

PICTORIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Fall 1993



Record numbers of eastern Solitary Vireos were reported in California. Some, like this bird on Southeast Farallon Island Oct. 6, 1993, were well documented. Birders watch subspecific identities as a split is considered. Photograph/Peter Pyle.



Adult Little Curlew at the Santa Maria Rivermouth, California, Aug. 15, 1993. The only other records for mainland North America were in this same area in the fall of 1984 and 1988; it is possible that the same individual was involved in all three records. Photograph/Mike Danzenbaker.



A highly unusual northward scattering of Reddish Egrets brought excitement to several inland areas. West of Colfax on September 5, 1993, this Reddish Egret furnished a first record for Iowa. Photograph/Tim Schantz.



Off Oregon Inlet, North Carolina, this Masked Booby was seen very well on September 18, 1993. Offshore exploration of the last few years has done much to clarify the status of such rarities off the southern Atlantic coast. Photograph/Brian Patteson.



Totally unexpected was this first-winter Ross' Gull seen by birders riding a fishing boat off Manasquan Inlet, New Jersey, on November 27, 1993. It furnished a first state record. Photograph/Steve Kerr.



A little out of season, but too good to pass up, was this photo of a bird found on Laysan Island, Hawaii, on March 10, 1993. Its coloration was aberrant, but its distinctive shape indicated what it was: an albino Black Noddy. Photograph/Jeff Marks.



Cinnamon Hummingbird in Doña Ana County, New Mexico, September 19, 1993. Only the second individual recorded north of the Mexican border, it followed the first record by little more than a year. Photograph/Barry R. Zimmer.



The prize find of a fall trip to world-famous Attu Island, Alaska, was this Pine Bunting on October 6, 1993. It furnished a second record for North America. Photograph/Shawneen Finnegan.



Swainson's Hawk is now essentially annual at Cape May, New Jersey, so it ought to occur elsewhere on the Atlantic coast. But this immature at Pea Island, North Carolina, on October 4, 1993, furnished the first fully documented record for that state. Photograph/Stephen J. Dinsmore.



Last summer saw a major northward movement of White Ibises in eastern North America. One of the northernmost was this adult at the dump at Machias, Maine, on September 12, 1993. Photograph/Barry R. Zimmer.



A first for West Virginia was this Varied Thrush, captured for banding at the Allegheny Front Migration Observatory on September 29, 1993. Photograph/Elias Elias.



Only the third for California was this Rustic Bunting, a stray from Asia, near Cantil on November 9, 1993. Photograph/Matt Heindel.



Ontario observers called this "the season of the flycatcher." One of the reasons was this Fork-tailed Flycatcher at Cayuga on September 30, 1993, furnishing only the second record for the province. Photograph/Jim N. Flynn.



Autumn 1993 was better-than-average for western and southwestern species in the east and north. This male Phainopepla stayed the first two weeks of November in Milwaukee, providing a first record for Wisconsin. Photograph/Janine Polk.



Variegated Flycatcher on Toronto Island, Ontario, Oct. 7-Nov. 6, 1993. An overshooting migrant from South America, it provided a first for Canada and fourth for North America. Photograph/Tony Beck.



Taking flight and showing off its white undertail coverts, this shearwater (offshore Monterey County on August 29, 1993) was one of several similar birds seen off northern California during the season. At this point the birds are being identified as Manx Shearwaters, a species essentially unknown in the Pacific Ocean. Photograph/Rod Norden.



Late autumn Myiarchus flycatchers in the east are now scrutinized with care, and often turn out not to be Great Cresteds. This Ash-throated Flycatcher was at Jones Beach State Park, New York, on November 7, 1993. Photograph/Peter W. Post.



One of the most cooperative rarities in Texas history, this Blue-footed Booby remained throughout the fall at Lake Lyndon B. Johnson and was viewed by literally thousands of visitors. It furnished only a second state record. Photograph/Chuck Sexton.



There seemed to be more western birds than usual straying eastward last fall. This Rock Wren on Assateague Island on October 11, 1993, furnished a first record for Maryland. Photograph/Mark L. Hoffman.



Sharp-tailed Sparrow at Casper, Wyoming, in October 1993. A first state record. The same marsh apparently hosted a rare Le Conte's Sparrow a little earlier in the season. Photograph/Jim Lawrence.



This Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher was amazingly far north (and east) for a southern bird, near St. John's, Newfoundland, Oct. 8, 1993. Photograph/Bruce Mactavish.



Western Selasphorus hummingbirds apparently wandered eastward in better than average numbers. This one in Cook County, Illinois, on October 22, 1993, was later confirmed in the hand as an immature male Rufous Hummingbird, the state's first definite record of that species. Photograph/Joe B. Milosevich.



It seemed to be an above-average season for Long-tailed Jaeger records inland. At Union Reservoir, Colorado, this juvenile on October 20, 1993, provided a fifth state record. Photograph/Dave Leatherman.



Record-breaking numbers of Northern Wheatears were reported in several northeastern regions during the fall. This one was in Mercer County, New Jersey, on September 11, 1993. Photograph/Laurie Larson.