

Southern Atlantic Coast Region

RICKY DAVIS

This spring's weather was characterized by a drier, warmer March and April, and a wetter, cooler May. What this meant to spring transients was good conditions early and not so good later. As could be expected, there were good numbers of early arrival dates and then a scattering of late departures. The prevailing winds seemed to favor a more westerly migration corridor through the Region, and observers seemed to find the most grounded migrants in the western portions of the Region. Highlights this spring included the continued presence of weird, rare, and exciting gulls at Cape Hatteras, North Carolina, and the discovery of two Bewick's Wrens, an event which brings hope that this species is still getting into the Region.

Abbreviations: B.B.S. (*Breeding Bird Survey*); C. Hatt. (*Cape Hatteras, NC*); E.L.H. (*E. L. Huie Land Application Facility, Clayton Co., GA*); K.Mt. (*Kennesaw Mountain Park, GA*); M.P. (*Merry Brothers Ponds, Augusta, GA*).

Loons to Wood Stork

Common Loons staged a better-than-average spring migration over the inland portions, with the best reports being late individuals at L. Townsend, NC May 13 (HH, PF) and Clayton, GA May 29 (CL), and the presence of large numbers (hundreds!) on L. Lanier, GA during May (m.ob.). One Pacific Loon was still present at Figure Eight I., NC Mar. 19 (DC), no doubt one of the birds found there in the winter. Rather unusual was the appearance of a Pied-billed Grebe at E.L.H., May 30 (CL), which remained into the summer! The only Eared Grebe report was of one at Bear Island W.M.A., SC Mar. 11 (RC, CE).

Pelagic birding continues to increase in popularity and the number of organized trips is steadily on the rise. From North Carolina's Outer Banks, boats were offshore every weekend from mid-May+. This year the numbers of Black-capped Petrels were about



average, with the best total being 150 off Hatteras May 20 (BP *et al.*). Much less expected was the presence of two Black-capped 40 mi s. of Beaufort Inlet, NC Mar. 17 (JF) in only 110 ft. of water. The rare but expected Herald Petrel was found once, off Oregon Inlet, NC May 29 (MT *et al.*), while the normally rarer Cape Verde Petrel was reported May 20 & 28 off Hatteras (BP *et al.*) and May 29 off Oregon Inlet (MT *et al.*). None of these sightings were of very close birds, thus the debate and confusion over the Soft-plumaged Petrel complex continues. Shearwaters made news not offshore, but on land at C. Hatt., where there was a steady stream heading N in late May. On May 28 Cory's peaked at >250, Sooties numbered >284, and there were from four-six Manx's recorded (MT *et al.* and NB *et al.*). Also from C. Hatt. there were good numbers of storm-petrels, with >300 Wilson's and one-two Leach's May 28-29 (m.ob.). The best offshore Leach's total was 40 off Hatteras May 29 (BP *et al.*) and the high tally of Band-rumped was 24 off Hatteras May 27 (BP *et al.*). Adult White-tailed Tropicbirds were found off Hatteras May 28 & 29 (BP *et al.*). The rare Red-billed Tropicbird was found twice; an adult off Oregon Inlet May 29 (MT *et al.*) and a sub-adult off Hatteras (BP *et al.*) the same day! These provided about the 10th and 11th records for North Carolina. One of the more surprising reports this spring was of the ad. **Brown Booby** which flew over the heads of observers stationed at C. Hatt., May 29 (RD *et al.*). The bird would have been missed if not that one of the group was *not* looking through a scope at the exact time it flew by! One won-

ders if there will be a repeat of last summer's flurry of sightings of this species. The Atlanta, GA area's 2nd Brown Pelican report this year was unexpected when one was seen in flight in DeKalb April 16 (PR, *fide* TM). The Am. White Pelican flock that wintered in the St. Mary's-Cumberland I., GA area remained through the spring with a peak total of 60-70 being reported (*fide* TM).

