



The successful nesting of Prothonotary Warblers in the Great Swamp, South Kingstown, Rhode Island, established a first for the state and one of very few for New England. This may be another example of a southern species expanding its range northward. Photograph/Robert Wadman.



The status of Ross' Gull in North America has changed dramatically in the last two decades; twenty years ago, a record anywhere in the interior of the continent would have been considered impossible. Still, a June record on the Great Plains has to be regarded as bizarre. This Ross' Gull was at Grand Forks, North Dakota, on June 6, 1992. Photograph/David O. Lambeth.



Adult Masked Booby at the Salinas River mouth, California, on June 22, 1992. First confirmed record ashore on the West Coast. Photograph/Stephen F. Bailey.



A pair of Roseate Terns in courtship flight over Jones Beach, Long Island, New York, on June 16, 1992. The Cedar Beach colony in this area is one of two remaining breeding sites for the species in New York. Photograph/Alan Brady.



Adult Arctic Tern at Springfield, Illinois, on June 29, 1992. This bird provided an overdue first confirmed record for the state. Photograph/Dennis Oehmke.



King Rails apparently had a good season around the western Great Lakes. This one was in Hennepin County, Minnesota, on June 9, 1992, representing the first record there in more than a decade. Photograph/Kim W. Risen.

PICTORIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Summer 1992



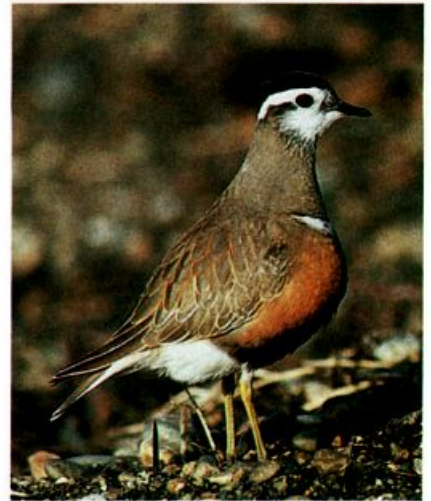
Although the Yellow-billed Cuckoo maintains only a phantom presence in many parts of the west, records still can be widespread. This cuckoo was along the Carson River above Lahontan Reservoir, Nevada, on July 17, 1992. Photograph/Larry Neel.



A highlight of the summer for many observers was provided by this Little Egret, one of very few ever recorded in North America, which stayed all season at Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge in Virginia. Photograph/Mary Gustafson.



Adult Eurasian Dotterel at Gambell, St. Lawrence Island, Alaska, on June 9, 1992. Although it has been found nesting on occasion, the species is still a rare and enigmatic visitor to western Alaska. Photograph/Kevin J. Zimmer.



Although Whip-poor-wills have been known to summer in Mississippi for some time, the first documented nest was found this season, in Oktibbeha County. It contained this downy young bird on June 22, 1992. Photograph/David McEwen.



Perhaps a "lowlight," not a highlight, was the second record of Shiny Cowbird for Texas on June 12, 1992. This unwelcome invader, like the first one for the state in 1990, was captured in a cowbird trap at Fort Hood. Photograph/Greg W. Lasley.



Montezuma Quail were reported more widely than usual in southwestern New Mexico this summer. This pair was found in an unusual locality, the desert west of Lordsburg, on July 30, 1992. Photograph/Barry R. Zimmer.



Juvenile Red Crossbill at McDonald Observatory in the Davis Mountains, Texas, on July 21, 1992. Assuming the bird was hatched locally, it would establish the first breeding record for that mountain range. Photograph/Kelly B. Bryan.



Adult Little Stint at Irvine, California, on July 28, 1992. Sixth record for California. This portrait shows the warm "foxy" tones of the plumage, and the extensive dark spotting within the wash of rufous at the sides of the chest. Photograph/Herbert Clarke.



The north coast of the Gulf of Mexico has been blessed (or cursed) with a number of mystery gulls in recent years. The large, dark-backed gull at center here caused more consternation, with some observers identifying it as a Yellow-footed Gull, from the Gulf of California. Photograph/Gwen Smalley.



White-faced Ibises reportedly have nested in Alberta before, but there has not been much documentation available to back up the reports. Thoroughly confirmed was the breeding that produced these two young in the nest at Stirling Lake, Alberta, on June 28, 1992. Photograph/Lloyd Bennett.



Summer is a good season for looking closely at resident nesting species, to see the differences between young birds and adults. This Eastern Kingbird at Reston, Virginia, was clearly a juvenile, as indicated by the freshness of its plumage on July 31, 1992. The pale edges on all of its wing feathers and scapulars are sharply defined. Photograph/David Abbott.



Yellow-bellied Flycatchers moved west into central British Columbia this season, and nested in the Prince George area for the first time. This bird was singing at Vama Vama Creek east of Prince George on June 19, 1992. Photograph/Jack Bowling.