

Mid-Atlantic Region

MARSHALL ILIFF

The season was hot and dry through August and September, providing some good shorebirding at inland sites where low water levels are essential. The first major cold fronts pushed through in October and brought good numbers of nuthatches, kinglets, and waterfowl to the Region. A major frontal system November 4–5 brought huge movements of swans, geese, ducks, and winter landbirds to the Region. A few rarities and major movements of Northern Saw-whet Owls, nuthatches, winter finches, waterfowl, and coots added spice to a season that was again notably poor for many neotropical migrants. Over 10,000 sightings were entered into our new database by Jim Stasz. Thanks to him and all who reported either to us, to county compilers, or to local hotlines.

Regretably, I report the passing of Ed Weigel, who submitted reports from Huntley Meadows to *American Birds*/*Audubon Field Notes* for years. He is remembered as an exceptional birder and gifted teacher by his friends and will be missed. This column is dedicated to his memory.

Abbreviations: Assat. (*Assateague I. National Seashore*); Bay (*Chesapeake Bay*); Black. (*Blackwater N.W.R., MD*); C.B.B.T. (*Chesapeake Bay Bridge and Tunnel*); Chinc. (*Chincoteague N.W.R., VA*); D.C. (*District of Columbia*); Deal (*Deal Island W.M.A., MD*); E.N.N.W.R. (*Eastern Neck N.W.R., MD*); E.S.V.N.W.R. (*Eastern Shore of Virginia N.W.R.*); Kipt. (*Kiptopeke S.P., VA*); P.N.A.S. (*Patuxent Naval Air Station, MD*); P.W.R.C. (*Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, MD*); W.W.T.P. (*waste water treatment plant*).

Loons to Waterfowl

One Red-throated Loon on the Gunpowder R., MD Nov. 23 (DW) was rare for *Harford*, while a Horned Grebe at Piney Run, *Carroll*, MD Sept. 23 (RFR) was very early for a migrant and was most likely a non-breeding straggler. The astounding Red-necked Grebe at Chinc., *Accomack*, Sept. 10 (FD) may also have been a non-breeding straggler. The only other report was of a single at the mouth of the Choptank, MD Nov. 20 (HTA). A Western Grebe at E.N.N.W.R., *Kent*, Nov. 24–26 provided a first county record and only the 4th documented report for Maryland (PGD, † ph. MJI, ph. JLS, m.ob.).

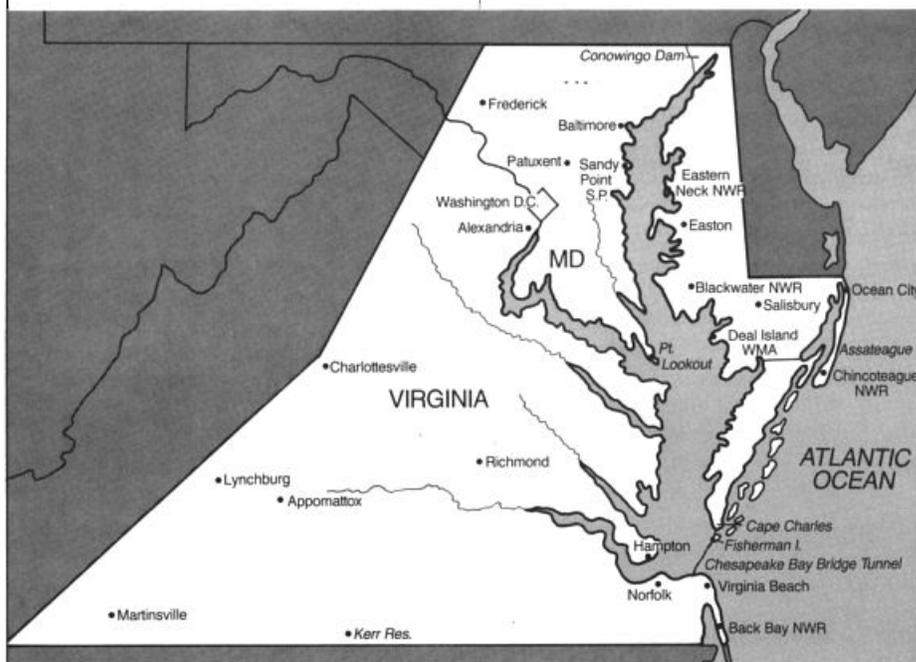
The highlight of the Sept. 9 pelagic trip from Virginia Beach was a Cape Verde (Fea's) Petrel (BP *et al.*), providing a Regional first and one of only a couple fall sightings among the handful of w. Atlantic reports of the Soft-plumaged Petrel complex. Other tubenoses included 217 Cory's, four Greater, and 30 Audubon's shearwaters and 157 Wilson's Storm-