Among the long-legged waders, the Great "White" Heron from last summer was still present through the period at Pea I., NC (m.ob.); Reddish Egrets were found in North Carolina and Georgia; and inland nesting Yellow-crowned Night-Herons were in the usual piedmont North Carolina and Georgia spots. Also, the count of 130 Glossy Ibis at Altamaha W.M.A., GA Mar. 17 (AW) was encouraging for this up-and-down species. The presence of a Wood Stork near L. Marion, SC April 1 (RC) was noteworthy for being far inland and early.

Waterfowl to Sandhill Crane

The Greater White-fronted Goose made news in Georgia when one was found inland at E.L.H., Mar. 3-22 and again April 1 (BHu, JA, *fide* TM). Very rare was the sighting of eight Fulvous Whistling-Ducks at Altamaha W.M.A., GA on the late date of May 20 (BB *et al.*, *fide* TM). The ♂ Cinnamon Teal found near Snead's Ferry, NC during the winter was last seen Mar. 19 (HL, JP, DC, SB). Interesting breeding records included 2 different nestings of Blue-winged Teal at M.P. in early May (AW *et al.*), the first nesting records for the Augusta area; and a nesting Black Duck pair at the Bethel, NC Sewage Treatment Lagoons in May and June

(RD). Mottled Ducks have started to expand their range in coastal South Carolina (m.ob.) and there was also a good number at the Altamaha W.M.A. in Georgia where ≤ 30 were present in April and May (m.ob.).

Migrating Turkey Vultures are seen each spring in the Region, but the count of 300 moving through the Decatur, GA area Mar. 7 (GS, *fide* TM) was definitely an impressive group. The Am. Swallow-tailed Kite was reported much more than usual this spring. All 3 states had kites, with one in *McIntosh*, GA Mar. 12 (MH) providing a record-early arrival. The best count was 14 along the N. Santee R., *Georgetown*, SC April 22 (RC, CE); and the farthest north was one near *Grandy*, *Currituck*, NC May 19 (NB, RM, MG). Mississippi Kites also were more evident than usual, with the best reports being the three immatures at *Bodie Pond* on North Carolina's Outer Banks May 21 (NB, RM, MO) and an excellent total of 35 near *Augusta*, GA May 6 (BB *et al.*). *Accipiter* reports in late spring and summer are hard to come by, and nesting is even harder to prove. Thus of interest was the documenting of 3 different nestings in *Forsyth*, NC (*fide* RS), an unusual number of reports from one area. Broad-winged Hawks are quite uncommon migrants along the immediate coast in spring, thus the 13 in a flock at *Bodie I.*, NC May 21 (NB, MO, RM) was outstanding. Also, one in *Darien*, GA Apr. 14 (DCo) was locally unusual. Merlins were reported frequently, with the best records being the 12 seen moving N at *Jekyll I.*, GA Apr. 13 (TM, PM) providing an amazing spring total; and the bird far inland at *Tryon*, *Polk*, NC May 6–11 (ST) being rare and late. Several Peregrine Falcons were found in all 3 states, but the best record was one at *Pea I.*, NC May 26 (MT *et al.*), an amazingly late individual. In Georgia several inland marshes have harbored good numbers and diversity of rails. In a n. *Greene* marsh, one–two Blacks, >two Virginias, and several Kings were present through the period (B&BD, PS). Marshes near Atlanta (*Woodstock*, *Kennesaw*) contained several Soras and Virginias in March and April (GB, JS, CL, PH). Out of place was a Clapper Rail found along a fresh water pond in the *Green Swamp*, *Brunswick*, NC Apr. 29 (JP, RMc). Sandhill Cranes move N through Georgia each February and March, but this year the migration seemed a little later than usual. The best spring count was 126 over *Woodstock* n. of Atlanta Mar. 7 (GB, KD).

