting record; incubating June 29, young fledged July 26 (SF). In all Fitton and Findholt found one nest and 4 likely nesting sites in Lats. 23 and 24.

A N. Oriole strayed to 10,000 ft, near Crested Butte, Colo., July 13, (SW) and a Baltimore spent June 5 in the mountains near Jefferson, Colo. (CH, KH). Great-tailed Grackles nested near Fountain, the sixth Colorado nesting location. They picked a marshy area near a pig and poultry farm (RB, RW). Several pairs nested at Durango (EF) Common Grackles definitely nested in 2 more Wyoming latilongs, at Lander and Lyman (SF, CK—1st L). The Indian Peaks count had 75 Brown-headed Cowbirds, confirming Shickley’s assessment of a dramatic increase at 8700 ft at Eldora in the last 10 years. At 10,000 ft Hartsel, Colo., cowbirds heavily parasitized Savannah Sparrows, perhaps an altitude record (CC). Other surrogate parents included Gray Flycatcher, Mountain Bluebird, Warbling Vireo, Black-throated Gray Warbler, Chipping Sparrow, and Gray-headed Junco. The delayed summer kept singing W. Tanagers on the plains at Denver and Boulder to June 25; and in Sheridan and Laramie throughout the summer. They nested at low mountain elevations at Radium and Salt L. City. Early June Scarlet Tanagers were at Boulder June 4 and Rawlins June 9 in an aspen/willow beaver pond habitat, the fifth Wyoming latilong (*KHe, ph—1st L). Zion had its fourth Summer Tanager July 3 (JG), and Las Vegas reported 2 singing males June 6 & 11. During Jackson’s cold days in May and June, W Tanagers sat on beehive boxes while bees crawled sluggishly into their mouths “like M & Ms” (BR). Among the bee-eaters, a Summer Tanager at Bedford May 9-11 gave Wyoming its sixth record, the first one verified (1SS, ph.).

FINCHES, SPARROWS — Late migrant Rose-breasted Grosbeaks occurred in June, at Evergreen, Wheat Ridge, and Colorado Springs, Cheyenne, Sheridan, Jackson (5 in one day), and Pinedale, Wyo., plus a July 3 bird at Eureka, Nev. (TN). Cheyenne reported three different pairs of Blue Grosbeaks in June (*PW, *&D, &JH), and two were at Casper June 26 (FL). They nested at Lander (SF—1st L).
Indigos are the "dominant buntings in the Delta, Colo. area, not the south of the Loyal. In July 1 and Moynihan males on nearby Kebler with a high of 12 in Escalante Canyon July 1" (MJ). While that dominance reverses the typical regional pattern, the Indigo no longer qualifies as a rare bird here. Colorado reported more than 25 this summer, Utah 4, and Wyoming and Nevada each one. The Nevada one was a male which sang May 7-June 27 without a female; Mowbray feels that they probably nested in past years though not this year. Lazzulis were abundant from Zion north to Jackson (which on June 3 reported, at one site, 30 pairs). Erratic in summer in Utah, Evening Grosbeaks graced the Logan area all summer, with breeding suspected (KD, MT), and Provo had two pairs June 10 (MBR). The literature is ambiguous as to whether they have nested in Utah. Jackson claimed 100+ early June along with 100+ Cassin Finches (BR). Back's annual Black Rosy Finch backpack revealed a probable but unconfirmed nest site, thus perpetuating her elusive goal of finding a nest. An odd observation came from Jackson of a ? Black Rosy Finch with nesting material on July 2 at only 6600 ft (BR). In late May and early June an apparent hybrid Pine Siskin x Am. Goldfinch visited an Eldora feeder (FGS). Red Crossbills began to disperse after their abundance for several seasons. Small flocks ranged through the cities of Denver, Colorado Springs, Laramie, Evanston, and Provo; scattered reports came in throughout the typical Colorado and Wyoming habitats. A flock of 100 White-winged Crossbills cruised over Diamond L., near Eldora June 20; the calls revealed to observer Figs that he had heard them there in mid-winter. A White-winged sang July 31 at Logan, in the same place where breeding occurred 1977-78 (KS: AB 31:1170). Lark Buntings had a strange year on the Pawnee: early July saw very few, but flocks appeared in early August. The Pawnee B.B.S. recorded 160 (cf. a 275 average). Considerable loss of habitat has occurred from plowing the grassland, an action which has incensed local ranchers because of the consequent, immediate, soil erosion (RAR). Grasshopper Sparrow reports came from Sheridan and Hawk Spgs., Wyo. (FL, FB, JRM). Rugged field work established the Fox Sparrow as a probable and regular nester in Boulder Colorado willow bogs, using adjacent feeders, with observations of the Fox Sparrow as a probable and regular nester in Boulder Colorado willow bogs, using adjacent feeders, with observations of the Fox Sparrow as a probable and regular nester in Boulder Colorado willow bogs, using adjacent feeders, with observations of the Fox Sparrow as a probable and regular nester in Boulder Colorado willow bogs, using adjacent feeders, with observations of the Fox Sparrow as a probable and regular nester in Boulder Colorado willow bogs, using adjacent feeders, with observations of

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SOUTHWEST REGION

Arizona, Sonora
/Janet Witzeman

During the summer of 1982 there seemed to be more and later lingering migrants than usual, plus an interesting assortment of northward wanderers from Mexico. However, the most significant discoveries of the summer were probably those of the regular breeding species in new areas. In many cases this represented not necessarily a range extension, but an extension of our knowledge from having seen a species as a "probable" but unconfirmed nest site, thus perpetuating her elusive goal of finding a nest. An odd observation came from Jackson of a Black Rosy Finch with nesting material on July 2 at only 6600 ft (BR). In late May and early June an apparent hybrid Pine Siskin x Am. Goldfinch visited an Eldora feeder (FGS). Red Crossbills began to disperse after their abundance for several seasons. Small flocks ranged through the cities of Denver, Colorado Springs, Laramie, Evanston, and Provo; scattered reports came in throughout the typical Colorado and Wyoming habitats. A flock of 100 White-winged Crossbills cruised over Diamond L., near Eldora June 20; the calls revealed to observer Figs that he had heard them there in mid-winter. A White-winged sang July 31 at Logan, in the same place where breeding occurred 1977-78 (KS: AB 31:1170). Lark Buntings had a strange year on the Pawnee: early July saw very few, but flocks appeared in early August. The Pawnee B.B.S. recorded 160 (cf. a 275 average). Considerable loss of habitat has occurred from plowing the grassland, an action which has incensed local ranchers because of the consequent, immediate, soil erosion (RAR). Grasshopper Sparrow reports came from Sheridan and Hawk Spgs., Wyo. (FL, FB, JRM). Rugged field work established the Fox Sparrow as a probable and regular nester in Boulder Colorado willow bogs, using adjacent feeders, with observations of 12 in 5 sites (MF, EB, DH). Shickleay has reported them for several years. They were also found within the more typical range at Gothic, Colo. July 13 (SW) and Utah's Wasatch and Uinta Mts. (JB, E & RS). Five possible Lapland Longspurs fed on a road in Grand Teton N.P., May 29, after a heavy snowfall (IEP).

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HERONS THROUGH WATERFOWL — A Green Heron was seen at Vail L., near Flagstaff in early June (TM, JC) and four were at Beaver Dam Wash July 25-26 (JC, TS). There are few records of this species in Arizona. A small "invasion" of Little Blue Herons reached S. Arizona. In addition to the one in mid-May, there were three adults in Tucson June 7, another there July 10 (GM et al.) and possibly up to four there at Hereford July 15 (T & CK). Another Louisiana Heron (the second this year) wandered N on the early date of June 22 and remained at least through July at Tucson (DS et al.). Several adult and at least one young Black-crowned Night Heron were observed during the summer at St. Johns, e. Arizona (BHe) where the species was first found nesting a year ago. Two were at Many Farms L., June 6 (BHa) and there were more mid-summer records than usual at Prescott where it is usually only transient (CT).

Least Bittern was suspected of nesting in a new area—Chino Valley n. of Prescott where one was noted in June 1977. In late June 1982, evidence was lacking until this summer when a pair and at least one downy young were observed (P. Schneider, fide CT). Six Least Bitterns were found in 2 new areas w. of Phoenix along the Gila R., near Arlington in late May-early June (DT et al.) and one was recorded July 22 at Picacho Res., where its occurrence in summer is rare (GM). An adult Bittern at Beaver Dam Wash July 25-26 (JC, TS) added to only a handful of summer records for the state.

Eighty Wood Storks counted at Martinez L., L.C.R., June 20 was a high number for this uncommon summer visitor; nine were still there July 22 (W. Brehends). Another was at Cibola N.W.R., June 30 (DK et al.).

A Rusty Blackbird seen flying around San Carlos Res., June 9 was probably a hold-over from the winter invasion and provided the first summer record for the state (BHa). An ad. Black-bellied Whistling Duck at Willow L. in Prescott July 23 (H & AG, CT) was n. of the species' normal range. A Green-winged Teal with two young at Tucson June 5 (GG) provided the first evidence of nesting away from the species' traditional nesting area on the Mogollon Rim. Blue-winged Teal observed on 3 of the seasonal lakes near Flagstaff through the summer (JC) and a pair at Pintail L., June 2 (SD, KK, HL, JW) suggested that the species may have been nesting at one or all of these localities. There is only one record of successful nesting in the state. Buff-headed were also present the entire season near Flagstaff (JC) and a female was seen spring Sprinerville June 4 (S & WS), but so far there has been no nesting record for Arizona. The Wood Duck near Nogales was still present July 17 (RBr) and one was at Tucson July 31 (RN, VJ).

RAPTORS — Multiple White-tailed Hawks were discovered at Marana, n. of Tucson—three June 5 (DS) and five July 15 (KK et al.)—and remained at least into August. The dozen or so previous records were of individuals, all in spring or fall. An extralimital ad. Mississippi Kite observed at Bill Williams Delta (hereafter, B.W. Delta) July 24 (TCH, DK) was the first for the L.C.R.

A pair of Zone-tailed Hawks was reported nesting for at least the second consecutive year at Pine L., in the Huatali Mts., near the n.w. limit of the species' range (R. Gerhart, fide DT). An ad. and imm. Black Hawk were found July 22 in a new area—the Sierra Ancha Mts., n. of Globe (D. Theobald, L. Kepner). The Ferruginous Hawk is an uncommon resident of n. Arizona, so of interest was one near Petrified Forest N.P., June 4 (KK, SD, HK, JL, JW). A pair of Marsh Hawks near Holbrook June 4 raised suspicions that the species might have been breeding there (KK et al.). Except for a pair found nearby in June 1977, there has been no evidence of breeding in e. Arizona since 1980.

Records of Osprey in n. and e. Arizona are scarce in summer. A pair was found nesting late May-early June in a pine tree at 6500 ft in a canyon near Upper L. Mary (T. Brit). and the known nests site on the Black Mts. in n. Arizona (T. R., in the Whetstone Mts., was active again this summer (1 O'Neil, fide DT). An Osprey at Prescott July 7-9 was unusual for this time of year (CT).

RAILS, SHOREBIRDS — Sora has not been found breeding on the L.C.R., so of interest was one calling in the B.W. Delta June 8 (JJ). Common Gallinule is uncommon in n. Arizona; two were seen often on Vail L., in early June (JC, TM).

A late Snowy Plover at Lees Ferry June 10 (B. Brown et al.) was one of only a few records from the n. part of the state. Anomalous June records of Willets included two at Sierra Vista June 19 (DDa et al.), 45 at Cibola N.W.R. June 23 (DK, CB) and 25 at L. Havasu June 24 (DK, RH, JJ). The first Whimbrel appeared on the L.C.R., at Cibola on the early date of June 30 (DK). An early Long-billed Curlew arrived on the L.C.R., June 23 (JJ) and three were at McNeal, s e Arizona July 10 (AM).

Avocets are expanding their breeding range in n. Arizona. At Petrified Forest sewage pond, where nesting was suspected last year, there were six pairs and one young June 2, and at Chino sewage ponds were two pairs and one young June 4 (JJ, CK et al.). Old Holbrook sewage ponds (now abandoned) hosted one of the first state nesting records—in the late 1960s (fide SD). A late eight pairs were nesting in June at Pintail L., near Show Low for the second year (LP), numbers were present at Chevelon Wildlife Area, e. of Winslow where nesting occurred for the first time a year ago (fide DT) and up to 20 were at L. Loma, near Flagstaff in early June where the species has nested in recent summers (JC). In s. Arizona about 10 pairs were breeding as usual at Willcox (SG), at the Phoenix sewage pond there was only one pair June 14 (PB, JW) and a pair territorial at the Ajo sewage ponds in late May. A few pairs were found in n. Arizona July 17 (DS, RBo, JD et al.), remained at least to mid-August (RM, JS, S & WS).

Wilson's Phalarope (one pair) nested at Pintail L., where the species was first found breeding in the state a year ago (LP). A pair was at the Holbrook sewage ponds June 4 (HL, SD, KK, JW).

GULLS, PIGEONS — An ad. Sabine's Gull at a golf course pond in Green Valley June 4-7 (D. Shaffer, GP et al.) was out of place and time to say the least. There are no previous summer records. A late Franklin's Gull and 40 Ring-billed Gulls were at San Carlos Res., June 9 (BHa).

Twelve Band-tailed Pigeons were observed on Pastora Peaks June 6 (BHa) and two were recorded in the nearby Chuska Mts., July 4, 1980 (K. & G. Rosenberg). There are only a few previous records in this infrequently visited part of the state.