Petrels (NB *et al.*). A trip Sept. 10 out of Ocean City was less exciting, recording 11 Cory's and three Audubon's shearwaters as well as >100 Wilson's Storm-Petrels (JLS, DC *et al.*).

Two imm. N. Gannets were at Ocean City Inlet, *Worcester*, MD Aug. 19 & 20 (DC, GMJ). Gannets invaded the Bay again this fall, with reports from Nov. 19+ peaking at 200 off St. Clement's I., *Saint Mary's*, MD Nov. 26 (AH). One Am. White Pelican returned to Chinc. (CH, JP), while Brown Pelicans had their best season ever. Some excellent counts included 355 at Kipt., Sept. 4 (HTA), 200 at Chinc., Sept. 9 (JH), and 53 at New Point Comfort, *Mathews*, VA. The 124 Brown Pelicans at Pt. Lookout, *Saint Mary's*, MD Oct. 26 (PC) provided a new high for the Maryland portion of the Bay, and ≥seven lingered through Nov. 26, staging their latest fall showing ever in the Bay. Remarkably far up the Potomac were two across from Roosevelt I., *Arlington*, VA Sept. 17 (SS). One–two Great Cormorants continued at Conowingo, *Harford/Cecil*, MD through the season (DW, EJS), while one at L. Needwood, *Montgomery*, Oct. 11 (KD) added to a growing number of inland reports for the Region. Double-crested Cormorants were reported in good numbers, with 1280 at Kipt., Sept. 4 and 2000 migrating S at a rate of more than 500 per hour at Assat., Oct. 22 (SHD). One ♀ Anhinga was at Stumpy L., Aug. 26 (CF).

Good reports of herons and egrets included a Least Bittern, rare for *Howard*, MD Sept. 16 at Woodmark L. (MM), 250 Great Egrets at Hog I., Va Aug. 20 (MW), 255 Cattle Egrets at Kipt., Sept. 3 (HTA), and late Green Herons at Piney Run (RFR) and Roanoke W.W.T.P., VA Nov. 5 (JFI). Southern herons staged a merely average movement to inland locales (v.o.), while White Ibis were only reported thrice, from coastal Virginia near the breeding colonies. A Wood Stork reportedly spent a couple weeks near Roanoke in August (JFI), but no details were provided.

A Black-bellied Whistling-Duck at Sandy Spring, *Prince George's*, MD Nov. 20 (W. Walker-Jones) was reported without details but was well-described to the *Voice of the Naturalist*; if a wild bird, this would provide only the 2nd state record. Tundra Swans arrived in small numbers in late October (v.o.), but pushed through the Region *en masse* Nov. 4–5 with representative flock counts in Maryland being 50 in *Charles* and *Queen Anne's* Nov. 4 (GMJ), 275 at Armistead's Rigby's Folly home, *Talbot*, Nov. 4 and 2715 there the following day, 275 at Black., Nov. 5 (HTA), and



1800 at Tilghman I., *Talbot*, Nov. 5 (JR). Two Black Swans at E.N.N.W.R., Nov. 19–25 (RD, MJI, JLS *et al.*) were certainly escapes. Greater White-fronted Geese staged a fine showing, with reports from 6 localities in both Maryland and Virginia, and two probable Greater White-fronted x Canada Goose hybrids as well. Ross' Geese were found at Dudley Corners, MD for a 2nd *Queen Anne's* record, Oct. 29 (†TDC, †JF) and Nov. 4 (CF), and at traditional Black. and Snow Hill, MD locations (v.o.), with the best count being three adults and one immature at Black., Nov. 25 (PP). One Brant at Roosevelt I., D.C., Nov. 11 (JSG) was rare at this inland location, while four at Winter Harbor, *Mathews*, VA was the first there in 5 years (JBB).