Shorebirds to Alcids

In the *Carteret*, NC area Wilson's Plovers returned in good numbers and a little earlier than normal, with 50 at *Beaufort Inlet* Mar. 25 and 50 at *Bogue Inlet* Mar. 27 (JF). Semi-

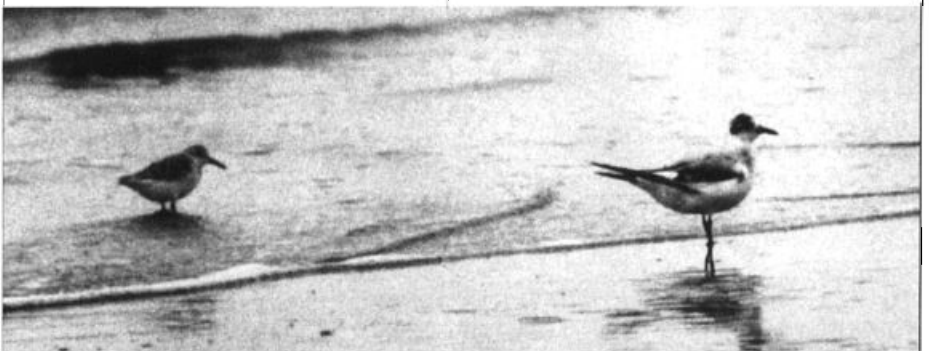
palmed Plovers were also found in good numbers, with 460 in *Camden*, GA May 4 (PS, CK, PSc) being the best total. The peak inland total came from E.L.H., where 11 were found May 7 (PBr *et al.*). Of interest was the report by *Fussell* of a Piping Plover found at *Bird Shoal*, *Beaufort Inlet*, NC Mar. 25. This color-banded bird from North Dakota has been found here every year since 1988. The bird was banded as an adult in 1986, thus this individual is 10+ years old and counting!

Inland Black-necked Stilts are extremely rare in the region. This spring Georgia had two records: two at E.L.H., Apr. 17 (CL) and one in *Laurens* May 4–5 (TP). The peak Lesser Yellowlegs total for E.L.H. was >50 Apr. 18–30 (BB *et al.*). Solitary Sandpipers move through early, but the presence of two at *Bear Island W.M.A.*, SC Mar. 13 (RC, CE) was exceptional. Another good inland shorebird was the *Willer* found near *Greensboro*, NC Apr. 26 (HLi, *fide* HH). This species is a rare inland migrant and especially so in spring. Upland Sandpiper reports were considerably down this spring, but the best count was 18 in *Laurens*, GA Apr. 5–20 (TP). The only Long-billed Curlews found were singles at *Jekyll I.*, GA Mar. 22 (BM, SE *fide* JS) and *Cape Romain N.W.R.*, SC Mar. 26 (RC, CE). Ruddy Turnstones turned up inland, with one at *Falls L.*, NC May 9 (RD) and three at E.L.H., May 19 (JS, CL, PH). Inland White-rumped Sandpipers were found in all 3 states, with the best count being a peak of 25 at E.L.H., May 19 (JS, CL, PH). Baird's Sandpipers are extremely rare in our Region as spring migrants. Thus of interest were 2 reports from Georgia! Individuals were found at *Jekyll I.*, May 6 (JS, BDr) and at E.L.H., May 1–14 (JS, CL *et al.*). Observers need to be aware of the rarity of this species in spring and should provide thorough details to rule out other *Calidrids*. The ponds at E.L.H. hosted a *Dunlin* Apr. 21 (CL), six–eight *Stilt* Sandpipers May 18–21 (BHu, JS, CL, PH), and ≤ 51 *Short-billed Dowitchers* May 2 (CL, BHu *et al.*), all proving that this inland site is

very important to transient shorebirds. One of the rarer sandpipers, a ♀ *Ruff*, was found at the salt flats of *Pea I.*, NC May 20 (BH, WF, KW) for the only report received.

North Carolina had all 3 species of jaeger reported from C. Hatt. this spring. The peak counts from shore were eight *Parasitics* and 13 *Pomarine*s May 28 (MT *et al.*, and NB *et al.*) and four *Long-tailed*s May 29 (RD *et al.*). The C. Hatt. watch also produced two *South Polar Skuas* May 29 (RD *et al.*). *South Polar Skuas* were also found offshore May 27–29 out of *Oregon Inlet* and *Hatteras Inlet*, with from one–two being reported (MT *et al.* and BP *et al.*).