OWLS, NIGHTJARS — A pair of Ferruginous Owls (first discovered in March) were feeding young July 3, and remained until at least July 25 (B. Bristow, GP, m.ob.). Long-eared Owls were found nesting in a new locality: an adult with three young were observed in Chino Valley May 23-June 26 (L. McClelland, ph., M. Durkos). Buff-collared Nightjars continued to be found in new canyons A pair was seen during the day in California Gulch in the Atascosa Mts., w. of Chollas June 20 (CDW et al.) and (DT, CT, m.ob.) remains at least into August. The dozen or so previous records were of individuals, all in spring or fall. An extralimital ad. Mississippi Kite observed at Bill Williams Delta (hereafter, B.W. Delta) July 24 (TCH, DK) was the first for the L.C.R.

BUFFAUBOLOHUMMINGBIRDS — This summer was probably the best ever for the variety of "Mexican" hummingbirds that travelled into the canyons of s.e. Arizona, and the rarest of them came in twos. Two Plain-capped Starthroats, found frequenting a feeder in Madera Canyon July 17 (S. RBo, JD) were removed in late May (CDW, GM et al.) and (DT, CT, m.ob.) remained at least into August. There were also two Berryline Hummingbirds: singles at Ramsey Canyon feeders June 22-27 (TJE, D & TC et al.) and at the Southwest Research Station (hereafter, S.W.R.S.), June 26-28 (S. Pimm et al.).

A Lucifer Hummingbird was at a feeder in Portal for 2 weeks in mid-June and and again from July 28 into August (RM, JS, S & WS), and at least one female was there June 23-27 (D. Williams, JB, DDe). A White-eared Hummingbird was at a Portal feeder from May 29 into early June (S & WS) and another was in Cave Cr. Canyon July 13 (RS). More Calliope Hummingbirds than usual were reported: two males and at least one female were at Portal July 24 (SS), a male was in Madera Canyon July 26 (C. Babbitt) and a male and female were in
Ramsey Canyon July 28 into August (RS et al) In the out-of-normal-
place category were a δ Rivoli’s Hummingbird in the Sierra Ancha
Mts., July 25-27 (CT), an Anna’s Hummingbird on Signal Peak.
Final Mts., June 15-16 (D. Bailey) and a δ Anna’s at Portal feeders July 17
(SM, RM).
Spring and summer records of Broad-billed Hummingbirds at
Boyce Thompson Arboretum near Superior have been accumulating
feeding a δ the latter assumed this nest. The first proof
occurred May 31 when a nest with two young was photographed
there. A δ Broad-billed was seen nearby (BJ).

KINGFISHERS THROUGH CORVIDS — A pair of Belted
Kingfishers was seen near the 1980 nest site at Spring Cr., near
Sedona in late May (TO) and a pair was at S. Fork, near Springerville
June 20 (JW et al.), but still no evidence of nesting has been found
there in this century. A δ Williamso n’s SapExpseur seen July 2 at
Barfoot P. (JH) furnished about the third summer record for the
Chiricahua Mts., where the species has not been found breeding.

A family group of Rose-throated Becards and an abandoned nest
were seen during June in Guadalupe Canyon (RS, KK et al.). There is
only one previous definite record from that area. A least one Oliva-
ceous Flycatcher in the Sierra Ancha Mts., June 8 (MA) was n. of its
usual range. Twelve δ Dusky Flycatchers were counted in the
Carrizo Mts., June 6, and four there July 5, 1981 (BHA) added
another locality to the species’ summer range in n. and n.w. Arizona.
During a study of the breeding and life history of Buff-breasted
Flickers, 39 individuals were tallied, most in the usual places in the
Huachuca Mts., but also several in canyons on the w. side of the
Chiricahua and three in Rose Canyon in the Santa Catalina Mts.,
for the second time in recent years (RBo).

Two nests of Barn Swallows found June 22 in Tucson were in a new
area (GM). Unusual was one seen in the Final Mts., June 7 (J. Loew).
The Cave Swallow at Tucson was observed gathering mud June 10
(DS) Three Purple Martins were seen June 3 at Ganado L., where the
species is uncommon (KK et al.) and one on the late date of June 19 at
Sierra Vista (DDa et al.).

Clark’s Nutcrackers, recorded in May, continued to be seen in the
Chiricahua Mts. Up to five were there June 17-27 (KG et al.).

TITMICE THROUGH PHAINOPELA — A Bridled Titmouse
was at a low elevation in Tucson July 8 (DS). Red-breasted
Nuthatches were unusually numerous in the s.e. mountains and one
was near Marana July 10 for an unprecedented lowland summer
record (KK, EC). A Le Conte’s Thrasher near Poston July 18 (TCH)
was away from its regular areas and habitat.

Two Aztec Thrushes were discovered: a female in Garden Canyon,
Huachuca Mts., July 23 (T. & T. Root) and a male in Madera
Canyon July 28 (1D. Ekdahl, 1C. Vigno). Curiously, the only previ-
ous records were of two individuals occurring in these same two areas
and within a few days of each other (May 1978). How many more
records are we likely to find not frequented by birders?

The Veery was not detected at its usual place at S. Fork, White
Mts., in either June or July (RBR, DS, et al.) however, a pair of
Swainson’s Thrushes was back at that location June 20 (and acting
territorial) for the fifth consecutive year (JW et al.).

A pair of Black-capped Gnatcatchers with one young was observed
throughout the period in Chino Canyon for the second year of
successful breeding there (m.ob.). Two late Ruby-crowned Kinglets
were still in Sierra Vista June 19 (DDa).

Phainopepla is usually absent from the L.C.R., in summer, so
notable were at least three individuals around Ehrenberg and a pair at
Cibola N.W.R., in July (JJ et al.). Several seen at Silver Cr., near
Snowflake, n.e. Arizona June 8 (BHA) lends support to the theory that
the species breeds in that area.

VIREOS, WARBLERS — A singing δ Red-eyed Vireo in the
Santa Maria Mts., n.w. of Prescott July 10 (CT) adds to several
summer records for the state and was the first for that locale.

A Yellow-throated Warbler in Cave Cr. Canyon, Chiricahuas from
late May to July 7 (OK) are the same area where one was found July 1981.
Of the 9 state records 5 have been in summer. As usual there were numbers of Hooded Warblers, Ovenbirds and Am.
Redstarts three of each of this summer. A δ Hooded was at the
S.W.R.S., June 26-July 18 & 30 (KG, PL, RS et al.), a male was at
Patagonia July 18 (KK et al.) and another male was in Cave Cr.
Canyon July 30 (RG et al.). Individual Ovenbirds were at Portal June
12 (RM), one banded at Tucson June 24 (P. Walters) and at Cibola
N.W.R., July 9 (DK). Individual Am. Redstarts were a female near
Snowflake June 8 (BHA), one at the S.W.R.S., June 27 (KG) and a
female at Patagonia July 18 (KK). A singing δ N. Parula was found s
of Mt. Union June 6 (CT).

Lingering late migrants were a Nashville at Patagonia June 13 (DS)
and a Townsend’s and three Yellow-rumped warblers at Ramsey
Canyon June 19 (DDa). In a class by itself was the extremely low-
elevation Red-faced Warbler in a Phoenix yard July 27 (Z. Bright).
LOONS THROUGH IBISES — An Arctic Loon at Zuni July 24-27 (JT) was unusual. Eared Grebes were nesting in the Chuska Mts., July 23 (AN) and at Zuni July 11-21 (TR); birds summering without proof of breeding were at Black L., Colfax Co. (RB), Isleta (WH et al.), and Holloman Lakes, Otero Co. (RH). Up to three Double-crested Cormorants were summering at Madrone Ponds, Valencia Co. (WH et al.), but no evidence of breeding was obtained; stragglers included two at L. Roberts, Grant Co., July 24 (RF). Olive-crested Cormorants continued to expand in the state, with one at Holloman L., July 6-29 (RH) and one-two at Madrone Ponds June 9-27 (WH et al.). Breeding colonies of Snowy Egrets and Black-crowned Night Herons were again active near Belen (WH et al.) and Loving (SW). A likely “new” breeding area for the Am. Bittern is Black L., where several were “pumping” June 7 and four were present July 2 (RB). White-faced ibises were widespread beginning in late June (v.ob.), except for six early ones at Bosque del Apache N.W.R. (hereafter, Bosque) June 6 (D & SH); no breeding was evident.

WATERFOWL THROUGH GULLIFORMS — The Mute Swan at Bitter Lake N.W.R. (hereafter, Bitter Lake) persisted through the period there; it was free-flying and unbanded, although tame (K. Wood). Young Mallards, Gadwalls, Green-winged Teal and Redheads were at Black L. (RB); other breeds included Mallards, Pintail, Ruddy Ducks, and probable Blue-winged Teal at Holloman Lakes (RH). N. Shoveler and pintails at Lake Vallecito, San Juan Co. (AN), Ruddy Ducks at Isleta (WH et al.) and L. Robb (RB). Notable vagrants included three Wood Ducks in the Middle Rio Grande Valley (hereafter, M.R.G.V.) June 10 & July 9, and a Bufflehead at Zuni June 21 & July 24 (JT). Up to nine Mississippi Kites were present in the M.R.G.V., from Isleta to Belen (WH et al.). Buteos have found the Navajo Indian Reservation Project area in San Juan Co., a boon in summer as well as winter; there were 70 hawks there June 8, including 55 Swainson’s and 12 Ferruginous (DR). An apparent ad. Bald Eagle near Cochiti L., June 27 (JD) was unusual. A White-tailed Ptarmigan was seen on Stateline Peak, Taos Co., June 26 (RP). Nine Bobwhites near Bell L., Lea Co., June 11 (GS) were in an area where sporadic; a nest at Los Alamos in early June (M. Lewis) was the first report of breeding by that introduced population. Surveys in poorly known s. Otero County revealed that Gambel’s Quail ranges E locally to the Crow Flats area, just w. of the Guadalupe Mts. (RH).

PLOVERS THROUGH TERNs — A local first were Mountain Plovers at mountain-ringed Black L., June 12 & 24 (RB). Extraordinary was a probable Am. Woodcock at Isleta July 9 (V. Hink, J. Sterling); there are only 2 other records for the state, both in cold winter was a probable Am. Woodcock at Isleta July 9 (V. Hink, Plovers at mountain-ringed Black L., June 12 & 24 (RB). Extraordinary was a likely attempt to breed at Isleta June 30, with newly fledged young there July 12 (WH et al.). A pair of Olive-sided Flycatchers summered in the Sandia Mts., near Bernalillo to La Joya (WH et al.), while single birds were near Canjilon June 20 and at Bosque June 6 & 26 (D & SH). Hammond’s Flycatcher was in the Zuni Mts., for the second summer, with eight there June 20 (JT). Southerly Duskyewas included singles in the Gallina Mts., Lincoln Co., June 23, and near Cloudcroft June 19 (GS). This species again summered in the Zuni Mts. (AM et al.) and two singing birds thought to be Duskyewas were on Santa Fe Baldy July 10 (WH, H. Wood). One to two Gray Flycatchers in the Silver City area June 22 & July 6 (DZ) were the first summer reports from there in several summers. A pair of Olive-sided Flycatchers summered in the Sandia Mts. (HS), while a bird near L. Roberts July 11 behaved as if nesting (RF). One to two Beardless Flycatchers in Guadalupe Canyon July 18 & 20 (D & SH) were the first reported there since 1979.

SWALLOWS, CORVIDS — A small breeding colony of Bank Swallows near Bernalillo June 21 (WH) was the first reported in the state in several years. Several nests of Barn Swallows were at Pleasanton (M. Summer) and near San Simon Cienaga (RF); this is a very local breeder in extreme s.w. New Mexico. A Purple Martin at Willow Cr., near Pecos July 23 (R. Teuber; ph., C.G.) July 18 was the observer’s first observation there in 9 years (AM). Calliopes were present in the Cormudas Mts., in late July (fide RH), for the first s. Otero County records. Quite unexpected, and the first report outside the s.w. corner of the state was a C. Copper-tailed Trogon on Otero Mesa June 23-24 (T. Stevenson et al.; ph., B. Weber). Apparently calling nesting Belted Kingfishers were at Isleta June 30, with newly fledged young there July 12 (WH et al.). No Red-headed were seen in the M.R.G.V., in the period, and Lewis’ were present mainly in the n., with a pair s. to the Isleta area in mid-June (WH et al.). Hairies continued to be rare in the M.R.G.V., while Dowinies were widespread—including seven at Bernalillo July 1 (WH et al.); a bird of the later species at Bosque June 6 (D & SH) was unusual. An E. Kingbird at Bernalillo June 29 (WH et al.) was quite southerly, while a Cassin’s nest near Bernalillo in mid-July was the only evidence of breeding in the M.R.G.V. (WH et al.). An E. Phoebe near Zuni June 21 (JT) was well w. of the usual range—especially for singing. Singing Willow Flycatchers were present in small numbers at Zuni June 21-22 and July 27 (JT) and in the M.R.G.V., from Bernalillo to La Joya (WH et al.), while single birds were near Canjilon June 20 and at Bosque June 6 & 26 (D & SH). Hammond’s Flycatcher was in the Zuni Mts., for the second summer, with eight there June 20 (JT). Southerly Duskyewas included singles in the Gallina Mts., Lincoln Co., June 23, and near Cloudcroft June 19 (GS). This species again summered in the Zuni Mts. (AM et al.) and two singing birds thought to be Duskyewas were on Santa Fe Baldy July 10 (WH, H. Wood). One to two Gray Flycatchers in the Silver City area June 22 & July 6 (DZ) were the first summer reports from there in several summers. A pair of Olive-sided Flycatchers summered in the Sandia Mts. (HS), while a bird near L. Roberts July 11 behaved as if nesting (RF). One to two Beardless Flycatchers in Guadalupe Canyon July 18 & 20 (D & SH) were the first reported there since 1979.