Exceptional waterfowl concentrations were reported from some localities such as E.N.N.W.R. and the Gunpowder R., *Harford*, MD, but limited reporting from Potomac R., Patuxent R., Deal I., and other waterfowl hotspots precludes determining whether this was a local or Regional phenomenon. Judging from some early reports from the winter season, it may have been the latter: Perhaps it was an exceptionally good year for breeding waterfowl in the Prairies. The Gunpowder R. duck flock included highs such as 15,000 Lesser Scaup, two Surf Scoter, and two White-winged Scoter Nov. 23 (DW). The E.N.N.W.R. concentration contained *maxima* of 200 Gadwall, 600 Am. Wigeon, 55 Redhead, and 2000 Canvasback Nov. 24 (PGD), and 50 N. Pintail, 3500 Greater Scaup, and 1500 Lesser Scaup Nov. 25 (MJI, JLS), the best numbers in many years (*fide* JG, FP). At least three Eur. Wigeon, one ad. male, one imm. male, and one female, were present in November (PGD, JLS, v.o.). Other Eur. Wigeon were four drakes among 5000 Am. Wigeon at Deal I., Oct. 29 (RFR) and one drake at Tyding's I., *Harford*, MD Nov. 11–12 (DW *et al.*). Northern Pintail were reported in excellent numbers, with peaks of 300 at Deal I., MD Oct. 29 (RFR) and 400 at Black., Nov. 12 (HTA). The only high N. Shoveler count was an excellent 450 from Dyke Marsh, *Fairfax*, VA Oct. 8 (PP); 120 Blue-winged Teal at Centennial L., MD Sept. 14 (JF) was a record count for *Howard*. Reese found good numbers of sea ducks at Tilghman I., MD Nov. 5, including 1000 Oldsquaw and 10,000 scoter of all 3 species. Finally, a Mallard x Wood Duck hybrid was reported from Centennial L., MD Sept. 14 and Oct. 31 (JF).

Raptors to Cranes

Due primarily to an outstanding effort by Williams, Kipt. received almost nonstop

coverage Aug. 15–Nov. 28, and consequently had record highs for all species of raptors except Rough-legged Hawk. He reports that the 966.5 hours and 79,208 birds were all-time highs, and all-time daily highs were recorded for all species except N. Goshawk and Merlin. Seasonal totals were 2172 Black Vultures, 8034 Turkey Vultures, 5762 Osprey, 264 Bald Eagles, 1697 N. Harriers, 26,355 Sharp-shinned Hawks, 3625 Cooper's Hawks, 14 N. Goshawks, 153 Red-shouldered Hawks, 5211 Broad-winged Hawks, 2083 Red-tailed Hawks, one Rough-legged Hawk, 37 Golden Eagles, 20,682 Am. Kestrels, 2126 Merlins, and 985 Peregrines. The Black Vulture, Osprey, Golden and Bald eagle counts were significantly higher than Cape May's best counts. If this effort continues, comparisons may clarify the extent of differential hawk migration between the 2 sites. The best day was Sept. 29, which included one-day records of 3842 Sharp-shinneds, 2427 Am. Kestrels, 513 Ospreys, 340 Cooper's, and 119 N. Harriers among the astounding 8757 raptors. Most exciting, perhaps, were the six Swainson's Hawks (four juv. light morph and two juv. dark morph) seen Sept. 12, 19 & 20, Oct. 14 & 15, and Nov. 22. There are only 3 previous Virginia records and 4 previous Regional records. The one that got away may have been a Eur. Sparrowhawk Sept. 25. Turkey Pt., MD also received good coverage, with 112 hours of coverage producing 3159 raptors. The best seasonal counts were 151 Bald Eagles, 1029 Sharp-shinned Hawks, 850 Red-tailed Hawks and three Golden Eagles. The best at Turkey Pt. was a well-described imm. Am. Swallow-tailed Kite Oct. 13 (JV, M. Watson-Whitmyer), which provided a first for *Cecil* and the first Maryland record after mid-September. Mississippi Kites continued at Woodbridge, *Prince William*, VA with reports of two adults feeding a fledged juvenile through Sept. 4 (v.o.). Other reports included the latest Maryland reports of an adult Aug. 15 at P.R.N.A.S. (KR†) and Aug. 25 at Dameron, *Saint Mary's* (†PC), and one first-summer bird at Ashburn Village, *Loudoun*, VA Aug. 29 (DA). Away from the hawk watches, Golden Eagles included an immature at Black., Oct. 28+ (DC, HTA, PD), an immature over Georgetown Res., Nov. 10 (OJ) for a 6th D.C. record; an immature at Conowingo, MD Nov. 11+ (v.o.); in *Montgomery*, MD, one at Hugh's Hollow Nov. 9 (CL) and another immature at Glen Echo Nov. 20–21 (DC); and one over North East, *Cecil*, MD Nov. 26 (GG). Migrant Peregrine Falcon were reported from a number