Georgia's first *Little Gull*, an immature at *Jekyll I.*, May 2–12 (MH, T&MS, v.o.) caused much excitement. This was a long overdue species for the state and, with photos and multiple observers, should be placed on the official state list. Not as rare, but still noteworthy was the ad. *Little Gull* at *Murrell's Inlet*, SC Mar. 4 (RC, CE), most likely the same individual seen in the area during the winter. After the record number of *California Gulls* at C. Hatt. during the winter, one was still present there Mar. 5 & 7 (WC, JSh, CEL, BV). *Thayer's Gulls* were represented at C. Hatt. by an adult Mar. 4 & 7 (WC, JSh, CEL, BvD) and a first-winter bird Mar. 14 (BL *et al.*). Two *Iceland Gulls* were there: an immature and an adult Mar. 12 (BL, NB, JSw). *Lesser Black-backed Gulls* are no longer a thrill at C. Hatt., but the presence of a definite *intermedius* *Lesser* with the very dark mantle Mar. 14 (BL) was exceptional. This individual was photographed and provided only about the 4th *North American* record. Another very rare form was the nominate *argentatus* *Herring Gull* photographed Mar. 14 at C. Hatt. (BL). This race is mostly *Scandinavian* in distribution and no doubt was part of the movement of gulls from across the Atlantic. The status of the possible "Yellow-legged" *Gulls* from the C. Hatt. area is still unclear on several individuals. However one bird photographed Mar. 12 is definitely a *Yellow-legged Gull*, possibly of the "Cantabrian"



Immature Little Gull at *Jekyll Island*, Georgia, May 10, 1995. First state record. Photograph/Giff Beaton.

race, according to European experts who studied the photos (BL). Much remains to be done to unravel the status of the gulls seen this winter and spring, and hopefully much was learned so that we will be better prepared next winter. There were three birds found at C. Hatt., Mar. 12 which were considered hybrids. These included an ad. Great Black-backed x Herring, an ad. Lesser Black-backed x Herring, and a first-year Glaucous x Herring (BL, JSw, NB). These birds lead us to the notion that all types of gull crosses can and do exist and that specific identity of gulls is very problematic, to say the least.

The always exciting Roseate Tern was found as expected at C. Hatt. in late May. Two were there May 21 (R&PT) and a peak of five was found May 28 (MT *et al.*, NB *et al.*). Arctic Terns were about average in number, with the best count being 11 off Oregon Inlet, NC May 29 (MT *et al.*). Bridled Terns were in reduced numbers offshore, as is usually the case in spring. Nesting Sooty Terns were found in North Carolina again, with the usual birds (up to four) at C. Hatt. (m.ob.) and another near C. Lookout (TD), a spot that has Sooties irregularly. The only alcid reports included a distant large alcid sp. 15 mi s.e. of Charleston, SC Apr. 15 (RC, CE) and an imm. Razorbill at C. Lookout, NC Apr. 17 (PSP, *fide* JF).

Doves to Vireos

The Eur. Collared-Dove continues to increase and expand its population in the Region. There are a handful of newly found established colonies in Georgia and several new locations in South Carolina, too. North Carolina, which still does not have a known colony, got another record of this species when one was at a Wilmington feeder May 14–19 (GM, SC). Going in the opposite direction is the Com. Ground-Dove, which continues to disappear from its usual haunts. The only unusual report was of one in *Hali-fax*, NC Mar. 20 (*fide* FE), away from the normal range. Black-billed Cuckoos staged one of the best spring migrations in many years. Reports came in from all 3 states and from east to west. The earliest was one at Santee N.W.R., SC Apr. 24 (RC, CE); the latest at Pea I., NC May 21 (BH, WF *et al.*) and May 24 (CW); and the best count was the two–three at Hendersonville, NC May 6–11 (ST, Wfo). Georgia's first documented **Burrowing Owls** involved a pair found near Bainbridge Mar. 12 (BM, *fide* TM, m.ob.) which remained until summer. Speculation about possible breeding has been rampant, but definite evidence has yet to be obtained. The Long-eared Owls found in *Beaufort*, NC during February were last reported Mar. 5 (WF, LC).