Chickadees through Mimids — Black-capped Chickadees were again fairly common in the M.R.G.V., s. to Bernalillo, while Mountains were rare and local—mainly between Belen and Bernalillo; six apparent hybrids were seen in the latter area, plus one at Cochiti June 26 (WH et al.). The only Verdin report in the M.R.G.V., was of one at La Joya June 25 (WH, KM). Bushtits were another (a “jay with the crest”) in the Cormudas Mts., in late June (fide RH). Four Black-billed Magpies in Santa Fe July 4 (JH) suggested that a population is now resident there and possibly breeding. A bird at Alamogordo June 28 (RF) was most likely an escape.
unusually common at CG (AM), irregular in the Los Lunas-Bernalillo area, and exceptionally high on Santa Fe Baldy—at ca. 13,000 ft (WH et al.). A "bird" of possible hybrids was seen at Zuni June 19 (JT). Red-breasted Nuthatches in the Pinos Altos Mts., July 8 (DZ) and Gallinas Mts., June 23 (GS) may have been breeding, whereas eight in the Isleta-Bosque area June 23-July 27 (WH et al.) were probably early migrants. Cottonwood Gulch's first summer Brown Cuckoos were an adult feeding a juvenile July 23 (AM). House Wrens nested successfully for the second consecutive year at CG (AM), where Gray Catbirds were common in the M.R.G.V. from Corrales to Belen, with scattered birds elsewhere, including four at La Joya June 25 (WH et al.); a vagrant was at Silver City June 29 (DZ). Southerly Sage Thrashers were three in the North Plains, Cibola Co., June 8, and birds nested near C.G. (AM).

THRUNS THROUGH VIREOS — Single singing Veeries were near Canjilon June 19 (D & SH) and at Cochiti June 29 & July 1 (WH et al.), this species is very rare in New Mexico at any season, and breeding is unconfirmed. A singing E. Bluebird at C.G., July 4 (AM) was a notable w. straggler. Southerly records of Townsend's Solitaries included one in the Pinos Altos Mts., June 26 (RF), eight in the Gallinas Mts., June 23, and two near Cloudcroft June 19, C.G.; a juvenile was at C.G., July 24 (AM). Surveys in s. Otero County revealed several pairs of Black-tailed Gnatchatchers in the Cornudas Mts., and another near Orrogrande (RH). Golden-crowned Kinglets again summered in the Sinda Mts. (HS), and in the Zuni Mts., a dependent juvenile June 20 (JT) furnished the first breeding record there. Sixty Ruby-crowns were counted in the Zunis June 20 (JT). A d. Phainopepla at a nest near Alma in early June provided the first breeding report from Catron County; northerly was a female near Reserve later in June or early in July (R. Skaggs) and a male at San Acacia June 25 (KM). Easterly birds included one in Dog Canyon, Guadalupe Mts., July 15 (SW) and several s.w. of Pinyon and in the Cornudas Mts. (RH). The Bell's Vireo in the Eddy County area seemed barely holding its own (SW). A pair of Gray Vireos, another declining species in the state, was near Pinyon July 15 (RH), and a singing bird was at Zuni July 26 (JT). Notable vagrants were single Yellow-throated Vireos at Cochiti June 26-29 (JD & SH) and at Aguirre Springs, Organ Mts., June 3 (K. Zimmer). Straggling Red-eyed Vireos were four in the Corrales-Bosque area June 10-July 11 (WH et al.), and one at Zuni July 27 (JT). Warbling Vireos wandered through the M.R.G.V., until mid-June, but there is no evidence of breeding by these birds or those in summer at C.G. (AM).

WARBLERS — Notable summer strawglers included a Tennessee Warbler at C.G., July 25 (AM et al.), a Lucy's at Silver City July 20 (DZ), four N. Parulas in the Albuquerque-Bosque area June 7-16, a singing Blackpoll Warbler at Bosque June 23 (WH et al.), and a Painted Redstart near Taos July 13 (RB). Virginia's Warblers persisted in the M.R.G.V., into early June, then returned after a brief absence in late June and July (WH et al.). Yellow Warblers continued to be very local and uncommon in the M.R.G.V., with most records at San Acacia and Isleta (WH et al.); for the second straight year, the species summered at C.G. (AM). The Parulid event of the season was the discovery of a Red-faced Warbler nest with young in the Sandia Mts., June 6, and birds were seen there through July 10 (HS et al.); this breeding record is some 100 mi n.n.e. of the nearest station to the s. Magdelena Mts., and the expansion parallels a trend already found in Arizona.

ICTERIDS THROUGH TANAGERS — Only one E. Meadowlark was heard this summer at Zuni (TR, JT), while the species was common and the only Sturnella reported in summer in s. Otero County (RH). Yellow-headed Blackbirds were confirmed breeding at Blue Spr. (SB); early summer reports near Valencia (J. Durrie et al.) and Bosque (D & SH) lacked such indication. Peripheral summer records of Great-tailed Grackles included Zuni (TR, JT), near Bluewater L. (AM), Tucumcari (JH), and Cliff (J. Egbert, RF); however, no breeding was reported in these areas. Small numbers of Com. Grackles were recorded near El Rito, Rio Arriba Co., June 20 (DZ), San Ildefonso (WH et al.), and Bosque June 1 (JT). A nesting colony of 23 pairs of Brandt's Cormorants was at 49ø17'N 179ø57'W (south of Amchitka Pass, c. Aleutian Islands) June 29 (DZ). Southerly Sage Thrashers were three in the North Plains, Cibola Co., June 8, and birds nested near C.G. (AM).

FINCHES — A Pyrrhuloxia nest near Dell City, s. Otero Co., Tex., July 7 (M. Hakkila) was a local first. Indigo Buntings recording in the M.R.G.V., numbered 87 in the period, vs only 13 for Lazuli Buntings. For possible hybrids were seen at Albuquerque June 10 and near Isleta June 22-July 27 (WH et al.), plus another at Zuni July 27 (JT). Neither species was found in summer in the Sandia Mts. (HS), and Indigos and Varieds were undetected in the Carlsgab area (SW). Only one Evening Grosbeak was seen in the Sandia Mts., this summer (HS); southeasterly records were three in the Gallinas Mts., June 23 (GS) and one near Ruidoso June 5 (JS). Cassin’s Finches summered in the Sandia Mts., with females carrying nesting material there June 12 (HS). A female and two fledglings were at Los Alamos June 6 (B. Lewis); seven birds were near Canjilon June 19 (D & SH), and another at Zuni June 19 (JT). Brown-capped Rosy Finches were present on Stateline Peak June 26 (RF). Pine Siskins were present in Albuquerque until July 1 and may have raised a second brood (WH et al.). Vagrant Am. Goldfinches were singles at Corrales July 2, Belen June 9 & 23 (WH, KM), and Silver City June 16 (DZ). Lessers were more common than usual at C.G. (AM). Lowland stragglers were seven Red Crossbills at Corrales June 4 and one at Albuquerque June 21 (WH, M. Laurin). A Green-tailed Towhee at Bosque June 6 (D & SH) was out-of-range; 20 were in the Cloudcroft area June 19 (GS). Rufous-sided Towhee numbers were up at C.G. (AM). Savannah Sparrows again summered at Black L., with adults carrying food there July 2 (RB); numbers were up near Bluewater L., with a nest found July 4 (AM). Lark Sparrows in s. Otero County were confined as breeders to wooded habitats (RH). Cassin’s Sparrow numbers were up in parts of the s. w., with highs of 63 near Nutt June 11 and 25 near Las Cruces June 10 (W. Baltosser); in s. Otero County birds were first detected in the Crow Flats area June 30—after the first good rain—and became widespread and territorial thereafter (RH). Two family groups of White-crowned Sparrows and ad. Lincoln’s Sparrows carrying food were on Mt. Taylor July 12 (AM et al.); these records provided the first evidence of breeding by the species at that locality; both were also present near Canjilon June 19-20 (D & SH). Straggler Song Sparrows were singles at C.G., July 18 (AM) and Isleta and near Belen June 13 (WH et al.).


ALASKA REGION
/D. D. Gibson

The cold late spring apparently resulted in poor productivity for many coastal waterbirds, as a number of species were unable to begin egg laying until two-three weeks later than normal. Away from the coast, however, summer 1982 was normally warm and dry, not nearly so wet as was 1981.

SHEARWATERS AND CORMORANTS — On midsummer transacts in the n. North Pacific and Gulf of Alaska in June and July, Mottled Petrel was observed widely and sometimes commonly (ε g., 95 birds at 45°59’N 143°55’W, July 21), but only in very small numbers within 320 km of the Alaska coast. Maxima were seven birds at 49°17’N 179°57’W (south of Amchitka Pass, c. Aleutian Islands) June 21 and six birds at 55°00’N 140°09’W (e. Gulf of Alaska) July 23 (RHD). A nesting colony of 23 pairs of Brandt's Cormorants was discovered on the Hazy Is., off Coronation L., Southeastern Alaska June 25 (WAL & JWN). Nest-building was still going on at the time, as it was for Pelagic and Double-crested cormorants nesting there as well. This discovery provides the first breeding evidence between the small colony in Hinchinbrook Entrance, Prince William Sound, and the British Columbia coast.

WATERFOWL — "Aleutian" Canada Geese (B. c. leucopareia) were found in the Islands of Four Mountains, c. Aleutians, for the first time: 15 birds at Amukta l., June 12-13 and 65 birds (including a flock

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of 62) at Chagulkak I., June 16. On July 10 a nest with 4 eggs was discovered at Chagulkak (JLT et al., fide CFZ), confirming breeding in this section of the Aleutians. None of these birds had been banded or collared. A Canada Goose at St. Paul I., Pribilofs, June 16-17 was estimated to be leucopareia, and another individual there on 17th was believed to be a minima (JLD). Elsewhere, "Cackling" Canada Geese (B. c. minima) on the Yukon Flats of Delta suffered as a result of the late, cold spring. Not over 25% of their nests were successful this year. Brant and Emperor geese fared better than Canadas there, but were less successful than usual (GVB).

In an echo of distribution seen during recent prairie drought years, 25 Canvasbacks and two Redheads were seen at Safety Sound, 1008 American Birds, November 1982 (JLD et al.). Redheads at unusual localities included one male at Anchorage June the late, cold spring. Not over 25% of their nests were successful this year. Brant and Emperor geese fared better than Canadas there, but were less successful than usual (GVB).

A Red-breasted Sapsucker near Monashka Bay, Kodiak I., June 13 (Sw) was the c. and w. Aleutians. Marbled Godwits, which have been watched with interest in recent years on their spring migration route along Alaska's Pacific coast, have been discovered in the Region in summer, in numbers, in precisely the area where C.L. McKay collected a pair with one chick was seen near Thorne Bay June 25 (SS). A Far Eastern Curlew was studied at Clam Lagoon, Adak I., c. Aleutians June 12-15 (tCFZ et al.). Most Regional records of this bird that far e. have been in fall or winter. An adult and immature. Red-legged Kittiwake were seen in the North Pacific at 54°59' N 157°38' W, and another immature at 55°18'N 156°23'W, in the vicinity of the Shumagin Is., July 8 (RHD). No one has found any evidence that this species breeds e. of the Pribilofs, so such summer records are presumed to be of nonbreeders. We are in the midst of quite a flurry of Cassplo Terns in Alaska. Most recently, two birds were observed at Homer Spit July 19 (tRLS). They provided the fifth and westernmost Alaska record (see AB 35:853,970, and AB 36:885). Six Parakeet Auklets were observed at Petrel Island July 21 (Wal & JWN). This locality, adjacent to Forrester I., on Dixon Entrance, is as far s. in Southeastern Alaska as the species can go. Whether or not the small number recorded in recent summers along the outer coast of Southeastern (see also AB 35:970) are breeding there remains to be determined.

WOODECKERS, TYRANT FLYCATCHERS — A Red-breasted Sapsucker near Monashka Bay, Kodiak I., June 13 (Sw) furnished the first summer record for the island (see AB 36:322). A Least Flycatcher that held a territory on a mixed spruce-birch hillside in Anchorage June 14-23 (tRLS & TTGT et al.) provided the first substantiated record of the species in Alaska. Least breeds quite close to us, in s. Yukon Territory, and closely-related Hammond's is locally common in the Tanana R. valley of e.-c. Alaska, but there is no evidence of sympatry, nor information on their ecological separation in this area (for, presumed habitat preferences of Hammond's are withstand, in Alaska it breeds not in mountains or in conifers, but in deciduous and in mixed forests that would probably be regarded elsewhere as Least habitats). It would appear, moreover, that the e. Alaska Hammond's constitute a population disjunct from the birds of w. Canada (and s.e. Alaska), separated geographically by the Yukon Least Flycatchers, which are, in turn, the northwesternmost birds in a continuous range across Canada. If this sounds complicated, I believe it is (and Dusky Flycatcher, occurring to n. British Columbia, undoubtedly further complicates the issue). An E. Kingbird studied at close range near Barrow June 30 (JLD et al.) was most unusual, but there are a number of records of this bird as a mid-summer visitor along the arctic coast.