of locations, with one immature chasing shorebirds at Liberty Res., MD, providing one of few records for *Carroll* Sept. 16 & 23 (RFR *et al.*).

A late Sora was found at Hugh's Hollow, MD Nov. 1 (DC). American Coots mirrored the high duck numbers in the Region, being both more common and more widespread than usual. The highest counts were 500 at Piney Run Nov. 23 (RFR), 1200 on the hydrilla in D.C., Nov. 18 (OJ), 1400 at Loch Raven Res., *Baltimore*, MD Nov. 21 (SWS), and 1400 at Tyding's I., MD Nov. 12 (EB). The two previously reported Sandhill Cranes remained in the River Rd., *Montgomery*, MD area through Aug. 26 (v.o.) and were seen 9 mi s. at Oatland's Plantation, *Loudoun*, VA Aug. 27 (DA).

Shorebirds

Low water levels at local ponds, reservoirs, and rivers provided some interesting and unusual local shorebird records. Four Black-necked Stilts continued at Chinc. through Sept. 9 (JFI) and Am. Avocets continued a fine showing with good numbers at expected coastal locales such as Chinc., Craney I., Hog I., Fisherman's I. and Black. Others at less expected locales included four at Stumpy L., VA Sept. 8 (JFI), one at Fulton Pond, MD for a 2nd *Howard* record Sept. 9–10 (PO *et al.*), four at New Pt. Comfort, VA for a possible *Mathews* first Oct. 29 (JBB), four at Mason Neck N.W.R., *Prince William*, VA Nov. 11 (SG), and one on the Fourth St. Flats, *Worcester*, MD Nov. 26 (NS). The bird of the season in Maryland was the alternate-plumaged ad. Rufous-necked Stint at West Ocean City Pond, *Worcester*, MD Aug. 19 (†MO, ph. MLH., m.ob.) & 20 (PGD), providing a Maryland first and Regional 2nd. Perhaps even more remarkable was an Upland Sandpiper more than a month later than the previous Maryland late date; it was off Oland Rd., Frederick, Nov. 4 (SJH, IRC)! Other late Uplands were reported in Maine and the Maritimes this fall, prompting one to wonder exactly what was going on with this species. A Marbled Godwit at New Pt. Comfort, VA Aug. 20 and eight later in the month may have provided first records for *Mathews* (BA, JBB). Another Marbled Godwit at Dyke Marsh Aug. 7 (CS) may have been the same one seen Aug. 13–Sept. 10 at Hunting Cr., *Fairfax*, VA (v.o.). Other stars at Hunting Cr. were two Red Knots Sept. 4, with one through Sept. 16 (v.o.), and ≤four Baird's Sandpipers in late August (CS, OJ). Gunther's Pond, MD attracted *Cecil's* first Baird's Sandpiper Aug. 30–Sept. 8 (GG, m.ob.), its first Ruff