Always rare in the Region, especially in spring, a Yellow-bellied Flycatcher was found at K.Mt., Apr. 25 (JM, *fide* TM). The Vermilion Flycatcher present all winter at Albany, GA was last reported Mar. 4 (MOB, *fide* TM). Other flycatchers were reported in normal numbers, but several species moved in a little early. The Cliff Swallow continues to expand into new areas, and some colonies are now being found under highway bridges away from large reservoirs. The Region's most southerly colony seems to be in Juliette, Jones, GA, where eight were at a bridge over the Ocmulgee R., May 3 (NG). North Carolina got another **Cave Swallow** when one was found at Bodie I. pond on the Outer Banks May 19 (NB, RM). This provided the 4th record for the state and 2nd this year! Is this species getting to the point where it can be expected on a regular basis? In North Carolina Com. Ravens continued to hold on in their e. outposts away from the mountains; birds were seen in *Guilford* and 2 nests in *Forsyth* successfully fledged young (RS *et al.*). They also were in *Polk* and *Rutherford* May 12 (ST).

Exciting was the discovery of two **Be-wick's Wrens**. One was found Apr. 2 in a yard e. of Clarkton, *Bladen*, NC and subsequently banded there May 14 (T&APa, *fide* HL), for an amazing length of stay. Not to be outdone, South Carolina hosted one in a brushpile in n. *Greenville* May 14 (RC, CE). These dual sightings seem to show that the species is visiting the Region at least sparingly. The number of transient thrushes continued to decline and many reported that some species were not encountered at all! How much farther will the decline go? In light of this, encouraging reports included three Swainson's at Pea I., NC May 15 (M&LS), eight Swainson's at K.Mt., GA May 7 (JS *et al.*), and ≤three Gray-cheekeds in *Guilford*, NC May 17–21 (HLi, *fide* HH). Vireos made news with 7 species being reported. North Carolina had its 4th (2nd in 2 years!) **Black-whiskered Vireo** when one was found in Beaufort, *Carteret* May 6 (TD) for a one-day occurrence. Has this species been overlooked as a spring overshoot migrant in the past? Warbling Vireo is a very rare spring transient in our Region, thus of interest were 3 reports. One was singing in the Congaree Swamp N.M., SC Apr. 23 (D&ISv), one was in *Bibb*, GA in early May (RMa, *fide* JS), and one was at Pea I., NC May 20 (BH, WF, KW). One–two Warblers were again found at their extralimital breeding outpost in Santee N.W.R., SC May 29 (RC, CE). The rare Philadelphia Vireo was also found with singles at E.L.H., May 5 (CL), n. *Greenville*, SC May 14 (RC, CE), and Pea I., NC May 15 (M&LS).

Warblers to Finches

The warbler migration got mixed reviews, but generally seemed to be about average. Observers in the w. portions of the Region did report excellent numbers of several species and some very late records were in the east. Highlights included a Tennessee at Pea I., NC May 15 (M&LS); a very late Orange-crowned at M.P., GA May 13 (CZ *et al.*, *fide* AW); a late-singing Black-throated Blue in *McIntosh*, GA (DCo); a late Yellow-rumped at Augusta, GA May 30 (GB); an early Worm-eating at Darien, GA Apr. 4 (MH); and an exceptional 14 N. Waterthrushes Apr. 29 in n. *Greene*, GA (PS, B&BD). In the unbelievable department was the ad. ♀ Blue-winged Warbler in Oriental, NC Mar. 5 (D&RF). The bird, banded and photographed in the hand, was just too early for a normal spring migrant. This record follows last year's winter report from the same location!

Good totals of some coastal breeding warblers were again found in *Dare*, NC with 18 Black-throated Greens May 22 (JF) along a 1.5 mi road; along a B.B.S. route May 24 Lynch tallied 109 Prairies, four Black-and-whites, and 23 Worm-eatings. The Tennessee Warbler that overwintered at Social Circle, GA was last seen Apr. 15 (*fide* PS). In addition to the *Dare* birds, territorial Black-and-whites were also found in several other North Carolina coastal plain locations. A pair was in s. *Onslow* (NM), a male was in s. *Duplin* (NM), and three males were in the Green Swamp, *Brunswick* (RD). This coastal plain population has become more obvious in the last 5 years and deserves continued monitoring.