THRUSHES THROUGH BLACKBIRDS — A 9 Mountain Bluebird was observed June 21 at a homestead at Mile 6 Edgerton Hwy (R&B & JSW), where the bird may have been a breeder. There are very few actual records from Alaska, rather than e.g. about 250 km of the Yukon boundary. In addition to the Indian Tree Pipits recorded at Attu, Agattu, Shemya, and St. Lawrence islands this spring (q.v.), two birds were seen June 7 at St. Paul I. (tCH), providing a first Pribilof record. This species was also reported at St. Matthew I., in June (MLW), but there were no specifics at this writing. A singing Philadelphia Flycatcher observed near Cape Pevek, Eastern June 27 (tRRM) provided a first record for Alaska. This species
breeds as far n. and w. as the Peace R. country of n.e. British Columbia. There is no prior record of any vireo in c. Alaska. Two, possibly three, singing Tennessee Warblers June 17 at Eagle (RRM) were among the only second summer record in c. Alaska. A Red-winged Blackbird observed at Barter I., June 8 (AR & DR) and a Brown-headed Cowbird seen there July 16 (RFB) were both unusual, but not unprecedented, records for the arctic coast.


NORTHERN PACIFIC COAST REGION
/Bill Harrington-Tweit, Phil Mattocks, and Eugene Hunn

The dry weather of late spring continued into June. Rainfall was about two-thirds of the normal levels for the Vancouver, British Columbia and Seattle, Washington weather stations, and 90% of that fell in the last five days of the month. Temperatures throughout the Region averaged about 3°F over the longterm norms. During July both temperature and precipitation were near normal. The only reported effects of the warm, dry June were not on bird populations or nesting success, but on local gardens. The several vagrant species found were scattered through the season.

LOONS THROUGH DUCKS — The only nesting report of Com. Loons came, as usual, from Vancouver I., (hereafter, V.I.), on Pye L., near Campbell R. (HT). Numbers of summing w. Grebes continued to be very low compared with a decade ago. The largest reported flock was 35 off s. V.I. (VG). Northern Fulmars were found by the hundreds off Washington and Oregon in July (TW; M. Gray-bill, fe AM). Summing numbers of this species vary greatly from year to year. Following an exceptionally large number of summer records of Brown Pelicans, good numbers were found along the Oregon coast at the end of July (HN). To the n., a Brown Pelican was found long dead in a cormorant colony on Mandarte I., B.C., for the eleventh documented provincial record (Cowan Vertebate Musuem, Univ. of B.C., P. Arcece). Increases in cormorant breeding populations have been reported for the past 3 summers. This season was no exception. A new colony of Pelagic Cormorants was formed at Stanley P., Vancouver, B.C. (W. & H. Hesse), and the colony of Double-crested on Grays Harbor, Wash., increased by 100 nests (EC, W.D.G.). Green Herons were noted n. to Port Alberni, V.I. (J. Morgan), and most observers commented that the species was widespread and in good numbers.

A pair of Pintails nested at Kent, Wash. (EH), for one of only a few w. Washington breeding records. Nesting Green-winged Teal at Willapa N.W. (RW) and Ocean Shores (G & WH) provided the first breeding records for the outer coast of Washington. There were 3 broods of Am. Wigeon at Delta, B.C. (WW). The first documented breeding records for the Vancouver, B.C., area were obtained only last summer. The large numbers of juv. Mallards reported by widely scattered observers seemed to indicate a very successful nesting season. Larger-than-normal numbers of Greater Scaup summured in the Region. Hundreds were noted along the Oregon coast (HN), 100+ at Grays Harbor, Wash. (DP, G & WH), and 180 near Vancouver, B.C. (WW). Such summer reports usually do not total more than 50 birds. A Oldsquaw was present on Yaquina Bay through the season (JK, m.ob.). Scoters were reported in higher-than-normal numbers on the Oregon coast (HN). There were no reports on Peregrine nesting. The only indication of Merlin breeding was at Elk Falls P.P., Wash. (HT). Few observers mentioned Am. Kestrels, but one report from Olympia, Wash., noted that 4 traditional sites in that area were vacant this summer (JD).

California Quail had numerous, large broods in the Victoria area (VG), but there were no sightings in nearby Duncan (JC) where numbers have been low for the last 3 years. The Sandhill Cranes at Pitt Meadows, B.C., produced at least one young (M. Shanlock). Aside from the Queen Charlotte I., this is the only regularly used breeding locale in the Region, and some of the banded birds released there during 1981 stayed in the vicinity all summer. Along the lower Columbia R., Wash., a pair of apparently territorial Sandhill Cranes stayed until the mowing of their patch of suitable habitat in early June (A. Richards, A. Musche). Breeding Am. Coots were observed at 8 localities in Washington. The highest number of nests found was 45 on Nisqually L., Pierce Co. (BHT). There were summing birds, but no reported breeding activity, near Vancouver, B.C. (DK).

SHOREBIRDS — The Snowy Plover habitat at Leadbetter Pt., Wash., posted against intrusion again this year, supported 10 pairs and at least 10 chicks for another successful season (RW). There was a high count of seven ad. Snowies at Ocean Shores, Wash. (DP), and

Another southern raptor, the Red-shouldered Hawk, was reported 3 times from Douglas County, Oreg. (MS; K.R., fe DN). Breeding of this species for Washington. Despite the discovery of White-tailed Kites during the summer season in s.w. Oregon (MM, K. Rodecap, fe EZ), there was no other evidence of breeding noted.
several were noted at Coos Bay, Oreg. Flocks of 100-200 Surfbirds and both Black and Ruddy turnstones appeared abruptly on our shorelines July 17-21 (AC, DP, TW, D. Smith). The numbers are somewhat unusual but the arrival pattern is not. For most other migrant shorebird species a few individuals make their first appearance well before the major flocks arrive. Peak counts of some shorebirds were: 204 Whimbrel at Ocean Shores, Wash., July 21 (DP), 20 Greater Yellowlegs at Victoria, V.I., July 16 (R. Satterfield), 243 Semipalmated Plovers and 3000 Short-billed Dowitchers around Grays Harbor, Wash., July 21 (DP), eight Baird’s Sandpipers at Iona I., Vancouver, B.C., July 16 (DK), 150 Least Sandpipers at Tillamook, Oreg., July 3 (JG), and 26,500 W. Sandpipers at Grays Harbor July 21 (DP). A record high count for the Region was the 70+ Semipalmated Sandpipers at Iona I., July 16-17 (1BK).

Two shots of the same Rufous-necked Stint, Tillamook Bay, Oreg., June 20, 1982. Photos/Jeff Gilligan.

The first Oregon records of the Rufous-necked Stint were of two different birds in breeding plumage found on the Bayocean flats, Tillamook Bay, June 20 & July 3 (ph.-JG, ph.-O. Schmidt, D. Irons; photos examined-ed.). A Long-billed Curlew June 9 & 15 at Blackie Spit (RP, V. Newson, WW et al.) and several Red Knots along Boundary Bay during June and July (BK, MP et al.) provided only the second summer records of these species for the Vancouver, B.C., area. A Willet on Boundary Bay, B.C., June 6-9 (TM et al.) represented about the ninth Vancouver area record. A Ruff found at Iona I., B.C., July 21-23 was a very early fall migrant (1BK, K. Bell, D. Aldcroft).

The large colony of Glaucous-winged and W. gulls on Willapa Bay, Wash., was surveyed this summer for the first time since 1977 (BHT, SS). There were 3000+ nesting pairs, presenting an array of vivid iris colors and plumage patterns. In 1977, there were 1000-1500 nesting pairs. Willapa Bay’s other nesting gull, the Ring-billed, is also increasing. About 60+ nests were counted this June (BHT, SS). Summering Bonaparte’s Gulls remained at low levels for the fourth consecutive summer. However, after 3 low years, the numbers of non-breeding Black-legged Kittiwakes were up along the Washington coast (DP, G & WI, BHT). HN noted that Heermann’s Gulls were abundant along the Oregon coast, with unusually high numbers of immatures present.

A record count of almost 4000 pairs of Caspian Terns was made at the colonies along the Washington coast this summer (EC, W.D.G, BHT, SS). Several hundred more adults were noted throughout coastal Washington and British Columbia. At the end of July, HN reported that very large numbers of Com. Murres were present along the Oregon coast, both dead on the beaches and alive just offshore. The explanation for this concentration may be the warm anchovy-rich water onshore at this time, attracting birds and thereby enhancing the visibility of normal mortality. There were some large concentrations of Marbled Murrelets reported: 29 at Port Susan, Wash., June 2 (BHT), and 50 at Ft. Roberts, Wash., June 30 (RP). There were also two rare summer sightings of the Ancient Murrelet: one with five Marbleds s. of Yachts, Oreg., July 21 (AC), and two apparent juveniles well offshore from Westport, Wash. (DP, TW).

OWLS TO SKYLARKS — A pair of Barred Owls bred in Discovery P., Seattle (ph., DH, m.ob.). Three young were seen out of the nest June 20 (D. Beaudette). Despite widespread reports of Barred Owls for many years, this was only the second confirmed nesting in the Region. The first was in 1975 (AB 29:900). Barred Owls were also sighted at 2 new locales in w. Washington; at Silver L., n. of Maple Falls, Whatcom Co. (D. McNeely) and in Fort Dent P., Tukwila, King Co. (B. Brynteson). Two just s. of Campbell R., V.I. (HT) in late July are the northernmost yet reported for the Region. One was also heard July 24 at Victoria (M. & T. Shepherd). An ad. Great Gray Owl and a fledged young were seen June 25-26 near Coos Bay, Oreg. (MM, m.ob.). This is the first reported nesting of this species in the Cascades of W. Oregon, although such has been suspected for many years. A pair of Saw-whet Owls bred successfully at Burnaby, B.C. (I. Robertson). There are few nesting records of this species from the lowlands.

The continued scarcity of Com. Nighthawks was stressed by observers in the Rogue and Willamette valleys of Oregon (MM, E.Z, HN), through to the Puget Trough of Washington and s. British Columbia (BHT, W. Harm, DK). The second nesting record of the Anna’s Hummingbird for Oregon was evidenced by a fledgling, barely able to fly, found in Corvallis June 1 (E & E.Z). Two nests of Anna’s Hummingbirds at Discovery P., Seattle (DH), were the fifth and sixth recorded for Washington. The summer distribution of Anna’s is by no means continuous. The species is common in parts of Seattle (DH), yet scarce or absent to the s. in Tacoma and Olympia. To the n., at least 11 Anna's summered at Victoria (VG), and at least three were present all summer at a feeder in W. Vancouver, B.C. (C. Butt). There were several reports of local declines or scarcities of woodpeckers, which are rapidly unsettling in this big timber country. Common Flickers were in low numbers at Duncan, V.I. (JC). Hairy Woodpeckers are now only rarely reported from the Corvallis area (E & E.Z), and are scarce at Victoria (VG). A Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker nest found s.w. of Mt. St. Helens, Wash. (D. Anderson) was noteworthy, not so much for the locale, but for the scarcity of actual nest observations in our Region. Only four E. Kingbirds and five W. Kingbirds were reported away from the known breeding locales for each species. This is a somewhat lower number than normal. A pair of W. Kingbirds nested at Pt. Lewis, Wash. (BHT, GW) for the first nesting record of this species in the Puget Trough. Skyline was found singing over a field near Cowichan Station, V.I., July 8 (PRW). This is the farthest n.w. location yet known to be occupied.

MARTINS TO BLUEBIRDS — The Purple Martin news was generally good, with the exception of that from V.I. The two pairs at Duncan, V.I., was the lowest count there in 14 years (JC) and Victoria hosted only a few more than that (VG). In Washington there were 20-25 broods produced in s. Puget Sound (JD). In Oregon MS reported increasing sightings in Douglas County, and a locale near Toledo was used after several year’s absence (JK, fide HN). Scrub Jays are slowly increasing their range to the N and W in the Region. AM noted that the species is becoming more prevalent in the drier, inland portions of Coos County, Oregon. As in past summers, Rock Wrens were found on the w. slope of the Cascades in Washington, this year in King and Whatcom cos. (EH, J. Ducmml). As with the previous summer records from the w. slope, no evidence of breeding was obtained. Another Rock Wren was at a quarry near Tualatin, s. of Portland June 22 (E. Lev, fide HN). There were 3 reports of Mockingbirds; one June 3-5 in Campbell River, V.I. (HT), one July 6 at Coos Head, Oreg. (AM), and one June 18 in Medford, Oreg. (fide MM). Gray Catbirds are intermittent breeders at Pitt Meadows in the Fraser R. valley e. of Vancouver, B.C. Two to three Gray Catbirds were present throughout the summer at Pitt Meadows (H. Brownlow) for the first sightings there since 1979. One was also seen nearby at DeBouville Slough July 24 (RP et al.). There are no other known breeding sites in the Region.

The Pemberton Valley n. of Vancouver, B.C., is also the only part of our Region with breeding Veeries. Twelve were found near Pemberton, B.C., June 13 (K. Hobson et al.). A lone bird was singing at Pitt Meadows July 8 (1MP) for the third Vancouver area record. Mike Paczolt’s nest boxes at Agate L., Jackson Co., Oreg., successfully fledged 120 young W. Bluebirds. Nearby in Douglas County, however, MS noted that bluebirds seemed to be having more trouble than usual. Reproductive success also appeared low on Pt. Lewis, Wash. (BHT, DK). A nest on Mt. Ebcon, V.I., was monitored through four young (VG) and the success of a snag-nesting pair in the Sooke Hills, Malahat Land District, V.I., was undetermined (PRW).
VIREOS AND WARBLERS — HN noted that Warbling Vireos in Oregon were quite conspicuous, with good reproduction. However, Warbling Vireos were noted as scarce at Olympia, Wash. (JD), and Duncan, V.I. (JC). EH detected a general decline in vireo numbers on the Issaquah, Wash., Breeding Bird Survey. Solitary Vireos were extremely scarce at Duncan, V.I. (JC). Red-eyed Vireo numbers were below normal at Olympia, Wash. (JD, BHT). In contrast, reports of Yellow Warbler breeding success were uniformly good, from Ashland, Oreg. (MM), Leadbetter Pt., Wash. (RW), and Duncan, V.I. (JC). MacGillivray’s Warblers were also believed to have had an excellent nesting season in Oregon (HN). Indications of possible breeding range expansions included a singing Nashville Warbler near Issaquah, Wash. June 20 (EH), and several singing Yellow-breasted Chats present June 18-July 11 at Broadbent, on the Coquille R., Oreg., for the first Coos County records (fide AM).

