

Curve-billed Thrasher at Rend Lake, Illinois, on January 6, 1993. Present for several weeks, this bird provided a first state record. Photograph/Dennis Oehmke.



A low-density but far-reaching invasion brought a scatter of Black-throated Sparrows to many areas east and north of their normal range. This one was in Dixon County, Nebraska, on February 14, 1993. Photograph/Loren Blake.



A highlight of the winter for more than 1500 birders was this Dusky Thrush present from January into March 1993 at Langley, British Columbia. A stray from Asia, the Dusky Thrush had been recorded previously in several areas of Alaska, but nowhere else in North America. Photograph/Dick McNeely.



Two decades ago, the idea of a Ross' Gull showing up in Nebraska would have been considered totally impossible. But with records for the interior gradually acumulating, it now seems quite plausible—but still impressive. This Ross' Gull, a first for the state, was at Sutherland Reservoir, Nebraska, on December 17, 1992. Photograph/Stephen J. Dinsmore.



The first Le Conte's Sparrow for Rhode Island stayed from late January through February 1993 in Middletown. Photograph/Daniel M. Finizia.



Considered "long overdue" was this Rock Wren, a first for the Hudson-Delaware Region, that spent the whole winter of 1992-1993 at Cape May Point, New Jersey. Photograph/Richard Ditch.

PICTORIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Winter 1992-1993



The winter hummingbird bonanza along the Gulf Coast now seems to be extending north to Arkansas. One prize find there this season was the state's first Buffbellied Hummingbird, photographed at Searcy on February 18, 1993. Photograph/Helen Parker.



Male Painted Bunting at Brewster, Massachusetts, in January 1993. One of four that visited Cape Cod this winter. Photograph/Roger S. Everett.





It was an exceptional winter for western birds straying east. This Green-tailed Towhee, the fourth for Ohio, was photographed at Lorain January 11, 1993. Photograph/Bruce Glick.

Black-legged Kittiwake (in first-winter plumage) at Sardis Lake, Mississippi, December 26, 1992. Surprisingly, kittiwakes have been found in this area for four consecutive winters. Photograph/Jon L. Dunn.



In New York City, anything is possible. This Spotted Redshank was discovered in Brooklyn December 6, 1992, and stayed throughout the season. It furnished a first state record and perhaps the first record of overwintering for North America. Photograph/Shawneen E. Finnegan.



The vast majority of the Eurasian Wigeons recorded on this continent are males; but females, similar though they are to American Wigeons, can be detected by the careful observer. This bird was at St. John's, Newfoundland, on February 27, 1993. Photograph/Bruce Mactavish.



The old Colorado record of Long-billed Thrasher, from 1906, had always seemed like a fluke that would never be repeated. But the state had its second record this season, with this bird at Chatfield State Park near Denver from January 4 to February 13, 1993. Photograph/Hugh E. Kingery.



Pushing the limits for its species was this Northern Mockingbird that managed to survive the winter of 1992-1993 as far north as Anchorage, Alaska. Photograph/R. L. Scher.



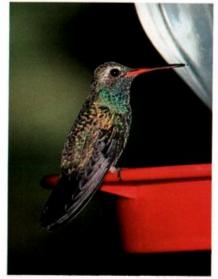
Yellow-billed Loon (in first-winter plumage) at Santa Barbara, California, December 11, 1992. Photograph/Arthur Morris.



Inca Dove at Mandan, North Dakota, on December 22, 1992. A first for the state, this southern dove arrived in November and survived temperatures down to twenty below zero before it was last seen December 24. Photograph/Gordon Berkey.



Apparent hybrid Laughing X Ring-billed Gull (in adult winter plumage) at Ocean City, Maryland, December 28, 1992. Quite likely the same bird photographed here in first-winter plumage two years ago (see *American Birds* 45 (2): 338, Summer 1991). Photograph/Michael O'Brien.



This Broad-billed Hummingbird visited feeders in Sinton, Texas, from fall 1992 to February 1993, a total of 99 days, the longest stay yet for any of the 13 state records. Photograph/Greg W. Lasley.



Far to the north of normal winter haunts was this Northern Oriole at Baie-Comeau, Quebec, December 6, 1992. The bird remained as late as December 22. Photograph/Gilbert Bouchard.



Record numbers of Masked Ducks moved north into Texas this season. This one was at Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge on December 26, 1992. Photograph/Jim and Pat Culbertson.



Pine Warbler at Boulder, Colorado, on December 15, 1992. One of two that wintered here, well west of the normal range. Photograph/David Leatherman.



Western Washington and Oregon hosted a number of wintering species that ordinarily go much farther south. They included this Western Tanager present in King County, Washington, all winter. Photograph/Nancy Morningstar.



Dusky-capped Flycatcher at Pacific Grove, California, on December 30, 1992. One of several that showed up in northern California during the fall and winter. Photograph/Don Roberson.



A first for Arizona was this male Tufted Duck, which remained in Mesa for much of January and February 1993. Photograph/Roy Jones.