Sept. 3 (S&KP, Gordon), and its 2nd Stilt Sandpiper from August and September (v.o.), with six Sept. 6 (HM). Another Ruff was at Chinc., Aug. 28 (CF). Conowingo, MD produced some good shorebirding with 14 species, including \leq three White-rumped Sandpipers Sept. 2–9, one juv. Short-billed Dowitcher Sept. 3–16, two Stilt Sandpipers Sept. 2–3, and two Sanderlings Sept. 8–9 (DW, EJS *et al.*). Roanoke W.W.T.P., VA had two Baird's and one Buff-breasted Sept. 5 (JFI) and Charles, MD got its first Stilt Sandpiper in Waldorf Aug. 2–8 (GMJ *et al.*). Liberty Res., MD scored 19 species including Carroll's 2nd Stilt Sandpiper Sept. 10–Oct. 8 (RFR *et al.*) among other goodies such as two White-rumped Sandpipers Sept. 10–24 (RFR, m.ob.), a record-high count of 200 Semipalmated Sandpipers Aug. 5, and both dowitchers, with a Short-billed Aug. 26 and a Long-billed Oct. 1 (RFR). The D.C. hydrilla was slow, but still produced a Sanderling and a White-rumped Sandpiper Aug. 27 (DC), a Ruddy Turnstone Sept. 14 (OJ), and seven Wilson's Phalaropes just over the Maryland line in Prince George's Aug. 18 (MF). Buff-breasted Sandpipers included one at Aldino Sod Farm, MD for a first Harford record Aug. 20–22 (DW), two crowd pleasers at Hurlock Sewage Ponds, Dorchester, MD Aug. 20–Sept. 2 (ph. JLS, ph. GMJ, m.ob.), and others at 6 more traditional locales. Finally, a Purple Sandpiper at Winter Harbor, VA represented only the 2nd Mathews record Nov. 27 (JBB).

Jaegers to Shrikes

Three Pomarine, three Long-tailed, and a Parasitic jaeger were off Virginia Beach, VA Sept. 9 (BP *et al.*), and a Parasitic was off Ocean City, MD Sept. 10 (DC *et al.*). An ad. Franklin's Gull visited Hunting Cr., VA Sept. 17–27 (OJ, BL) and possibly the same individual was located at Fletcher's Boat House, D.C., Sept. 30 (DCo, RW). Blom and Scarpulla found a first-winter and a second-winter Thayer's Gull at Conowingo Nov. 19, but no other white-winged gulls were reported. An ad. Black-legged Kittiwake at Ocean City Inlet, MD Nov. 25 (DC) was the only other unusual gull reported. An aberrant ad. Laughing Gull Nov. 16 at Cambridge, MD had a pink bill and may have been responsible for a report of a Com. Black-headed Gull there that month (JBC). Up to five Sandwich Terns were around Pt. Lookout, MD in August and early September (PC, TB). A juv. Arctic Tern at Ocean City Inlet Aug. 20 (DC) was later than any of the few previous Maryland

reports. Thirty Bridled Terns off Virginia Beach Sept. 9 represented the 2nd-highest number ever reported for Virginia (BP *et al.*), and two were found off Ocean City, MD the next day (JLS, DC). A juv. Black Skimmer at Tyding's I., MD was Harford's first record Oct. 1 (DW *et al.*).

SA Perhaps the event of the season was the unprecedented movement of N. Saw-whet Owls through the Region. The spectacle was chronicled primarily by the owl banders working at Turkey Pt., MD [SM, SJH], Assat. [DB], and Kipt. [BWa, DWa]. Turkey Pt. got 334, with one-night peaks of 34 Nov. 17 and 40 Nov. 24 [GG]. Assateague banders captured 332, more than 5 times their previous high of 65 [DB]! Being a coastal concentration point, Kipt. fared best, catching more than 1020 by December [BWa, DWa, fide DB], with swarms of >90 Nov. 25 and 124 Nov. 12 [BWa, DS]. Only eight were reported away from the banding stations, but the most interesting report was of one perched in plain view in downtown Baltimore from Nov. 30+ [TR, m.ob.].