Reports of Am. Redstarts were widespread. One to two pairs were near Newhalem, Wash., June 6-13 (TW) in the sander swamp as last year. There were four records of Am. Redstarts which appeared to be vagrants: one male at Sprott L., V.I., June 11 (MP), a first-year male W. Vancouver, B.C., June 30-July 1 (DK, TD Cannings, m.ob.), an ad. male at Sea L., Vancouver, B.C., July 2 (TMP), and an ad. male at Foster Res., e. of Corvallis, Oreg., July 11-18 (F. Graves, fide EzE). The pair of Am. Redstarts seen near Glide, e. of Roseburg, Oreg., June 7, but not found when searched for later (KK), was difficult to categorize. More unusual vagrants were a Black-throated Green Warbler June 19 at Reifel I., B.C. (fide WW), for the first Vancouver area and coastal British Columbia record, another Black-throated Green Warbler, also seen June 19, at Cape Blanco, Curry Co., Oreg. (R. Smith, fide HN), and a Chestnut-sided Warbler June 6 on Bayocean Pen., Tillamook Co., Oreg. (fide AM).

ORIOLES TO SPARROWS — Northern Orioles continue to slowly increase their breeding populations around Victoria and Vancouver, B.C. A nest at Victoria fledged four young, and there were sightings of eight + other adults there (V). Of a total of 16 sightings in the Vancouver, B.C., area (fide DK), the only nesting report was of two adults feeding two fledglings at DeBouville Slough (RP et al.). An ad. Rose-breasted Grosbeak was seen June 30 near Green L., in Seattle, Wash., for only the second w. Washington record (fide M. Kepplinger). Black-headed Grosbeaks were noted to be unusually abundant by 2 Washington observers (JD, RW). The only other mention of the species was that they were fairly common at Campbell River, V.I. (HT). A few Evening Grosbeaks remained in the lowlands into June.

Evidence of breeding came from Victoria (B. McCabe, fide VG) and Everett, Wash. (specimen of fledgling, fide M. Jordan). Lazuli Buntings were noted more frequently than usual within their regular breeding range in Oregon (HN). In Washington, where Lazulis breed very sparingly w. of the Cascades, singing males were noted at 2 new locations in King County (EH) and one in Lewis County (BHT). A Indigo Bunting stayed July 28-Aug. 4 along a powerline right-of-way near Eugene, Oreg. (B. Combs, m.ob.).

Red Crossbills were present throughout the period in the lowlands of British Columbia. To the s., however, they were virtually unreported during June. Small groups appeared in early July in the lowlands of Washington (EH, BHT) and Oregon (E & EzE). The species began nesting activities at the end of July in Olympia, Wash. (BHT), and on Vashon L., near Seattle, Wash. (PM). The Douglas fir cone crop was abundant at both locations. Green-tailed and Brown towhees were reported in good numbers from Jackson and Douglas cos., in s. Oregon (MS, MM, S. Gordon). These 2 counties comprise the extent of their breeding range in our Region. A Vesper Sparrow was at Pitt Meadows, B.C., June 26 (?MD), somewhat n. of its usual range. A Fox Sparrow was at the South Jetty of the Columbia R., June 28 (JG), well s. of its usual range, and two were at N. Vancouver, B.C., June 28 with one still there June 30 (?MD). A pair of pugetensis White-crowned Sparrows was closely observed feeding two fledglings July 30 at White Pass, Wash. (fide PM). White-crowned Sparrows have been observed at that location in previous summers, but the subspecies had not been determined. The 4300 ft elevation is higher than other known breeding locations of pugetensis and lower, and much farther s. or n., than those of gambelli or oriantia.


MIDDLE PACIFIC COAST REGION
/Ron LeValley and Jules Evens

Mostly typical summer weather greeted us this year. June was a bit cooler than normal but July brought typically hot weather to the interior. A small front passed through the northern portion of the Region at the end of June dropping a bit of rain but otherwise the coastal weather was an almost monotonous "fog and low clouds morning and evening with partial clearing in the afternoon". Strong northwest winds along the coast associated with the hot interior cooled ocean surface temperatures in mid-July. By the end of the period sea surface temperatures were 12-13.5°C, approximately equal to the 20-year average.

All observations from Southeast Farallon Island (hereafter, F.L.) and Palomarin, Bolinas should be credited to Point Reyes Bird Observatory (hereafter, P.R.B.O.).

LOONS THROUGH STORM-PETRELS — All three of our loon species were reported summering in the Region in small numbers but 1000 + Arctic’s in Drakes Bay, Marin Co., June 24 (KVV, KC) was a notable non-breeding concentration. A Red-necked Grebe, always rare in summer, was at Sea Ranch, Sonoma Co., June 5 (DE, BDP). Eighty Black-footed Albatrosses off Crescent City June 6 (RLEV, RAE) were actually fewer than expected. A few N. Fulmars from last winter’s incursion lingered through the summer with 30 off Crescent City June 6 (RAE, RLEV) being the maximum. Sooty Shearwaters were considered less common than normal in Monterey Bay this...
spring, possibly related to the low numbers of market squid present (all intensive surveys were found farther n. off Crescent City). A concentration of 530 Snowy Egrets along Sears Point Rd., Solano Co., July 19 (KVV). Poor nesting success was reported for both Brandt’s and Pelagic cormorants at Pt. Lobos, Monterey Co. (AB) and on F. I. (P.R.B.O.). In both cases the reason was thought to be low food supplies near the breeding islands.

Green Herons continue their apparent increase with ten along the Guadalupe Slough, Santa Clara Co., June 6 (KVV, SFB). A Corn. Heron the previous year near Eastside, Contra Costa Co., because of predation from cats, snakes, raccoons and even from a Brown Towhee (LF)!

PELICANS THROUGH HERONS — White Pelicans arrived in numbers during July with the first notable concentration being 500 along Sears Point Rd., Solano Co., July 19 (KVV). Normal haunts along the outer coast (AE, SFB). At least eight Am. Avocets summered at the Arcata Marsh (RLeV, RAE). Nesting at this locality should be watched for. An Am. Golden Plover along the Estero Trail, Pt. Reyes July 11 (fide SFB) was probably a very early fall migrant. As is often the case, a few flocks of Long-billed Curlews were detected in the C.V., including 135 at Deerlev N.W.R., Colusa Co., June 11-20, and 50-70 at Stockton Sewage Ponds on June 30 with smaller numbers at both locations through July (MH). One hundred were also found s. of Orland, Glenn Co., June 13 (SAL). The first Solitary Sandpiper of the fall was at Bliss Ranch, Del Norte Co., July 29 (RAE, GL). The first large flocks of Wilson’s Phalaropes arrived in S. San Francisco Bay on time when 5000+ were present June 30-July 1 (TJ). A Corn. Heron the previous year on the BLRF was extremely early (GL). The only Semipalmated Sandpiper reported was an adult at the Bliss Ranch, Del Norte Co., July 29 (RAE, GL) Adult Baird’s Sandpipers are very rare in our Region so one at Abbot’s Lagoon July 28 was noteworthy (DS). A very early juvenal was near the mouth of the Mad R., Humboldt Co., July 18-19 (RLeV)

GULLS THROUGH ALCIDS — The newly established California Gull colony at Alviso, Alameda Co., had 80+ active nests May 12 (HLC). Elsewhere the first juvenals were reported from Crescent City July 2 (RAE, SFB) and Stockton Sewage Ponds July 13 (DY). The first juv. Ring-billed Gulls were at Crescent City July 21 (RAE) and at Stockton Sewage Ponds Aug. 3 (DY). An ad. Laughing Gull was reported at L. Merritt, Alameda Co. (fide SFB). Nearly all of our records are not from the summer season. All Black-headed Gulls, Kittiwakes, always rare in the summer, were reported from Marina State Beach, Monterey Co., June 4 (AB) and the Mad R. Mouth July 18-31 with two present at the latter locality July 27 (RLeV, LD). A single Sabine’s Gull off Crescent City June 6 (RLeV) was far fewer than expected. The Least Tern colony at the Alamedal Naval Air Station failed due to predation from cats and kestrels (SFB) but many of these birds seemed to have renested at the Bair L. San Mateo Co. colony where 48 pairs were present in July (fide RL). An Elegant Tern June 9 near Pt. Pinos, Monterey Co., was quite early (TG). A Black Skimmer continued roosting with Caspian Terns at the Leslie Salt Ponds, Alameda Co., with sightings June 28 and July 1 (fide RL).

A notable concentration of Marbled Murrelets was around Año Nuevo I., June 22 when 70+ were present (KW). Single Ancient Murrelets were at Crescent City July 22 (RAE) and Pt. Reyes June 28 (KV, KC). Rhinoceros Auklets were seen carrying fish near Año Nuevo I., during June and July indicating possible nesting there (KW). Six Tufted Puffins at Fish Rock, Mendocino Co., June 5 (DE, BDP) were from a little-known area.

CUCKOOS THROUGH GOATSUCKERS — The only Yellow-billed Cuckoo reports from the C.V. were of five at Blackberry I., Tehama Co. (SAL) and one at Caswell S.P., on the Stanislaus R. July 25 (DY). Observers are urged to report the absence as well as the presence of this species from areas of former occurrence; a list of known breeding localities is available from JE (address below) upon request. Vagrants were on the coast at Pt. Reyes June 20 (JM et al.) and F.I., June 21.

Barn Owl numbers seem stable around Stockton (DY) and 11 active nests were found at Lawrence Livermore Laboratory, Alameda Co (KHa, AE). Toward the coast the species proved scarce; despite intensive searching in Marin County only 4 active nests were located (DS et al.). Because the distribution of Flammulated Owl in California is incompletely known (see West. Birds 5:25-44 and 11:141-149) the following locations for single observations are of interest: 3 mi e. of Old Station, Shasta Co., 5 mi s.e. of Old Station, Shasta Co., 2 mi n.w. of Lake Britton, Shasta Co., 5 mi s. of Westwood, Lassen Co (all L. Benjamin & G. Carpenter, fide DAA) and Gasquet, Del Norte Co. (GL). The only Pygmy Owl reports were from 3 locations in Santa Clara Co. (WB, TG). Although this species is “rare” in certain areas, distribution is spotty near the c. coast with some movement during the non-breeding season. New Spotted Owl territories continue to be found in Plumas, Tehama and Shasta cos., but five in Lassen County were unprecedented and significantly extend the known range to the NE in the Sierra/Cascade (fide DAA). The Barred Owl at Crescent City was last heard June 6 (GL, SS, DY). Burrowing Owls were found in fair numbers on the valley floor (MH, KFC, DY), but a pair “clinging to the last remaining dirt in the middle of
Stockton’s new Hilton Complex” (DY) illustrates the sad fate and bold tenacity of the species. A single Long-eared Owl at Sacramento N W R., June 11 (MH) was the only report received. Only two Short-eared Owls were reported, both in the C.V.; San Luis N.W.R., Merced Co., June 5 (KFC) and Sacramento N.W.R., July 20 & 29 (MH) Saw-whets were calling in July in the Sierra/Cascade at Chester, Plumas Co., and near Old Station, Shasta Co. (L. Benjamin & J. Meuenger, fide G. Seeber); four possible Saw-whets from Dixie Canyon June 1 (DE) were in a seldom owled area. Lesser Nighthawks were confirmed breeding in Merced County (KFC) and in aerial display along the Sacramento R., in Tehama Co. (SAL). Five+ vagrants reached the coast May 26-June 30 with three at F.I., and two at Pt. Reyes (KC, KVV, 1BY, S. Wilson et al.).

SWIPTS THROUGH HUMMINGBIRDS — Single Black Swifts at Orales Humboldt Co., June 7 (KR), s. coastal Del Norte County June 18 (GS) and Berkeley June 23 (KVC, KC) were probably migrants; other reports were from known breeding areas. A pair of White-throated Swifts at Castle Rock, Corral Hollow Rd., San Joaquin Co., July 10 (DY) and five at William's Butte, Tehama Co., July 10 were counties where nesting has yet to be documented.

S P, Marin Co., June 6 (fide SFB, BY). A pair of Say's Phoebe seen al ) may have been the same individual reported from Tomales Bay (KC, KVV, ?BY, S. Wilson et al.) may have been the same individual reported from Tomales Bay (KC, KVV, ?BY, S. Wilson et al.). A Scissor-tailed Flycatcher at Hall Ranch, Pt. Reyes June 1 (JRi et al.) may have been either nuchalis or varius, the former being more likely. Downy Woodpecker numbers may be recovering in the C.V. (BED, DY). The concerns voiced in these pages in the past (see AB 35:333) may have mirrored only a natural cyclical decline rather than any long-term trend. Only careful observation by resident birders will help clarify this situation.