It was a good spring for Connecticut Warblers in Georgia with 3 reports: singles were at Macon May 13 (PJ, TT), Chattahoochee R. National Recreation Area May 14 (JK), and K.Mt., May 22 (GB, BHa).

Western Tanager was reported twice: One was present at a feeder in *Greenville*, NC January–Mar. 25 (*fide* RT) and another made a one-day appearance at a feeder in the Atlanta, GA area Apr. 16 (*fide* TM). Georgia's Black-headed Grosbeak, which overwintered at Perry, *Houston*, was last seen Mar. 12 (*fide* JS). Dickcissels continued to show up across the Region in late spring, with the best report being 10 near Brunswick, GA May 7 (B&BD, *fide* TM). Some of the more interesting sparrow records included a Bachman's near Cartersville, GA May 13 (JS, CL), a Clay-colored near Lone Star, *Calhoun*, SC Mar. 25 (CE, GE), and one–two LeConte's at Santee N.W.R., SC Mar. 5–early April (RC, CE, TK). By April, the LeConte's were heard singing, an amazing event for our Region. Of much interest was the discovery of four (two singing) Sharp-tailed Sparrows in the salt flats at Pea I., NC May 21 & 30

(NB). One of these was seen carrying a fecal sac, indicating breeding at the site. There are no well-documented nestings of this species in North Carolina. The continuing census of the Henslow's Sparrow population in the VOA sites in e. North Carolina turned up even more territorial birds than last year. There were a total of 200 singing males counted in late May (J&PW). The importance of these sites to the species cannot be understated and management of the areas must be consistent in the future. In the "very late" department, a Dark-eyed Junco was at Jekyll I., GA May 13 (DCo). And finally, Shiny Cowbirds were reported from Lone Star, Calhoun, SC Mar. 25 (RC, CE) and the Cedar I., NC ferry terminal May 26 (JF).

Corrigenda

The Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks reported from Donnelly W.M.A., SC during the fall of 1994 (AFN 49:35) provided the state's 2nd record, not the first. The White-winged Tern from North Carolina Aug. 13, 1994 (AFN 49:35) was the 2nd for the Region, not the first. The first was one in Georgia at Jekyll I., Sept. 15, 1977.

Contributors: Jim Arduino, Paul Bailey, Susan Barrell, Giff Beaton, Bill Blakeslee, Ned Brinkley, Patrick Brisse (PBr), Derb Carter, Robin Carter, Doris Cohrs (DCo), James Coman, Will Cook, Sam Cooper, Larry Crawford, Kevin Danchisen, Ricky Davis, Trip Dennis, Bruce Dralle (BDr), Billy & Brenda Dunbar, Caroline Eastman, Steve Ehly, Chris Eley (CEI), Frank Enders, Glover Englehardt, Peggy Ferebee, Wayne Forsythe (WFO), Dorothy & Roger Foy, Wade Fuller, John Fussell, Nancy Gobris, Mary Gustafson, Bruce Hallett (BHa), Herb Hendrickson, Mal Hodges, Bob Holmes, Pierre Howard, Brock Hutchins (BHU), Ty Ivey, Paul Johnson, Tim Kalbach, Cam Kepler, Carol Lambert, Harry LeGrand, Bob Lewis, Henry Link (HLI), Merrill Lynch, Ray Mangham (RMA), Bob Manns, Greg Massey, Joseph McNapp, Roger McNeill (RMc), Nell Moore, Randall Moore, Terry & Peggy Moore, Mark Oberle (MOB), Mike O'Brien, Tom & Amy Padgett (T&APa), Tommy Patterson, Brian Parteson, Jeff Phippen, Paul Raney, Terry & Marion Schiefer (T&MS), Georgann Schmalz, Paul Schoenfeld (PSc), Mike & Lois Schultz (M&LS), Jeff Sewell, Julia Shields (JSh), Ramona Snavely, Paul Spitzer (PSp), Dan & Ila Svengen (D&ISv), Joe Swertinski (JSw), Paul Sykes, Simon Thompson, Mike Tove, Russ & Patricia Tyndall, Brian Van Druten, Anne Waters, Ken Wilkins, C. M. Williams, John & Paula Wright, Calvin Zippler.
—Ricky Davis, P.O. Box 277, Zebulon, NC 27597