A "mini-invasion" of *Selasphorus* hummingbirds on the East Coast generated much discussion as to its cause, but *Selasphorus* reports have been increasing steadily and in recent years have been reported almost annually from the Middle Atlantic Region. This may be due to increased birder awareness more than anything else: At least one individual (JLS) erected a feeder in mid-October specifically to attract western hummers to his yard — and met with success not 2 weeks later! Nonetheless, the 5 *Selasphorus* reports this year were above average and included an ad. ♂ Rufous at Chesapeake, Chesapeake, MD Oct. 15–29 (m.ob.), an imm. male at Clifton, Fairfax, VA Nov. 1–20, one in Madison, Madison, Oct. 12+ (with two there Nov. 11–16) (ph. v.t. BAK), an ad. female and an imm. male in D.C. for the 2nd record there Nov. 12–20 (J. Hays, † ph. OJ, DC, m.ob.) and an ad. female at North Beach, Calvert, MD Nov. 17–Dec. 1 (ph. JLS, † ph. MJI, m.ob.). The latter bird was identified as a Rufous on the basis of the emarginated 2nd retrix, which was photographed as the bird preened its tail not far from Stasz's kitchen window. If this mark is diagnostic, as Stiles suggests in his 1972 paper "Aging and Sexing of Rufous and Allen's Hummingbirds" (*Condor* 74:25–32), it may lend hope to a field identification problem that was previously



More than one thousand Northern Saw-whet Owls were banded during the season in the Kiptopeke area of Virginia, highlighting a massive invasion noted in several eastern regions. This individual was at Eastern Shore of Virginia National Wildlife Refuge November 15, 1995. Photograph/Robert L. Anderson.

considered impossible. All of these reports, whether Rufous, Rufous/Allen's, or indeterminate *Selasphorus*, are subject to review by respective records committees.

Of the rare migrant flycatchers, six Olive-sided Flycatchers were reported between Aug. 13–Sept. 10 (v.o.), 20 Yellow-bellied Flycatchers were found, and a single Alder Flycatcher was identified at Hugh's Hollow, Montgomery, MD Aug. 27 (DC). The only W. Kingbird was one found on Assat., Sept. 28 by Dyke. A late concentration of 500 Tree Swallows was at Ocean City Airport, Worcester, MD Nov. 23 (MO). Other tardy swallows included one N. Rough-winged at Roanoke W.W.T.P., VA Nov. 1 (KD), seven at Lucketts, Loudoun, VA Nov. 11 (VK), and one Barn at Pt. Lookout, MD Nov. 12 (PC). Black-capped Chickadee movements to the north fizzled out before reaching our Region, with two beginning Nov. 18 at Fair Hill, Cecil, MD being the only out-of-range ones reported (PB *et al.*). A Bewick's Wren made news at Riverbend Park, Fairfax, VA Sept. 30–Oct. 14 (DS, † to Virginia Records Committee, m.ob.), one of few reports for the Region since the 1970s.

Nuthatches pressed into the Region in good numbers. The first Red-breasted arrived at Purse S.P., Charles, MD Aug. 25 (JLS, GMJ) and >50 were at Kipt., Oct. 9 (JBB). White-breasted Nuthatches moved

also, but were more difficult to detect as migrants. Better-than-average numbers were reported and individuals showed up in several unusual locations. An early Ruby-crowned Kinglet was at Havre de Grace, *Harford*, MD Aug. 27 (LE), and late Blue-gray Gnatcatchers were in *Anne Arundel*, MD at Arnold Nov. 24+ and at Sandy Point S.P., Nov. 27+ (LD, HLW). The Northern Wheatear at Kipt., Oct. 15 (BA, ph., m.ob.) was the passerine highlight there, providing the 5th record for Virginia and the 6th record for the Region. The thrush migration was reported as poor, but few nocturnal counts were made.

Northern Shrikes reached the Region with an immature at Lucketts, VA Oct. 27 remaining at least to Nov. 25, when it was joined by two adults (BA, m.ob.). Others were found at the Wildfowl Trust, *Queen Anne's*, MD Nov. 18+ (†PD, ph. GMJ, ph. JLS, m.ob.) and an adult was at Lilypons, *Frederick*, MD Nov. 26 (†GM). Rare migrant Loggerhead Shrikes were detected at Bozman, *Talbot*, MD Aug. 21 (H. Steilke, *vide* JR) and Friendship, *Anne Arundel*, MD Sept. 21 (JLS).