FLYCATCHERS THROUGH SWALLOWS — Eight E. Kingbirds occurred on the coast June 15-24 with four at F.I., one at Patrick's Pt., Humboldt Co. (JSI, RLeV, RAEE), two in Del Norte County (RAE, J. Rooney et al.) and one at Pt. Reyes (KVV, KC). One at the Pt. Reyes Lighthouse July 19 (BY) provided the only coast record where reasonableness of breeding records come from, e. of Salyer, Trinity Co., June 24 & 30 (KR et al.) and just n. of the state line on Hwy. 395, July 22 (DAn). Migration of W. Kingbirds lasted later than usual (at least on the c. coast) with records at F.I., June 9-23 and at Palo Alto June 6 (fide CB). Cassin’s Kingbird was at usual haunts in Monterey County (DR), and along Corral Hollow Rd. (DY). A confirmed breeding at Hall Ranch (KL) for Reyes June 1+ (JRL et al.) may have been the same individual reported from Tomales Bay S P, Marin Co., June 6 (fide SFB, BY). A pair of Say’s Phoebe seen entering a cliff face crevice at William’s Butte, Tehama Co., June 3 & 6 (PNE, IT) adds evidence to breeding there (see Spring report), a significant N extension of range in the C.V. Seven Willow Flycatchers were singing at 3 locations in the Yosemite Sierra (HLC, BDP). One at Manzanita L., Lassen Volcano N.P. (hereafter, L.V.N.P.), June 27 and July 16 was unusual (DM); another at Hat L. (also L.V.N.P.) July 17 was in more appropriate habitat (DM). The only coastal reports were from Gold Bluffs Beach May 31 (GS) and Eel R. Bottoms July 5 (JH), both Humboldt Co. Eight Dusky Flycatchers at Rollins, Lake Co., were near the edge of the species’ range (P.F. Dittenman), A W. Flycatcher at Galt, San Joaquin Co., July 17 (DY) was a very late lingerer. Hermit Thrush was confirmed breeding in Marin County (DS, SC) and found to be a “fairly common to locally common breeder in the coniferous forests” there (DS). A Veery at Pt. Reyes June 20-24 (JML, 1JM et al.) provided the Region’s third record and only the fifth for California. An absence of records is always more difficult to interpret than a presence; judging from the few reports of nesting W. Bluebirds in the C.V., that species has suffered a drastic decline there during the last 10+ years. Encouraging was the report of successful breeding at Hatfield S.R.A., and of a pair at San Luis N.W.R., both Merced Co. (KFC). Other C.V. observers are encouraged to determine the extent of extirpation of this species. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher was found to be a fairly common breeder along the n. ridge of Lucas Valley, Marin Co. (BL). Cedar Waxwings departed the lowlands in synchrony June 5 (BFA, KFC, DS).

SILKY FLYCATCHERS THROUGH VIREOS — A Phainopepla at Foothills P., Palo Alto June 9-11 (J. Stech, CB, WB) was beyond the w. limit of the species distribution, the Diablo Range. Hutton’s Vireo continued to be scarce on the coast (P.R.B.O., JE). Unusual was a first reported at Lafayette (LF) and one at Woodson Bridge, Tehama Co., July 11 (SAL). A Red-eyed Vireo singing in Terwer N.W.R., both Merced Co. (KFC). Other C.V. observers are encouraged to determine the extent of extirpation of this species. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher was found to be a fairly common breeder along the n. ridge of Lucas Valley, Marin Co. (BL). Cedar Waxwings departed the lowlands in synchrony June 5 (BFA, KFC, DS).

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WARBLERS — Eight Black-and-white Warblers were on the c. coast June 12-21 (m. ob.) with five at Pt. Reyes and three at F.I. A singing male at Napa July 22-Aug. 1 (KVV, KC, BDP) was one of few county records. The May influx of Tennessee Warblers at F.I., continued into June with a total of 15 there June 1-24 (normal timing, high number): the only other reports were from Pt. Reyes with 2-3 there June 21-22 (BB, SFB, RAEE, BDP). The possibility that these were from F.I., is high since the dates correspond with the exodus from F.I. Eight Orange-crowned Warblers were in the C.V., June 2- 25 (KFC, DMA, DY); whether these are post-breeding dispersants
Two Yellow-throated Warblers (of which at least two may have already been singing on territory in June in 1979, 1980 and 1982) were singing on June 19, 20 and 21; June 20 and 21 (with some degree of certainty, few were singing on territory in June in 1979, 1980 and 1982) were singing on territory in June in 1979, 1980 and 1982.

Amazing was the discovery of two Yellow-throated Warblers (of which at least two may have already been singing on territory in June in 1979, 1980 and 1982) were singing on territory in June in 1979, 1980 and 1982. A single Canada Warbler, exceedingly rare in the C.V., was reported from Pt. Reyes June 18 (KVV, KC). A Blackpoll Warbler was at Pt. Reyes June 18-22 (KVV, KC, JM, BY et al.). Four Bay-breasted Warblers were found June 16-23; three at F.I., one at Pt. Reyes June 16 (fide SFB). Two Blackpoll Warblers were at Pt. Reyes; one June 19-20 (JM) and one June 24 (KVV, KC). A Blackpoll Warbler was at Pt. Reyes June 19, 20 and 21; June 20 and 21 (with some degree of certainty, few were singing on territory in June in 1979, 1980 and 1982) were singing on territory in June in 1979, 1980 and 1982.

A "Myrtle" Warbler at Crescent City June 15 (GL) was several weeks late. Evidence of nesting of "Audubon's Warbler in coastal Del Norte County just n. of Crescent City and at Mt. Hamilton, Santa Clara Co. (AED) adds information to the species distribution in discontinuous areas of its range. Remarkable were three reports of Black-throated Green Warbler (in addition to the May 22 bird in S.F.), a truly rare bird in spring. One female at F.I., June 15-16 was where most other spring records originate. A singing male at Elkhorn Slough, Yolo Co., June 18 (A. Englis, JML et al.) provided the Region's second interior record. A male reported at Hobo Camp above Susanville, Lassen Co., June 24 (T.R. Johnson) was accompanied by inca-dence. Several birds were usually scattered throughout several "summered" at Salinas July 18-28+ (B. Gerow, fide DR). The only nesting colony of Tri-colored Blackbirds consisted of three males at Pt. Pinos June 6 (DR) were vagrants there. The possibility of a local breeding population in the Pt. Reyes area seems a logical explanation. The phenotypic condition "despite the low altitude and habitat typical of Purple Finch in the Sierra Nevada" (HLC). The only report of Lawrence's Goldfinch was of 20+ at Frank-Raines P., Stanslius Co. July 11 (DY). During June and July Red Crossbill was "quite conspicuous" along the n. coast (RAE) and numbers moved into old growth forests in Trinity County after being nearly absent in winter and spring (KR). A Green-tailed Towhee at Mt. Loma Prieta Santa Cruz Co., June 12 (SG) was unusual in the n. coast ranges.

S.A. — Seven Grasshopper Sparrows were at Kesterton N.R., Merced Co., June 6 (KFC), the species' status and abundance is poorly known in the C.V. How little we know about this species is illustrated by the statements of DS who spent over 500 hrs afield this breeding season trying to "fill in the gaps" for the Marin County Breeding Bird Atlas: "Contrary to what the literature says this (Grasshopper Sparrow) is not a rare breeding bird, at least in the grasslands of n.-c. California. I saw/heard a minimum of 150 (in Marin County) and consider this a characteristic and fairly common breeder in moderately grazed, healthy dry open grasslands. Although this many may/may not be a banner year for this species, I think the above statement holds, even though the species is supposed to fluctuate in numbers from year to year. In my experience, this species can be found in all the traditional spots in Marin every year."

A singing Vesper Sparrow was in an agricultural field near the town of Smith River, Del Norte Co., June 10 (RAE, GL). Migrants reached F.I., June 8 and July 29-31; the later date is an extra-temporal vagrant, but not unprecedented. Coastal Rufous-crowned Sparrows were two pairs of Pt. Ross, Sonoma Co., June 4 (DE), hatching year birds at Palomar June 29-31 (first possible nesting in several years there) and two at Big Cr. Reserve, Big Sur June 19 (AB). An ad. Cassin's Sparrow at F.I., June 17-23 (TCS, P.R.B.O.) was well-described, all 5 of the other Regional records emanate from the same location and the date fits well with post-breeding dispersal in the s.w. which may involve a rain-related SE to NW migration (see ASK 61:408-412 and AB 31:95). The status of Sage Sparrow (A.s. canescens) is poorly defined in the San Joaquin Valley. KFC found one adult at Solano W.M.A., June 2 (including at least three juveniles) 9 mi e of Los Banos July 6. All were associated with Atriplex spinifera, an endangered habitat in the San Joaquin Valley, and preliminary field work indicates that the distribution of this species of saltbush may determine the distribution of this Sage Sparrow (fide SFB). A single Slate-colored Junco at Pt. Reyes June 19 (JM, KFC) furnished the latest record away from F.I. One-two late migrant Chipping Sparrows...
were at Pt. St. George June 1 (RAE). A 2 Golden-crowned Sparrow summered at Five Brooks, Marin Co., frequenting a poultry feeder (JE, BY). A single singing White-throated Sparrow was at Pt. St. George June 17-18 (RAE, GL). After high winter mortality, Song Sparrows produced the highest number of young birds ever at Palomarin with numbers in July more than twice 1981 totals.

OBSERVERS — Dan A. Airola, Peter Allen, David Anderson (Dan), Maurice Armour, S.F. Bailey, Alan Baldrige, Bernice Bannes (DBa), Bruce Barrett, Lynn Berner, Clark Blake, William Bousman, John Brack, Kurt F. Campbell, Scott Carey, Karen Cartier, Ted Chandik, H.L. Cogswell, Brennan Davis, B.E. Deuel, Linda Doerflinger, Art Edwards, P.N. Ehrlich, Ray Ekstrom, Doug Ellis, R.A. Erickson, Jules Evans, Lynn Farrar, Tim Gates, Steve Getty, Geoff Geupul, Golden Gate Audubon Society, Kem Hainebach (KHa), Keith Hansen, Roger Harris, Marguerite Hills, Joel Hornstein, Sandy Jacobsen, Harold and Betty Kimball, Jeri M. Langham, S.A. Laymon, E.K. LeGrand, Bill Lenarz, G.S. Lester, Ron LeValley, Mike Lippsmeyer, Roy Lowe, Marie Mans, Dave Mauszer (DMa), Joe Morlan, Dan Murphy, Benjamin D. Parmeter, Noel Pettingill, Point Reyes Bird Observatory, Jean Richardon, R. John Rider, M.F. Rippey, Mike Robbins, Jon Rooney, Mary Louise Rosegay, Ken Roseberg, Dave Shuford, John Sterling, Gary J. Strachan, Chris Stromsness, Brad Stovall, Steve Summers, Chris Swarth (CS), Irene Timossi, Phil Unit, Kent Van Vuren, Ken Warheit, David Yee, Bob and Carol Yutzy. — RON LE VALLEY (Loons through Alcids), 1876 Ocean Drive, McKinleyville, Calif. 95521. JULES EVENS (Pigeons through Sparrows) P.O. Box 839, Pt. Reyes Station, Calif. 94956.

SOUTHERN PACIFIC COAST REGION
/Guy McCaskie

The summer season was about normal with average temperatures and rainfall confined to thunder showers in the mountains during July. Most observers concentrated their efforts on waterbirds, and only a limited amount of time was spent with landbirds in the mountains and deserts, although the riparian habitat along the south fork of the Kern River was well surveyed, giving us some interesting data from that area.


LOONS, GREBES — As usual all three of the regularly occurring loons were found summering along the coast with Arctic Loons the most numerous (120+ reported) and Red-throated Loons the rarest (10 reported). A Com. Loon at Salton City along the w. shore of the Salton Sea June 5-6 (RHi) was a late spring migrant, but four on L. Cachuma, Santa Barbara Co., throughout the period (PEL) and another on L. Ming near Bakersfield, Kern Co., July 5 (LBev) were evidently summering inland. An Arctic Loon on L. Cachuma July 2-20 (LBev) provided the second record of the species summering inland. The presence of ajuv. W. Grebe riding on the back of an adult 20 (LBev) provided the second record of the species summering inland. An Arctic Loon on L. Cachuma July 2-20 (LBev) provided the second record of the species summering inland. An Arctic Loon on L. Cachuma July 2-20 (LBev) provided the second record of the species summering inland. An Arctic Loon on L. Cachuma July 2-20 (LBev) provided the second record of the species summering inland. An Arctic Loon on L. Cachuma July 2-20 (LBev) provided the second record of the species summering inland. An Arctic Loon on L. Cachuma July 2-20 (LBev) provided the second record of the species summering inland. An Arctic Loon on L. Cachuma July 2-20 (LBev) provided the second record of the species summering inland. An Arctic Loon on L. Cachuma July 2-20 (LBev) provided the second record of the species summering inland. An Arctic Loon on L. Cachuma July 2-20 (LBev) provided the second record of the species summering inland. An Arctic Loon on L. Cachuma July 2-20 (LBev) provided the second record of the species summering inland. An Arctic Loon on L. Cachuma July 2-20 (LBev) provided the second record of the species summering inland. An Arctic Loon on L. Cachuma July 2-20 (LBev) provided the second record of the species summering inland. An Arctic Loon on L. Cachuma July 2-20 (LBev) provided the second record of the species summering inland.

SHEARWATERS — Three N. Fulmars off San Simeon, San Luis Obispo Co., July 29 (V & WG) were at Pt. St. George June 1 (RAE). A 2 Golden-crowned Sparrow summered at Five Brooks, Marin Co., frequenting a poultry feeder (JE, BY). A single singing White-throated Sparrow was at Pt. St. George June 17-18 (RAE, GL). After high winter mortality, Song Sparrows produced the highest number of young birds ever at Palomarin with numbers in July more than twice 1981 totals.

PELICANS, FRIGATEBIRDS — A count of 45 Brown Pelicans, July 19 (TM) were the only ones reported from along the coast outside San Diego County, and one at K.R.P., all summer (JSR) was at an unusual locality being at 3000 ft in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada Mts. One or two Am. Bitterns at Vee-H Res., in Lake Forest, Orange Co., July 21-25 (EBP) and another at San Elijo Lagoon June 16 (TAM) were in areas suitable for nesting.