Florida Region

H. P. LANGRIDGE

A few fall-outs in April produced some good observing in the coastal areas. Mid-May was so hot and dry that many record-high temperatures throughout the state were posted; rainfall was five inches below normal in the south, before a front with modest rains broke the heat wave May 20 to create a modest fall-out. Many reporters mentioned the shortage of thrushes and tanagers.

Strays this spring were mostly single birds on one-day stops: three Red-footed Boobies, a Red-billed Tropicbird, a Greater Antillean Pewee, two LaSagra's Flycatchers, a Bahama Mockingbird, and a Thick-billed Vireo.

Abbreviations: D.T. (*Dry Tortugas N.P.*), E.N.P. (*Everglades N.P.*), F.M.N.H. (*Florida Museum of Natural History*), F.O.S.R.C. (*Florida Ornithological Society Records Committee*), P.P.M. (*Polk Phosphate Mines*), and Spanish River (*Spanish River Park, Boca Raton*).

Loons to Wood Stork

From 10–25 mi off the *Manatee* coast Mar. 26, R. Meyers counted 300 pairs of Com. Loons, which indicated pairing before migrating. A late Com. Loon in breeding plumage in *Dixie* May 23 (JTK) missed the prom. Three Red-throated Loons in *Duval* Mar. 4 & 11 and Apr. 14 (RHC) were good finds. At P.P.M., May 7 (PJF), 84 Pied-billed Grebes provided a high number on a late date. In *Hamilton*, seven wintering Eared Grebes tarried until Mar. 28 (JTK). The White-tailed Tropicbird visited regularly at D.T., Apr. 29–May 10 (PM *et al.*); seldom seen off Palm Beach, one was reported 6 mi offshore May 9 (TW). Six mi s. of Key West, 40 close-range observers excitedly studied and photographed (over 100 photos) a Red-billed Tropicbird as the *Yankee Freedom* many times flushed it and slipped in close May 11 (HPL, ES, KKe, DC, LC, m.ob., ph. SA, LC, ESJ, † to F.O.S.R.C.). This species is considered very

rare and apparently had not been reported in spring. At D.T. the old record of one chick a season was broken with a total of three Masked Booby chicks April 12 (WCB, DL, ph. KTK); a total of 52 adults were tallied there Apr. 18 (GM). At D.T., two very rare Red-footed Boobies were reported: one Apr. 12 (DL, PM), and a different bird in poor plumage with a light head May 17 (WBR, BR, BK). An emaciated Red-footed was picked up at a Miami shopping center May 4, but died the next day (*fide* WAH). At P.P.M., 1650 Am. White Pelicans Mar. 2 provided a show (PJF). Unusual at D.T., a Roseate Spoonbill hesitated Apr. 21 (KTK).

In a complete surprise, 27 Wood Stork nests hosted incubating adults in n.w. W. Palm Beach Apr. 17 (BM, MBM); however, at Paurotis Pond, E.N.P., 105 pairs of Wood Storks started nesting in mid-March, 85 nests were still active May 22, but all young were underweight, and few of the 250 chicks were expected to fledge (JCO).

Geese to Coots

Two banded Bar-headed Geese at St. Augustine May 30 (GKG) were reported as escapes. In the rice fields near Belle Glade May 13 (AL, BL, CW), 350 Fulvous Whistling-Ducks represented a good number. Three Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks wandered NE to *Polk* May 22 (BC, LC) where they are rare. A rare wintering Cinnamon Teal tarried until Mar. 17 (GEM) in *Leon*. With about ten reports, a rare wintering Com. Eider disappeared Mar. 8 in *Brevard* (LM).