Vireos to Finches

Twenty-eight reports of Philadelphia Vireos represented a good showing (v.o.). A good warbler day was had in *Carroll*, MD Sept. 23 (RFR), while Janni singled out Sept. 2, 11, 19 & 23 as the best flight days in D.C. Four reports of Brewster's came from *Harford*, MD and D.C. (v.o.) and one probable Lawrence's x Golden-winged Warbler backcross was found by Janni in D.C., Sept. 2. Of the scarcer migrant warblers, there were seven Orange-crowns, only seven Mourning, and a nice showing of 19 Connecticut (v.o.). Bay-breasted had a terrible showing, with only 19 reports; only two were banded at P.W.R.C., *Prince George's*, down from a

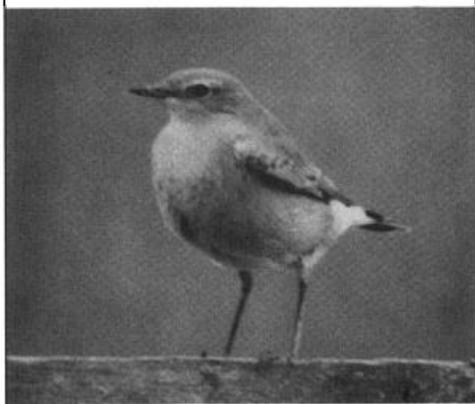
15-year average of 34 (DKD). Magnolias, Canadas, and Tennessees were in very low numbers, but Nashvilles were probably in better-than-average numbers with 34 reports including a late bird banded by Gruber in Chestertown, *Kent*, MD Nov. 11. A N. Waterthrush at McKee-Beshers W.M.A., *Montgomery*, MD was also late Nov. 11 (DC). **Kirtland's Warbler** at Hog Island W.M.A., Sept. 24 (BT) was remarkable as the 4th for Virginia and the first on the Coastal Plain.

A very late ♀ Rose-breasted Grosbeak was at Fore Bay Pond, *Howard*, MD Nov. 10–25 (†JW). American Tree Sparrows moved into the Region Nov. 18 & 19 and were found in better-than-average numbers in late November across the Region (v.o.). Five late-September and October reports of Clay-colored Sparrows came from Assat. (SHD, ph. DC), where they are annual, and one was found at Kipt., Oct. 21–23 (NB). Only 2 reports of Lark Sparrow were received, one from Back Bay Oct. 1 (CF) and one from E.S.V.N.W.R., Nov. 5 (BP). A Seaside Sparrow at Haven Beach, MD Nov. 27 was Bazuin's latest ever for *Mathews*. The rare and secretive LeConte's Sparrow stopped at Kipt., Oct. 22–23 (NB). A Sharp-tailed Sparrow at Gateway Business Park, *Howard*, MD Oct. 9 (†JW) was probably a representative of one of the inland subspecies, which may soon be split from the coastal races. A very early Fox Sparrow was reported Oct. 2 from Roanoke W.W.T.P. by Flynn. An "Oregon-type" Dark-eyed Junco was reported by Konat Nov. 12–30. Lapland Longspurs appeared in good numbers from late November+ (v.o.), and a possible **Smith's Longspur** was described from a Fairfax, *Fairfax*, VA backyard Nov. 24 for a potential first Virginia record, pending acceptance by the Virginia Records Committee (†EM).

Adult ♂ Yellow-headed Blackbirds appeared at Kipt., Sept. 15 (BA), *Lilypons*, MD Nov. 19 (LKB) and in *Loudoun*, VA Nov. 19–26 (DA, BL), while also in *Loudoun* one Brewer's was found at Blue-mont Nov. 22 and three were at Beavermont Res., Nov. 24 (DA). Winter finches toyed with us again, with Purple Finches and Pine Siskins showing up across the Region in small numbers in October and early November, but thinning out after mid-November (v.o.). Evening Grosbeaks also passed through briefly, with the first being 15 at Cecilton, MD Sept. 27 (BPi) and a *maxima* 83 at Sugarloaf Mt., *Frederick*, MD Nov. 10 (DC). Good numbers passed through with the cold front Nov. 4–5 (v.o.), but only a few at widely scattered locations remained into December.

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—Marshall J. Iliff, reports to James L. Stasz, P.O. Box 71, North Beach, MD 20714.



Northern Wheatear at Kiptopeke State Park, Virginia, November 5, 1995. Fifth state record. Photograph/Robert L. Anderson.