WATERFOWL — Up to six Brant at N.E.S.S., through July 24 (GMCc) were stragglers from spring. Two pairs of Blue-winged Teal accompanied by young at S.C.R.M., in June (MaH) were at the exact location of the first nesting record for the Region in 1980. A S Wood Duck at L. Henshaw, San Diego Co., June 8-14 (RHi) was far s. for the time of the year. Six Ring-necked Ducks on Big Bear L., in the San Bernardino Mts., June 19 (JO) were very late if not summering. A Canvasback, rare in summer, was in Carlsbad, San Diego Co., June 14 (TAM), up to four were at Pt. Mugu, Ventura Co., June 13-26 (LRB) and five were on Big Bear/Baldwin Lakes June 19 (REW). A Greater Scaup, casual in summer, was near Santa Maria, Santa Barbara Co., June 25-July 10 (LBev) and three more were at the Santa...
Ynez R. mouth July 29 (LBev). A Bufflehead, not quite as rare as the preceding species in summer, was at Oso Flaco L., San Luis Obispo Co., July 26 (JTE) and another was at Pt. Magu June 6-13 (LBev) and a third was found near Imperial Beach Aug. 21-22 (GMcC). The Harlequin Duck originally found in Carlsbad in December 1977 was still present June 27 (JO). A White-winged Scoter, very rare inland, was at N.E.S.S., June 26-Aug. 7 (GMcC) and was accompanied by a Surf Scoter June 26-July 10 (SMD). A Hooded Merganser near Cayucos, San Luis Obispo Co., June 2-July 18 (TE) was the first known to have occurred in s. California in summer.

HAWKS, GROUSE — A Mississippi Kite in Long Beach, Los Angeles Co., June 21 (BD) and another near Imperial Beach July 18 (GMcC) were both one-year old birds with banded tails, and were only the third and fourth to be found in s. California. A Zone-tailed Hawk, rare in California, was at the summit of Mt. Palomar, San Diego Co., July 14 (RHi). The presence of a juv. Swainson’s Hawk near Lancaster, Los Angeles Co., Aug. 14 (KLG) suggested that the species again nested in the Antelope Valley; two immatures near Santa Maria July 24+ (TW) were the first to have been found in that area at this time of the year in modern times. One ad. Zone-tailed Hawk was present on Santa Rosa Mt., Riverside Co., June 19-July 17 (JO), but there was no evidence of nesting; this is the location where a pair attempted nesting during the past 4 years. Non-breeding Peregrine Falcons were seen at S.E.S.S., June 6 (JO) and Aug. 7 (REW), near Santa Maria July 10 (LBev), and in the San Diego area June 30-July 1 (EC) and July 3 (MBS). An ad. Sage Grouse accompanying a partially grown young at Reed Flat in the White Mts., Inyo Co., July 7 (G. Frederick, fide JLD) was at the extreme s. limit of the species’ current range.

SHOREBIRDS — A Black Oystercatcher near Imperial Beach June 13 (DPa) was at a most unusual locality. Semipalmated Plovers appeared more numerous and widespread than usual during July with 15 on Baldwin L., July 24 (EAC) and five near Tepoca, Inyo Co., July 24 (JT) being the most unusual. The presence of some juveniles among 15 Snowy Plovers near Tepoca July 22-31 (JT) strongly suggested nesting at that locality. An Am. Golden Plover near Pt. Magu June 18 (LBev) was the only one found. Two Whimbrels near Lancaster July 4 (KLG), another there July 24 (KLG), one near Palo Verde, Imperial Co., July 3 (JJ) and three near Blythe, Riverside Co., July 12 (JJ) were all in areas where very rare at this time of the year. A Solitary Sandpiper along the Santa Ana R., in Anaheim July 16 (DRW) and another near Lancaster July 24 (LBev) were the first of the fall migrants to be found this year. A pair of Spotted Sandpipers at L. Hodges throughout the summer were accompanied by a juvenile July 25 (EC) and three pairs were at San Eljio Lagoon throughout the period with two young seen June 6 (DPa) verifying nesting at that locality; prior to last year this species was not known to nest any farther s. than the San Bernardino Mts., and coastal Ventura County. A Baird’s Sandpiper at Salton City June 6 (REW) was inland, considered casual. A Ruddy Turnstone near Lancaster July 24 (LBev) was one of very few found inland away from the Salton Sea. Unexpected was the discovery of a Com. Snipe nest at K.R.P., June 26 (TG); this species was believed to be all but extirpated as a breeding bird in this Region. A Red Knot near Lancaster July 21 (BD) was the only one found inland away from the Salton Sea. An ad. Semipal- mated Sandpiper at S.E.S.S., July 31 (GMcC) was the only one reported. An ad. Rufous-necked Sandpiper at the S.C.R.M., July 11-17 (MiH) was the fifth to be found in s. California, but is likely the same bird present at this spot July 12-17, 1981 (Am. Birds 35:979, 1981). An ad. Baird’s Sandpiper at Bataquitos Lagoon, San Diego Co., July 11-14 (GMcC), two along the Santa Ana R., in Anaheim July 16 (SG), one at S.C.R.M., July 23 (TW) and another near Lancaster July 24 (LBev) were the earliest of the fall migrants this year. A Dunlin, exceptionally rare in summer, was at S.C.R.M., July 11-14 (MiH), another was seen around San Diego Bay June 6-18 (REW) and a third was at the San Diego R. mouth July 9 (REW). A Red Phalarope along San Diego Creek in Irvine, Orange Co., July 21-26 (DRW) was inland.

JAEGERS, GULLS, TERNs — Eight Pomarine Jaegers off San Diego June 17 (DPa) was a large number for this time of the year. A Parasitic Jaeger, quite rare in summer, was in Goleta June 19 (PEL). A first-summer-plumaged Glaucous Gull photographed at Jalama Beach, Santa Barbara Co., July 3-12 was 15 mi east of this site. A first-summer-plumaged Glaucous-winged Gull near the summit of Mt. Pinos, San Luis Obispo Co., was unknown nesting locality. A Chimney Swift, rare and local in the coastal lowlands of s. California in summer, was over W. Los Angeles July 12
(JT), another remained around Burbank, Los Angeles Co., throughout the summer (KLG) and 6-8 were over downtown San Diego July 11 (EC). An unidentified Chaetura over L. Hodges June 19 (KW) and 2-4 at Santiago Oaks Regional P., near Orange June 15-July 15 (SJR) were seen but another Chaetura, Swift, but another Chaetura, Swift, near San Diego Jul 22-23 (KLG) could be evidence of nesting in that area. The presence of a pair Calliope hummingbird on Big Pine Mt., Santa Barbara Co., July 19 (LBev) indicated the species may nest there. A Band-tailed Phoebe on the beach in Encinitas, San Diego Co., June 3 (RHa) was unexpected; a Ladder-backed Woodpecker in Vista, San Diego Co., July 22 (CW) appeared to be the only second ever found along the coast.

FLYCATCHERS, SWALLows -- An E. Kingbird, extremely rare in summer, was along the upper Santa Ynez R., June 18 (NSt). A W. Kingbird next near Santa Maria in June (LBev) and another in Goleta during May and June (KB) were both along the coast where the species is considered rare in summer. The presence of an ad. Wed's Crested Flycatcher near Tecopa accompanying two presumed young July 25-28 (JT) suggested nesting in that area; this species breeds along the length of the Colorado R., with one or two pairs nesting annually at Morongo Valley well to the w. of the Colorado R., and has only been found on 5 previous occasions in Inyo County. A Say's Phoebe on Pt. Loma June 5 (REW) was unexpected; wintering birds depart coastal San Diego County by early April. A survey of K.R.P., located 22 singing & Willow Flycatchers (MOC) for what must be the largest concentration of nesting birds in s. California in 9-9 singing males along the Santa Margarita R., San Diego Co., throughout the period (LS) and two more near Imperial Beach June 13 (EC) were the only others believed nesting in the Region. A pair of Olive-sided Flycatchers raised two young in tall eucalyptus at San Elco Lagoon May 2-July 5 (TM), establishing the first nesting record for the immediate coast of s. California. A pair of Sage Sparrows accompanied by a juvenile on Big Pine Mt., July 21 (LBev) gave us the first evidence of nesting in Santa Barbara County. The white-eyed Vireo found in Goleta May 18 was still present at the end of the period (PEL) giving us the first summer record for California. A Hutton's Vireo on Pt. Loma June 3 (REW) was unexpected; a Ladder-backed Woodpecker in Vista, San Diego Co., July 22 (CW) appeared to be the only second ever found along the coast.

THRASHERS THROUGH WOOD WARBLERS -- A Brown Thrasher at K.R.P., June 22 (BE) was most likely a late spring vagrant, there being no midsummer records for the Region. A nesting pair of Bendire's Thrashers in Superior Valley n. of Barstow, San Bernardino Co., May 12 (ASE) and a singing male in Kelso Valley in e. Kern Co., June 18 (BE) were somewhat w. of the species' known breeding range in California. A pair of Am. Robins that raised young in Irvine this summer (SJR) appeared to establish its first nesting record in Orange County. The presence of two juveniles of Bluebirds on Big Pine Mt., July 21 (LBev) gave us the first evidence of nesting in Santa Barbara County. The white-eyed Vireo found in Goleta May 18 was still present at the end of the period (PEL) giving us the first summer record for California. A Hutton's Vireo on Pt. Loma June 3 (REW) was some distance from the nearest locality of normal occurrence. A Black-and-white Warbler at 6000 ft., in the Laguna Mts., June 5 (CGE) and another at Big Bear L. (6738 ft.) in the San Bernardino Mts., June 19 (REW) were both at unusual locations, very few having ever been found in the mountains; one at K.R.P., June 29-July 6 (BE) was in more typical habitat for a breeding bird. A Tennessee Warbler on Pt. Loma June 13 (Rew) accompanied two juveniles on Big Pine Mt., July 21-22 (JEL) gave us concrete evidence of nesting at that location. A pair of Virginia's Warblers near Weldon, Kern Co., June 27 (BE) strongly suggested nesting at that location; this is w. of any known breeding locality in California and along the e. side of the Sierra Nevada. The presence of nine singing c3 MacGillivray's Warblers at Cero Alto, San Luis Obispo Co., throughout the summer (TE) and two more along the Santa Clara R., near Santa Paula June 9 (LJ) strongly suggested nesting at these localities; documented nesting records for s. California are confined to mountainous localities, but nesting occurs along the coast of n. California s. into Monterey County. A Hooded Warbler, unrecorded in midsummer, was present along Mono Cr., in the upper Santa Ynez R. area June 23-July 9 (JMG). Up to three Painted Redstarts, a species for which there is but one breeding record, near the lower end of Big Bear L., June 14-July 3 (J & ER), up to two in Deep Cr. Canyon near L. Arrowhead June 20-July 25 (JDB), one in the nearby town of Lake Arrowhead June 20-July 25 (JDB), and another along the Angeles Crest Highway in the San Gabriel Mts., June 18 (KLG) were all in suitable habitat for nesting.

BLACKBIRDS THROUGH SPARROWS -- A Bobolink at Piedras Blancas June 9 (NSW) was a spring vagrant on the coast. A N. (Baltimore) Oriole on Pt. Loma June 13-15 (REW) was one of very few to be found in s. California in summer. A Great-tailed Grackle feeding two recently fledged young at a small marsh in Anaheim at the end of July (SG) documents the first nesting along the coast of s. California for this species whose range is continuing to expand. A Bronzed Cowbird was well observed in Morongo Valley June 4 (SP), this species is a rare but regular summer visitor to the Colorado R. valley, but with a handful of occurrences known to the West. Unprecedented was a Scarlet Tanager in Hollywood July 17 (TP), the species being a casual vagrant to s. California with no previous occurrences between June 24 and Aug. 23. A pair of Hepatic Tanager again nested along Arraste Cr., e. of Baldwin L., in the San Bernardino Mts., with one or two juveniles accompanying the adults July 11 (BWK). As usual, a few Summer Tanagers wandered to the coast with one in Goleta July 19 + (TW), one near Saugus June 6 (KLG), another in Hollywood July 18 (KLG) and a fourth near San Diego July 21 (CCG); one at Baldwin L., in the San Bernardino Mts., June 5 (DRW) was at an unusual locality, and the presence of 10+ pairs at K.R.P., throughout the period (BE), extended the species' breeding range NW some 110 mi from Morongo Valley.

Two Pyrrhuloxias seen in Corona, Riverside Co., July 23 (MM) were far to the w. of the species' normal range and may have been escapees. Of the six Rose-breasted Grosbeaks reported, the male at the top of Mt. Palomar July 25 (RHa) was at the most unusual locality. A pair of Indigo Buntings again nested at Morongo Valley (EAC), and the presence of 4-5 males at K.R.P., along with another male near Blythe throughout the period (BE, SC) suggested nesting at those 2 locations. A Painted Bunting, a casual straggler to California, near Blythe July 2 + (SC) was the first apparent non-escapee to be found in summer. Two Red Crossbills, a poorly understood species, were seen on July 28 on Mt. Julian (CS & JT) and four more were found at Pinos Aug. 6 (PS). A pair of Sage Sparrows accompanied by a juvenile at Harper Dry L., July 24 (EAC) were outside the species' known breeding area. A Dark-eyed (Oregon) Junco in Tecopa July 30-31 (JT) was certainly out of place at this desert location far from any known breeding locality for the species.

CONTRIBUTORS -- Joan Arnold, Larry R. Ballard, Robert Barnes, Bruce Barrett, Linda Bellouomini (Bel), Jonathan D. Berman, Louis Bevier (LBev), Mike Bondello, Karen Bridges, Sarah J Brooks, Eugene A. Cardiff (co-ordinator for San Bernardino County), Mark O. Chilchester (co-ordinator for Kern County), Herbert and Olga Clark (H & OC), Sue Clark, Charles T. Collins, Elizabeth Copper (co-ordinator for San Diego County), Brian Daniels, Dave DeSante, Jon L. Dunn, Tom Edell (co-ordinator for San Luis Obispo County), Claude G. Edwards, A. Sidney England, Brett Engstrom, Gary M. Fellers, Carol Friedman, Gary N. Fugle, Steve Ganley, Kimball L. Garrett (co-ordinator for Los Angeles County), Greg Gilchrist, Rich Grigg, Beth and Rob Hannah (RHa), Connie K. Harms, Loren R. Hays, Ron Haywood (RHay), Fred Heath, Matt Heindel (MaH), Mitch Heindel (MiH), Rick Hewitt (RHe), Roger Higson (RHi), Don Hoechlin, Carol C Honer, Janet Jackson (co-ordinator for Colorado River valley), Lee Jones, Paul Jorgensen, Brian W. Keelan, Dave King (DK), Jack

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HAWAIIAN ISLANDS REGION
/Robert L. Pyle

Unstable trade winds brought more frequent light rains and cloudier skies this summer throughout the main islands. Several heavy rains during July, affecting particularly the Big Island, resulted from numerous tropical storms leaving the eastern Pacific and passing by to the south of the island chain. This anomalous atmospheric pattern, which last happened in 1978, could conceivably have an effect on the waterbird migration to Hawaii this fall.


PETRELS THROUGH BOOBIES — Observers (PC et al.) at Lanaihale atop the tiny mountain range on Lanai I., June 24 reported 'Ua’a (Hawaiian Dark-rumped Petrel, Endangered) had returned to their presumed nesting area there. Five pairs (vocalizing) and six singles (not vocalizing) were seen before dark, and vocalizing continued for over an hour after dark. An ad. Bulwer’s Petrel was picked up alive from the ocean off Lanikai Beach, O., June 7 (ML), not far from several offshore islets where these birds nest in very small numbers. A White-tailed Tropicbird July 4-7 at Tern I., F.F.S. (fide SF) was unusual at a small, low-lying atoll. On the other hand, up to three Red-tailed Tropicbirds (which are more the bird of the low-lying atolls) were seen several times this summer cruising the slopes of Koko Crater and nearby Manana I., off s.e. Oahu (PB, DS et al.). One was found June 12 on an egg on Manana (RS), where several nestings have been confirmed in recent years.

Two Masked Boobies brought to Oahu several years ago as chicks and raised as free-flying birds at Sea Life Park, nested this year in the Park near a well-traveled visitor walkway. The single egg (normally 2 and 43, respectively, on nearby Kauai I. (TD), Niihau, about 30 km w. of Kauai and only one-seventh its size, has only a very few endemic Hawaiian inhabitants, is privately owned, inaccessible to visitors including ornithologists, and must be surveyed from a plane. Such low counts on Kauai are very unusual in summer. This year, the wet early summer may have provided extra good habitat on Niihau to attract wetland breeders from Kauai. Seasonal movements of some endemic wetland species between Kauai and Niihau for nesting has attracted wetland breeders from Kauai. Seasonal movements of some endemic wetland species between Kauai and Niihau for nesting has been confirmed recently.

WATERFOWL THROUGH FRANCOLIN — Two Fulvous Whistling Ducks appeared at Kii Pond, James Campbell N.W.R., O., June 18 (RS), and were reported there occasionally until at least early August. They probably are from the flock of six seen twice at nearby Punamano Pond in early January. The species had not been recorded previously in Hawaii. A δ Am. Wigeon also at Kii Pond June 18 (RS), was definitely out of season. Two Gray Francolins with four young were found at Hapuna Beach, H., July 19 (PPa).

From a group of six (three male, three female) Blue-winged Teal present at Aimakapa Pond, H., in late winter and spring, one pair remained through May. Then on June 13 came the startling discovery (PPa) of the handsome adults with seven ducklings! Research thus far indicates that this may well constitute the first record of a normally migratory or straggler duck species breeding in Hawaii. A photo obtained June 18 (PPa) shows all nine birds accompanied by a few Hawaiian (Am.) Coots with the very high front shield distinctive of the Hawaiian race. This teal in fact is one of the least frequently reported migrant duck species in Hawaii.

GALLINULES THROUGH TERNS — During the statewide waterbird count Aug. 5, 692 Hawaiian (Am.) Coot and 109 Hawaiian (Black-necked) Stilts were counted on Niihau I., compared to only 13 and 43, respectively, on nearby Kauai I. (TT). Niihau, about 30 km w. of Kauai and only one-seventh its size, has only a very few endemic Hawaiian inhabitants, is privately owned, inaccessible to visitors including ornithologists, and must be surveyed from a plane. Such low counts on Kauai are very unusual in summer. This year, the wet early summer may have provided extra good habitat on Niihau to attract wetland breeders from Kauai. Seasonal movements of some endemic wetland species between Kauai and Niihau for nesting has long been suspected, but not adequately documented. The waterbird survey also found 45 Hawaiian (Com.) Gallinules and 41 Koloa (Hawaiian Duck) on Kauai, but none of either species on Niihau. All of these wetland breeders are Endangered. At Aimakapa Pond, H., 70 coots were present in June. Five nesting territories had been established, including 2 with eggs and one with two chicks on June 22 (PPa).

Regular surveys through the season at Bellows Field, O., indicated more overwintering Am. Golden Plovers there than usual. Some showed partial or full breeding plumage, which is rarely observed here in summer (PB). One in excellent breeding plumage was observed at Kaneohe Air Station, O., June 7 (DS). But on Hawaii I., no plovers were seen in their usual haunts through June and July (PPa), except one at Mountain View July 23 (PPa) which may have been an early returner. Counts of 6-13 Ruddy Turnstones were reported June 13-July 14 from Hawaii I. (PPa), Oahu (PPa) and Kure (MM). Some were in partial breeding plumage. The Black Tern at Aimakapa Pond and the two Com. Terns at Kii Pond, all accidental stragglers to the state last winter, liked it here well enough to stay through at least most of July.

PASSERINES — A family of two adult and two imm. Greater Necklaced Laughing-thrushes was watched foraging through a yard in Kapaa, K., July 21 (WS). The almost extinct 'O'o'a was recorded one more time in May in the Alakai Swamp, K. (John Sincoc, fide TT). A survey trip by state biologists to the n. slope of Haleakala, M., July 19-23 reported three Po'ouli sightings of at least two different individuals (MM, TB, PPy). They may have been the same birds found there in April (see last season's report). Maui Parrotbills were seen frequently, including groups of mixed adults and immatures (PPy). Both these species are highly Endangered. Crested Honeycreepers, also Endangered, were observed in good numbers. But 'Apapane and 'I'iwi, the commoner Drepanidids elsewhere in the state, were unexpectedly scarce. The observers reported these actu-
ally were less numerous and less frequently recorded than the Parrot-bills (*), Crested Honeycreepers and Maui Creepers.

A report (JP) of at least eight Warbling Silverbills coming regularly to a feeder in Kheki, M., during most of July was interesting as a range extension and also because silverbills have not previously been reported coming regularly to feeders. A fine pair-tailed Whydah observed at leisure July 15 in the Magic I. portion of Ala Moana P., Monololu (GC), represented the first report of this species in nearly 2 years. It is not now considered to be established. The incipient Java Sparrow colony first reported last winter in Kaila-Kona, H., is flourishing. Thirty were counted June 18 (PPa) at the feeder where they were originally discovered. The owner estimates "hundreds" are now in the area.

CONTRIBUTORS — Phil Bruner, Tim Burr, George Campbell, Peter Connally, Peter Donaldson, Stewart Fefer, Ingrid Kang, Joseph Kleiman, Marlene Lyons, Marie Morin, Peter Paton, JoAnn Pruszynski, Peter Pyle, Winona Sears, Rob Shallenberger, Dominic Sherry, Tom Telfer.—ROBERT L. PYLE, 741 N. Kalaeoo Ave., Kalina, HI 96734.

WEST INDIES REGION

/Robert L. Norton

Weather conditions in the Region, particularly the eastern sections of the Caribbean, were generally hotter and drier than last summer. Precipitation was down 20% in June and 16% below average for July. There was a mild tropical wave in late July heralding the hurricane season.

ABBREVIATIONS — Anguilla is hereafter A.; Bermuda = B.; Culebra = C.; St. Croix = St.C.; St. John = St.J.; St. Thomas = St.T.; Puerto Rico = P.R.; the Virgin Islands = either U.S. for United States or B. for British.

SHEARWATERS THROUGH OSPREY — Audubon’s Shearwaters fledged successfully from 5 study burrows on Saba Cay, St.T., indicating a higher per cent fledge rate than in previous years. The hatch-year Masked Booby banded at Cockroach Cay, St.T., in June and July. An Osprey seen June 25 and July 14 at Great Pond, St.C., was a summer visitor as no nesting has been discovered in the area although Ospreys have been noted in the last few summers. The owner estimates "hundreds" are now in the area. Perhaps this is an accumulation of other over-summering shorebirds from other areas in the n. Caribbean. Snowy Plover was confirmed as nesting at A. (RLN) June 12 and Killdeer was found nesting at St.T. June 11. Two Dunlin were carefully noted at St.C. (FS) June 15.

A summary of breeding Larids is offered in Table 2. Of particular note is the first occurrence of Cayenne Tern observed nesting and paired with a Sandwich Tern at Pelican Cay, St.T., on the P.R. Bank.

Table 1. Numbers of shorebirds in the Virgin Islands in June and July, 1982.

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<tr>
<th>SPECIES</th>
<th>St. T. June 11</th>
<th>A. June 12-13</th>
<th>St. C. June 25</th>
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<td>70</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>16</td>
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* = nesting

Table 2. Nesting Larids on the eastern Puerto Rican Bank, 1982.

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<th>SPECIES</th>
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<td>1000</td>
<td>20</td>
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<td>—</td>
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<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Roseate Tern</td>
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<td>1200</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>2100</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

1Supported in part by Pittman-Robertson V.I. Wildlife Aid, FW-3.

COOTS THROUGH TERNS — Caribbean Coots continue to breed at Francis Bay Pond, St.J., where three adults and one imma-

THE NORTHERN VIRGIN ISLANDS AND EASTERN PUERTO RICAN BANK

Culebra = C.; St. Croix = St.C.; St. John = St.J.; St. Thomas = St.T.; Puerto Rico = P.R.; the Virgin Islands = either U.S. for United States or B. for British.

A summary of breeding Larids is offered in Table 2. Of particular note is the first occurrence of Cayenne Tern observed nesting and paired with a Sandwich Tern at Pelican Cay, St.T., on the P.R. Bank.
A Cayenne Tern was seen again this season at A., June 12 although not observed incubating. A Common Tern was noted at St.C., July 13 (FS) and an Arctic Tern carefully described (FS) there as having short legs and a grayish breast July 20 provides perhaps only the second record for the Region. Least Terns nested at St.C., again this summer with 305 including 10% immatures June 25 (JY, RLN).

Pigeons through starlings — White-crowned pigeons were noted as being more common in the vicinity of industrialized Krause Lagoon, St.C., than in previous years with 10+ seen in 40 min during the brooding period in June. A West Indian Nighthawk was seen (not heard) June 19 at Trunk Bay, St.J. If breeding, this would represent the first occurrence of gundlachii on St.J., although most unlikely owing to heavy predation pressure from mongoose, feral cats and dogs. Nichols (1943) found a nest of this form on St.T., May 1, 1936. This observation follows one week after a survey of A., where 12 West Indian Nighthawks were observed at Winlass Bay and are known to breed.

An Antillean Mango, a large hummingbird, was seen feeding at ornamental flowers at the Anegada Reef Hotel June 12. It was in breeding plumage and compared with other hummingbirds. Nichols (1943) states that the mango is unknown in the B.V.I., with the exception of A. The mango has been extirpated from much of its former range in the V.I., and is now only common in e. P.R. The record must be considered hypothetical. A Belted Kingfisher seen at Cinnamon Bay, St.J., July 8 represented a surprising summer record. A Starling was seen again at Frederiksted, St.C., June 16 (FS).

Addenda — FS reports a carefully studied Long-billed Curlew seen September 20, 1981, at Great Pond, St.C., and compared with Whimbrels. This may represent the first record in this century in the West Indies (Bond, 1979). An Am. Avocet was reportedly present at West End Pond, St.C., May 29, 1982 (jide K & SE).

Contributors — Sub-regional editors in boldface; Alex Molinares, Karen & Scott Eckert, Sean Furus, Fred Sladen, David Wingate, John Yntema.—ROBERT L. NORTON, Division of Fish and Wildlife, 101 Estate Nazareth, St. Thomas, U.S.V.I. 00802.

Going Places

Trips and Tours, 1983
Prepared by Elisabeth Lawatsch

Here once again is our annual listing of birding and natural history tours for March-December, 1983, with an occasional polar bear or iceberg spotting trip thrown in. We have returned to our former practice of publishing only the trips and tours of our advertisers as a bonus to them for their ongoing support of American Birds. Please note that we have compiled this listing from information provided by the tour sponsors and are not responsible for cancellations and alterations.

Fees quoted are in American dollars and may be considered approximate because of possible changes in airfares, etc. Whether airfare has been included or not (A.N.I.—Airfare Not Included) is noted after the cost. Where there is no indication, the sponsor has not supplied airfare information.